

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: July 17, 2018

Date Submitted: July 3, 2018

To: Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Board

From: Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator
Jeffrey A. Price, Senior Management & Budget Analyst

Subject: Approval of Millage Rate for TRIM Notification and Set the Date, Time and Place for the Public Hearings to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2018/19 Gadsden County Budget

Statement of Issue:

This item seeks Board approval of the millage rate for Truth in Millage (TRIM) notification and establishes the September budget adoption Public Hearing dates to be provided to the Property Appraiser's office by August 4, 2018.

Background:

Section 200.065 of the Florida Statutes requires within 35 days of certification of taxable values (August 4th), that each taxing authority certifies to the Property Appraiser there: prior year millage rates, the proposed millage rates, the rolled-back rates, and the date, time and place of the first Public Hearing to consider the proposed millage rates and tentative budget. This information is mailed by the Property Appraiser's Office no later than August 24th to each property owner via the "Notice of Proposed Property Taxes" (TRIM Notice) and serves as the notification for the First Public Hearing to adopt the budget. The second Public Hearing date is set at the Tentative Budget Hearing and is advertised pursuant to Florida Statutes in a newspaper of general circulation. The County's Public Hearing dates can't be the same dates as a School Board meeting.

Analysis:

Millage rates approved by the Board of County Commissioners for TRIM can be lowered at the Public Hearings to adopt the budget, but can't be increased.

Gadsden County Public Hearings are proposed as follows:

1st Public Hearing - Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 6:00PM, BOCC Chambers

2nd Public Hearing - Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:00PM, BOCC Chambers

Proposed Budget and Millage Rates:

The FY 2018/19 Proposed Budget as distributed to the Board of County Commissioners is balanced as required by State law and has been formulated based on keeping the millage rate the same as last year (8.9064) ad valorem revenue increased by \$280,000. Should the Board decide to increase the millage rate to 9.0000, it will increase ad valorem revenue by \$410,000; if raised to 9.2500 it would increase ad valorem revenue by \$740,000.

Fiscal Impact:

Certified rolled-back millage rate, proposed millage rate and percentage increase/decrease over rolled-back millage rates for Gadsden County Government is summarized as follows:

	CURRENT FY 2017/18 MILLAGE	ROLLED- BACK FY2018/19 MILLAGE	PROPOSED FY 2018/19 MILLAGE
COUNTYWIDE			
General County Millage	8.9064	8.7009	8.9064

Gadsden County Millage:

The certified July 1st taxable value for operating purposes provided by the Property Appraiser's office was \$1,414,296,404 which is \$32,630,504 higher than last year's taxable value of \$1,381,665,900.

Pursuant to F.S. 200.065, the calculated rolled-back millage rate (ad valorem rate that generates the same amount of property tax revenue as last year) is 8.7009 mills, which is 0.2055 mills lower than the current rate of 8.9064.

Options:

1. Approval of tentative countywide millage rate of 8.9064 mills to be included on Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) notifications and authorize staff to schedule the Public Hearings for adoption of the tentative millage levy and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19 on September 6, 2018 at 6:00PM, and on September 17, 2018 at 6:00PM in the BOCC Chambers for adoption of the final millage rate and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19.

2. Approval of tentative countywide millage rate of 9.0000 mills to be included on Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) notifications and authorize staff to schedule the Public Hearings for adoption of the tentative millage levy and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19 on September 6, 2018 at 6:00PM, and on September 17, 2018 at 6:00PM in the BOCC Chambers for adoption of the final millage rate and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19.
3. Approval of tentative countywide millage rate of 9.2500 mills to be included on Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) notifications and authorize staff to schedule the Public Hearings for adoption of the tentative millage levy and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19 on September 6, 2018 at 6:00PM, and on September 17, 2018 at 6:00PM in the BOCC Chambers for adoption of the final millage rate and budget for Fiscal Year 2018/19.
4. Board direction.

Interim County Administrator's Recommendation:

Option 3