

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 29, 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 **5:01 P.M.**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Opening Comments - None

B. COUNTY BUDGET OFFICER

Gordon Burger provided a detailed overview of the Meeting Agenda and Proposed County Budget, paralleled a visual PowerPoint presentation, noted the process is specific per State Statute, and read the Aggregate County Millage Rate and the Total Proposed Net County-Wide Budget into the record.

I. AD VALOREM - COUNTY-WIDE FUNDS

Mr. Burger explained the approval process relative to Ad Valorem - County-wide Funds and read the County-Wide Millage Rates and Funds into the record. (A. General Fund: Board of County Commissioners' Millage; Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Millage; B. Charlotte County Health Unit, C. Capital Projects Fund)

Public Comment

Dave Hackett expressed concern related to the budget not being available to the public.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Board Discussion and Action

Mr. Burger responded to inquiries related to the accessibility of the Budget. **Commissioner Deutsch** addressed Mr. Hackett's concerns.

BOARD ACTION:

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-272 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. CHAIRMAN STARR OPPOSING.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-273 ADOPTING A FINAL COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. CHAIRMAN STARR OPPOSING.

II. Voted Debt Service Fund (Environmentally Sensitive Lands) - AD VALOREM

Mr. Burger read the Environmentally Sensitive Lands millage rates and proposed budgets into the record, advised no public hearing was necessary for the item, and responded to Board inquiries. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if some of the acquisitions previously made with the Debt Service Fund would be able to be sold in the future. **Chairman Starr** responded in detail. **Commissioner Duffy** commented further.

BOARD ACTION:

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-274 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND MILLAGE LEVY FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-275 ADOPTING A FINAL SERIES 2008 (GOB) DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND APPROVE THE PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

III. AD VALOREM - MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNITS - MSTUs

Mr. Burger read the MSTU millage rates, rollback rates, proposed budgets, and the proposed aggregate County Millage rate into the record. (A. Greater Charlotte Street Lighting District, B. Stump Pass Beach Renourishment Unit, C. Don Pedro/Knight Island St./Dr. Unit, D. Manasota Key Street & Drainage Unit, E. Charlotte Public Safety Unit, F. Sandhill Municipal Service Taxing Unit)

Public Comment

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

BOARD ACTION:

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-276 ADOPTING A MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED WITHIN THE GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS BEACH RENOURISHMENT UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE PUBLIC SAFETY UNIT AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. CHAIRMAN STARR OPPOSING.

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-277 ADOPTING A FINAL BUDGET FOR GREATER CHARLOTTE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT, STUMP PASS BEACH RENOURISHMENT UNIT, DON PEDRO/KNIGHT ISLAND STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, MANASOTA KEY STREET AND DRAINAGE UNIT, CHARLOTTE PUBLIC SAFETY UNIT AND SANDHILL MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND APPROVE A PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. CHAIRMAN STARR OPPOSING.

IV. NON-AD VALOREM FUNDS AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNITS (MSBU)

Mr. Burger advised all applicable assessment rates that exceed a previous set maximum for the following items have been adopted in prior public hearings and read the amounts into the record for the Total Proposed FY11/12 Budget and Total Planned FY12/13 Budget. (A. Special Revenue Funds (Non-MSBU); B. Enterprise/ Internal Service Funds; C. Special Revenue Funds – MSBUs)

Public Comment

Richard Van Acker referred to the July 21st MSBU Public Hearing, expressed concern with the condition of the roads in Gulf Cove, questioned certain paving costs, spoke in opposition to the increase for Gulf Cove Streets & Drainage, and suggested moving forward with Phase II.

Larry Singleton spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cove MSBU Committee and read a letter into the record that he previously emailed to the Board related to the need for paving in Gulf Cove.

Ron Kubala spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cove MSBU Committee in support of the proposed budget and expressed concern with the condition of the roads.

COMMISSIONER DUFFY MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DEUTSCH

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

BOARD ACTION:

COMMISSIONER CONSTANCE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2011-278 ADOPTING BUDGETS FOR THE REMAINING SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND MSBU FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND APPROVE PLANNED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

Tara Musselman responded to inquiries by **Commissioner Skidmore** related to the outcome of the July 21, 2011 MSBU Public Hearing and stated that no MSBU meetings had been held since that time due to the inability to get a quorum of the Committee Members. Dan Quick commented further regarding the phasing of the Gulf Cove paving and recommended raising the assessment of Gulf Cove \$30 for the next ten (10) years. County Attorney Knowlton advised the Board already approved the \$30 increase at the previous Budget Meeting. Mr. Burger gave explanation of Board action needed. **Chairman Starr** spoke in opposition to the budget, questioned expenditures for Ackerman Waterway, suggested suspending the Unit, expressed concern with costs related to Rotonda West, and asked for explanation on emails received related to Suncoast Waterway. Bob Halfhill and Dawn Harrison responded to **Chairman Starr's** concerns. **Commissioner Deutsch** voiced frustration with the MSBU system, indicated he would vote in support of the budget, and explained why. **Commissioner Constance** agreed. Ms. Harrison responded to further inquiries. **Commissioner Skidmore** addressed Mr. Van Acker's comments, spoke in support of the Budget, and requested staff reassess Gulf Cove's loan in order to pave more roads and to find a way to work with the Committee. **Commissioner Duffy** commented further on the MSBU System and expressed concerns.

MOTION CARRIED 4:1. CHAIRMAN STARR OPPOSING.

ADJOURNED: 6:00 PM

Chairman

ATTEST:

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

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

sfc