

**NOTIFICATION TO COUNTY MAYOR OF COMMITTEE MEETING BY
MEMBERS OF MAURY COUNTY COMMISSION**

The Special Called Budget Committee met on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at approximately 4:30 PM in the Maury County Tom Primm County Commission Room with the following Committee Members present:

CRAIG HARRIS, SONNY SHACKELFORD, STEWART PARKER, GWYNNE EVANS,
TOMMY WOLAVER AND DONNA COOK

OTHERS PRESENT: Gerald Adkison, Talvin Barner, Mike Fulbright, Terry Potts, Eric Previti, Ricky Sims, Sue Stephenson, Gary Stovall, Scott Sumners, Debbie Turner, Linda Whiteside, Theresa Weber, and Media.

MINUTES OF MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman Shackelford called the meeting to order and Commissioner Wolaver offered the opening prayer. Commissioner Harris is sitting in the absence of Chairman Harris.

- II. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings:** The minutes for review and approval are April 20th Special Called, April 21st Special Called, April 26th Special Called and April 27th Special Called. Commissioner Cook made a motion to Approve. Seconded by Commissioner Harris. There were no lights. All in favor. Motion Approved 6-0.

- III. Other General Administration Expenditure Change:** Director Weber stated there is going to be a new law out regarding the audit fees for the annual audit. This year when Director Weber did the budget she brought it down \$25,000.00 because that is what it normally was. Director Weber stated that County Attorney Murphy let her know that she needed to bring it down to \$30,000.00 and every year after this there will be an automatic 3% raise in the audit fees. Director Weber stated she would like to change her under advisement to \$30,000.00. Director Weber stated the previous under advisement number was \$25,000.00. Director Weber stated the total would be \$986,200.00. Commissioner Sumners stated the Administration Committee passed on to the Special Called meeting to change the consultant for the Strategic Plan from \$26,000.00 not to exceed number of \$30,000.00. Commissioner Sumners stated the Budget Committee would have to vote on that to change it. Commissioner Harris stated the total would now be \$990,200.00. Those are the two adjustments that need to be taken care of under this Administration Budget. Commissioner Harris made a motion to revise the under advisement number to \$990,200.00. Seconded by Commissioner Cook. There were no lights. All in favor. Motion Approved 6-0.

- IV. Highway Department Revenue Change:** Sandy Smith stated the changes are in State Aid Roads. Ms. Smith stated they were given the \$500,000.00. Ms. Smith stated the new figure was \$768,000.00. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated he wanted to make it part of the record that they are changing part of the revenue to \$6,123,890.00.

- V. Highway Department Expenditure Changes:** Sandy Smith stated they have had a lot of employees that have retired that are older and when they hired they had \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 an hour and the difference of the payroll and they have had several through the year that retired and some that passed away and so Mr. Boshers took it upon himself and the ones that came that have been there four or five years Mr. Boshers gave everyone a performance raise. Ms. Smith stated it was within. Ms. Smith stated with all the different raises that were done their expenditures are still \$46,418.00 below what they were and they are within their budget. Director Weber stated the payroll actually decreased by \$27,316.00. The pay raises in reality because of people leaving or those that passed away ended up still decreasing on the payroll side. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated this still appears to be lower than what originally approved. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated the Department Head request previously was \$3,464,545.00 and the revision they are asking for \$3,437,239.00. Ms. Smith stated the payroll actually went down but the State Aid where they got the match. Ms. Smith stated they changed the budget but they are still within their budget. Vice-Chairman Shackelford asked Ms. Smith if the reason they are making the change is because of the State Aid of money they received. Ms. Smith replied yes. Vice-Chairman Shackelford asked Director Weber if they make this change under advisement number and the impact of that will be reflected in the under advisement numbers. Director Weber stated Mr. Lukonen will change them right now. Commissioner Harris made a motion to amend the new under advisement total of \$6,077,472.00 for the total of the 131 Fund. The previous under advisement number was \$5,747,288.00. Mr. Lukonen stated the difference is \$330,184.00. The payroll was a decrease of \$27,316.00. There was an increase of \$357,500.00 in the State Aid line item. Seconded by Commissioner Wolaver. There were no lights. All in favor. Motion Approved 6-0.
- VI. Discussion of Revenues:** Director Weber stated the first line of the worksheets picks up the revenues. The second line picks up the expenditures. Basically what the worksheet shows is what they expect the revenues to be minus what is under advisement because she included Mr. Boshers numbers because she knew about them for payroll and the State Aid. Director Weber stated that Commissioner Shackelford asked her to calculate things on a 5 ½ and a 4 ½% raise. Director Weber stated for a 5 ½ percent raise it would cost approximately \$737,518.00 based on starting in September, 1. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated the number for 4% is \$535,796.00. Mr. Lukonen stated it is \$160,000.00 in the 101 Fund. Mr. Lukonen stated the total across the board \$200,000.00. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated they are starting with a \$1,900,000.00 deficit in the 101 fund based on the under advisement expenditures and the revenues that are being projected. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated what he would like to take away from this discussion is understand based on under advisement what the deficit is and then with these two pay increase projections what it will take to balance the budget without a pay increase and how those two pay increase numbers are going to impact and how many more pennies to balance. Commissioner Wolaver stated the percent raise is not the best raise but it is the fairest one because it treats every employee the same. Commissioner Wolaver stated he would like to see the committee to go ahead and decide what percent

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raise the committee is going to give and take it under advisement that is what they are going to do. Commissioner Cook stated she would like to see this come up in the Administration Committee next month and have that committee that is charged to take care of that conversation and bring that back to the Budget Committee. Director Weber stated her suggestion for this fiscal year is to make part of the raise a standard raise and part of it merit raise. Commissioner Harris stated you are running up to about 18 or 19 cents increase just to fund the operation of the County not to have a deficit budget. Commissioner Cook stated she wanted everyone to remember the County entered into our new budget fiscal year with a \$2,100,000.00 deficit budget so now the County is at \$1,900,000.00. Director Weber stated to keep in mind to watch the fund balances. Commissioner Cook stated the County is not in a crisis. Commissioner Parker stated what he is looking at is a 15 cent deficit before the schools, before capital outlay, before raises. Commissioner Harris stated if the commission is not willing to go 30 cents on the tax increase then they better start thinking on what they are or are not going to do. Commissioner Sims stated he would like to move forward but he would like to have some hard numbers to look at. Commissioner Stephenson stated the commission has got to make a decision on what needs to be done. Commissioner Whiteside stated she wanted to wait and see the figures. Commissioner Gerald Adkison stated at this time he would support a tax increase of 32 cents. Commissioner Harris stated with a \$175,000.00 home the current tax is \$1,146.00 and with a 30 cent increase on a \$175,000.00 the tax would go up \$132.00 year. Commissioner Sumners stated the county needs to be on a fix on failure mode. Commissioner Sumners stated the County needs to be in a preventive maintenance mode. Commissioner Sumners stated this is a hard decision that needs to be made about non-profits. Commissioner Sumners stated he is willing to support 32 cents and Commissioner Sumners thinks it needs to be more than 32 cents and 8 more cents to fund the capital requests. Commissioner Potts stated his answer is that he is above 30 cents. Commissioner Fulbright stated he would vote for a substantial tax increase if someone could prove that's happening. Commissioner Fulbright stated he would not promise a certain monetary amount but it would be substantial. Commissioner Stovall stated its time to move forward. Commissioner Barner stated he cannot conceivably see him voting for a property tax increase. Commissioner Previti stated he would support it once and let's get it right. Commissioner Turner stated she wished they could find more ways to generate more revenue in the County. Commissioner Turner stated she believes the County might consider going for the Wheel Tax in addition to the property tax. Commissioner Evans stated he agreed with Commissioner Potts. Commissioner Cook stated if the County doubles the Wheel Tax, they are going to generate \$4,300,000.00 in additional revenue at \$50.00. Commissioner Cook stated the property tax increase on the assessed property rate the County is going to experience in 2018 and when you vote on that property tax increase realize that you are going to have a property tax increase in 2018. Commissioner Cook stated she had talked with Mr. Dooley and it is going to be substantial. Commissioner Cook stated when you vote on the property tax increase at 32 cents. You are going to have to tell your people that you did the 32 cents plus the 2018 tax increase. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated he would like to talk about the Wheel Tax. Vice-Chairman Shackelford thinks it is a valid option but just working

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through the mechanics if a Wheel Tax was doubled it would be from \$25.00 to \$50.00 and right now the county generates \$2,200,000.00 but the new wheel tax doubled may generate about \$2,000,000.00. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated if the commission passes it the public has 30 days to give a petition for a referendum which has happened twice before and once the public votes it down, which they will then you have to go against what the public has said they don't want. If that happens then you send it up to the State and they get it pushed through committee and the Private Act is changed. You are looking at a year of tax collections and you are looking at 2018/2019 before you can have the conversation of how many pennies can the commission adjust people's budget because of that revenue. Vice-Chairman Shackelford stated he would vote for an increase in that. Commissioner Sumners stated when the re-appraisal happens again in 2018 you could possibly re-adjust the tax rate. Commissioner Shackelford stated as far as re-appraisals they can be done in 2, 4 and 5 years. Maury County does there re-appraisals every 4 years. Commissioner Whiteside stated she would commit to the tax increase but she would not commit to the number.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

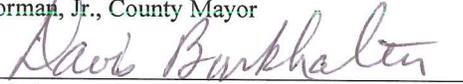
VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. There was a Motion made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:26 PM.

APPROVED


Charlie Norman, Jr., County Mayor

SIGNED


Davis Burkhalter, Budget Committee Chairman