

**AT A BUDGET HEARING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Brenda A. Holt, Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1
Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked for moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. PUBLIC HEARING-Final Budget Public Hearing for Adoption of Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Mr. Presnell said on September 10, 2015, after Board discussion and public comment regarding the tentative millage rate and budget, the Board adopted its tentative millage rate prior to adopting the tentative budget. He said the advertisement for the second public hearing ran in local papers September 17, 2015 and again the Board must adopt its Final Millage Rate prior to adoption of the final budget and for fiscal year 2015-2016, the Final Gadsden County, FL operating millage rate was 8.9064 mills and the calculated roll-back millage rate was 8.9175 mills and the current year rate of 8.9064 mills as a percent change of the rolled-back rate was -0.12%. He then said for fiscal year 2015-2016 final Gadsden County, FL budget was \$54,182,388. He said Staff had recommended approval of Resolution 2015-010 to adopt the Millage Rate and Resolution 2015-011 to adopt the Final Budget.

Chair Holt announced it was a public hearing and asked if there were any comments from audience and there was none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISISONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

Commissioner Hinson asked Mr. Presnell to explain what he was saying regarding what they were about to do. Mr. Presnell said the Board adopted a millage rate the same as last year. Commissioner Hinson said they were cutting taxes. Chair Holt asked that they finish the motion and she asked if anyone opposed the motion and there was no-one and motion carried.

Chair Holt said they were not fiscally cutting; it stayed the same and did not go up. Commissioner Morgan explained they were approving the budget and approving the millage rate. Chair Holt also explained that sometimes it depended on what the economy did and Mr. Presnell said they held the line on taxes. Commissioner Hinson said the millage rate was lowered and Commissioner Morgan said the millage rate was not lowered, that the millage rate would generate .12 percent less in dollars.

Chair Holt asked if there were any public comment regarding the budget and there was none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016.

Commissioner Hinson said a lot of folks may not know what this was all about and they were “kind of saving taxpayers’ dollars by doing this” and he was saying that not only were they being fiscally responsible was also was making it where taxpayers could put more money in their pocket at the same time. He also said the County had a good reserve, Mr. Presnell said about \$7.2 Million, and Commissioner Hinson said they were able to support fire stations throughout the County.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:06 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk