

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**August 22, 2011**

A meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

Members present were: Chairman Starr, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Skidmore, County Administrator Sandrock, County Attorney Knowlton, and Deputy Clerk Carleton. The following members were absent: None

The meeting was called to order at **1:30 PM**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ray Sandrock made opening comments and indicated the items on the Agenda were those requested to be brought back to the Board by **Chairman Starr**. **Commissioner Skidmore** opined the items on the Agenda were repetitive and suggested adjourning the meeting. **Chairman Starr** provided reasons for hearing the items. Mr. Sandrock noted the importance of getting direction on each of the items.

Gordon Burger presented the Budget, paralleled visual slides, gave an overview of the Agenda, outlined the items listed below, and responded to Board inquiries.

**Public Safety Proposed Budget; BCC Action; Proposed Cooperative Solution; Proposed Plan for 2012/13; Millage Rate Impact**

Board discussion ensued related to the roll-back Millage rate.

**1. Animal Control**

Brian Jones outlined the Animal Control Summary Sheet, responded to Board inquiries, and offered a choice to either eliminate trapping services altogether or assess a fee. **Chairman Starr** questioned if the County should be paying for the trapping of feral cats. County Attorney Knowlton advised legalities related to the Animal Control Special Act. **Commissioner Skidmore** commented further. **Commissioner Duffy** opined the County should leave things as they are. Board discussion ensued. **Commissioner Constance** suggested Animal Control review charges and then come back to the Board for direction. Mr. Sandrock advised the Board to put a fee in place if there is a desire to recover costs, clarified if the fees charged would cover boarding costs, and gave additional detail. **Chairman Starr** expressed concerns related to recovering costs. **Commissioner Constance** explained his understanding of the process. **Commissioner Deutsch** voiced frustration the process would possibly result in additional costs to the County.

**COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO DIRECT ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH ANIMAL CONTROL TO SET THE PRICE FOR THE TRAPS AND THE PICKUP SERVICE, MAKE IT CONSISTENT WITH FISH & WILDLIFE AND REGULAR COUNTY PICKUPS, AND COME BACK TO THE BOARD IN NINETY (90) DAYS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH**

**Commissioner Duffy** inquired if the Board can take action without having the Special Act repealed. Attorney Knowlton responded affirmatively that the fees and costs could be set and brought back to the Board in the form of a Resolution.

**MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.**

**2. Charlotte County Sheriff's Budget**

**Sheriff's Revised Budget Proposal**

Sheriff Cameron responded to Board inquiries related to the reduction in budget.

**3. FY 11/12 Health Department Cuts**

**Health Department Funding**

Mary Kay Burns presented visual slides, outlined the points listed below, and responded to Board inquiries.

**What We Do; Locations; Challenges; Actions Taken; Financial Challenges; Employees; Services-Clients-Visits 2010-2011; The Cost of Service; Effect of BOCC Reductions**

**4. Board discussion on reductions to 'not for profits'**

Mr. Burger outlined the items below and responded to Board inquiries.

**County Aid to Nonprofit Organizations; Not For Profit Funding-FY10/11**

**Not-for-Profit Funding Requests for FY11/12-12/13**

**Commissioner Skidmore** requested the true discretionary contribution from Charlotte County in future not-for-profit presentations. **Chairman Starr** questioned the Statutory Mandate requirements. Board discussion ensued.

**b. United Way**

Cecy Glenn provided an overview of United Way Funding and responded to Board inquiries related to essential services. **Chairman Starr** opined it is Government's responsibility to provide services directly. **Commissioner Duffy** expressed concerns related to assumptions made of non-profit organizations. **Commissioner Skidmore** commented on the importance of having a clear understanding for the benefit of the public and inquired about the duplication of service funding between United Way and other County non-profits.

**a. Charlotte Behavioral Center**

Jay Glynn provided an overview of Charlotte Behavioral's funding request, reviewed services provided, and responded to inquiries related to Florida Statutes. **Commissioner Duffy** applauded Mr. Glynn for his efforts.

**d. Arts and Humanities**

Judy Malbuisson gave an overview of the Arts & Humanities Council and responded to inquiries.

**e. Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC)**

Jim Thomson gave an overview of CHEC.

**c. Military Heritage Museum**

Kim Lovejoy gave an overview of the Museum, paralleled visual slides, and responded to Board inquiries.

**Commissioner Constance** commented on an email received from Mr. Burger related to other communities giving funds to not for profits. Board discussion ensued.

**RECESS: 3:20 PM - 3:35 PM**

**5. Fire/EMS**

Chief Didio corrected information presented at the Meeting of July 26, 2011, introduced his staff, clarified position funding, explained training completed online, and responded to inquiries. Deputy Chief Taylor provided an overview of Fire/EMS training as requested by **Commissioner Skidmore** and fielded Board inquiries. **Commissioner Deutsch** commented on the importance of being adequately trained. Chief Didio, Chief Taylor, and Chief Fair described their duties, summarized functions of different departments within Fire/EMS, and addressed additional inquiries. **Chairman Starr** questioned how additional savings could be achieved within Fire/EMS and explained why it was needed. Mr. Sandrock clarified his understanding of the reason for the meeting, explained the direction he had given to staff, and suggested moving forward with the PowerPoint presentation. **Commissioner Constance** agreed. Board discussion ensued. **Commissioner Duffy** commented on attending an in-service training session at Station One.

Dr. Dan O'Leary gave a presentation on EMS Training, paralleled visual slides, outlined the points listed below, and responded to inquiries.

**Evolution of EMS; The EMS Difference; V-Fib Cardiac Arrest Survival; Cardiac Arrest Survival (All Causes); EMS Quality; Endo-tracheal Intubation; Reasons for Success; Charlotte County Fire/EMS; Charlotte County EMS Training; Charlotte County EMS Captain; New Techniques; Summary; EMS Consequences of Budget Cuts; Recommendation; Otherwise**

**Commissioner Duffy** suggested looking into supplying the engines with a medic based on Dr. O'Leary's recommendation in order to create more efficiencies and reduce costs.

**6. Discuss BCC taking over operation of the County Jail**

**Charlotte County Jail Management**

**Chairman Starr** explained why he added the item to the Agenda, noted the total budget amount, described several budget aspects of the Jail, expressed concern with the Board not having input, spoke in support of privatization, requested Mr. Sandrock look into options for potential savings, and mentioned the issue with the addition. **Commissioner Skidmore** responded, suggested **Chairman Starr** meet with Sheriff Cameron, commented further, spoke in opposition to taking control of the jail, and gave detail related to prison inmates. Board discussion ensued. **Commissioner Duffy** also suggested **Chairman Starr** meet with Sheriff Cameron to ask questions. **Commissioner Deutsch** commented on the difference between state prisons and county jails, questioned the feasibility of privatization, mentioned maintenance issues, and suggested Mr. Sandrock meet with the Sheriff to explore potential savings. **Commissioner Constance** agreed and spoke in opposition to privatization. **Commissioner Duffy** explained why the Sheriff's Department is utilizing a contracted health care company. **Chairman Starr** pointed out he had met with the Sheriff and gave further detail.

**ADJOURNMENT: 5:28 PM**

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**Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

**BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy Clerk**

sfc