

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

5:30 PM

The Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, met in special session on September 19, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Government Center Commission Room, Building C, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rita Pritchett	Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1	Present	
Jim Barfield	Commissioner District 2	Present	
John Tobia	Commissioner District 3	Present	
Curt Smith	Chairman/Commissioner District 4	Present	
Kristine Isnardi	Commissioner District 5	Present	

**INVOCATION**

Chaplain Carol Wheatley, Power in the Workplace Ministries, Melbourne, provided the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM I.A.1., ANNOUNCEMENT, RE: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TENTATIVE AGGREGATE MILLAGE OVER THE AGGREGATE ROLLED BACK RATE**

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing for the announcement of the percentage change in the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 tentative aggregate millage over the aggregate rolled back rate.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated this Item allows for the reading of the tentative aggregate operating millage rate from the portion of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 budget that is supported by property taxes; and he requested the Budget Office read into the record the tentative aggregate millage rate for Fiscal Year 2017/2018,

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated the aggregate tentative millage rate for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget is 6.3268; the tentative aggregate millage rate is 4.02 percent less than the aggregate current Fiscal Year 2016/2017 millage rate of 6.5919; the aggregate rollback rate for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget is 6.2967; the aggregate tentative millage rate for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget is 6.3268; and the tentative aggregate rate is 0.48 percent more than the aggregate rollback rate.

**ITEM I.A.2., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: REVISED TENTATIVE COUNTY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018**

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to listen to public comment on the revised tentative County budget for FY 2017/2018.

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Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated this Item allows for public to comment on the revised tentative County Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018; before public comment begins he would ask the Budget Office to read into the record the revised tentative Budget information.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 tentative Budget is \$1,170,704,359; and the Budget represents a decrease of \$57,115,185 or 4.65 percent less than the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 current Budget of \$1,227,822,544.

Mr. Abbate stated they are now ready for public comments on the revised tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018.

Linda Behret stated she is requesting the budget for Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELs) and Parks and Recreation in general not be cut, and to be given as much money as possible; and she asked that on behalf of herself as a citizen of Brevard and the Sierra Club; people joke about the Sierra Club being tree huggers, but if the money is taken away for the lands then there will not be an place to put the trees for them to hug; on a more serious note, there are many good recreational activities that take place on those lands as well as preserving the history and beauty of Florida people have known it, and as it was before they got here; and she asked the Board to please not cut that money.

Sara Ann Conkling stated this is public service at its finest; she thanked the Board for being willing to revisit the funding for the Community Action Agencies (CRA) and for the Community Based Organizations (CBO); she stated it is extremely important to the community and those who have suffered the most from Hurricane Irma that it not be decided today to make people who are already vulnerable, homeless; she expressed her appreciation to the Board for taking time to rethink this and do the right thing; she did not sponsor the invocation, but she would like to second everything that wonderful women said in terms of people responsibility towards ourselves, fellow citizens and the Gods; and she thanked the Board for its service and for being here really late tonight.

Judy McCluney asked the Board to restore the County funding to the CRAs and the CBOs; she stated everyone has been in tight places and everyone has been helping each other in this wonderful community; it affects everybody; people did not have internet for over a week; people went to the Library to find out if the water was safe to drink; there are times that everyone helps one another; she thinks what the Board really represents is the community, and it is spiritual thing; and there are times when people are talking about community, but for this fund it is the people who are families, mothers with children, and elderly people. She continued when she went shopping for the hurricane, she was so grateful that she had the money for the bottled water, and money to not have to worry about the utility bills; everybody at some point has been in those tight places; and the CRAs and CBOs are often the last resort for someone to just keep those lights on for another month, or to revive themselves from the extra expenses they had for the gas, or water that they had to purchase. She stated it is a one-time mercy for so many people; she thinks the Board needs to take the high road and make sure the people have what they need, because anyone could be in that position; and she urged the Board to use that spirit and its heart to restore that funding.

Lew Kontnik stated he would like to encourage the Board, as he and so many others have in the past, to go ahead and keep full funding for the EELs program and for Parks and Recreation; he sees it being as particularly important in connection with the Lagoon; and he thanked the Board for its diligence and its support.

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**ITEM I.A.3., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTIONS: FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TENTATIVE MILLAGES**

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to adopt the FY 2017/2018 tentative millages.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated it is recommended that the Board discuss and tentatively adopt the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 millage rates; any changes to the millage rates under this Item will be recomputed and announced under item I.A.4.

Commissioner Tobia stated he has one question for Ms. Hayes; she went over a lot of numbers and he would like an answer to whether the proposal is a tax increase according to the Department of Revenue.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, replied affirmatively; she stated based on the aggregate tentative millage rate, if the Board were to approve that rate, they would advertise a Notice of Proposed Tax Increase.

Commissioner Tobia thanked Ms. Hayes for her diligent work.

Commissioner Barfield stated there was discussion this morning about Emergency Services function of which the Board had cut \$180,000 out of; there have been a number of locations that people have been out of power and places where property has had water intrusion and people cannot live there; there are a lot of people living one paycheck at a time; and he really believes, and like some of the speakers said, he thinks the Board needs to revisit this. He continued this is extenuating circumstances and he would like Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director, to provide what that money would be used for, how it would be used, and what happens if the Board was to not do this.

Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director, stated in general Emergency Services are dollars that have been set aside in the General Fund for citizens that fall through the cracks; they receive State and Federal dollars to assist with certain services; the Board, in the past, has provided additional dollars for those who do not quite meet that definition that has been eliminated, but also have significant issues that come up; the funding that they have set aside for next year is half of what is set aside for this year due to a position; what has been discussed, what he heard being discussed was to seek to restore some of those funds, if not all, to serve those who have been impacted by Hurricane Irma; they have the ability to do that; and they have the processes in place. He continued the dollars that were cut from next year, if they were put back, they would seek to have that position back because part of what they do through that process before they give any funds out, is something called third party verification; and they do not take anyone's word for what their needs are; it is always verified through another agency, either the agency that has the bill in place, the ability to serve that individual, and they also never make payments directly to individuals, they always pay directly to an agency whether it be a landlord, or another agency providing service. He went on to say in this instance if they were to move forward, they potentially have some Policy changes they would make; one thing he would seek to do is verify that individuals are not receiving aid from County dollars as well as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); he knows FEMA provides a written notification whether someone is eligible or not; and as part of the third party verification process, they would seek that kind of information prior to moving forward with any type of assistance. He mentioned some of the services they provided in the past have to do with deposits; he knows some of the things he has heard from two and one, up at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) during the event, were some people who are renters and their landlords either did not have insurance or they were making plans to sell the property instead of fixing it, or there would be delays depending on the time it takes to get insurance for repairs to happen, there would be people who may potentially have nowhere to live; the low income families that do have

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difficulties, or any family living paycheck to paycheck because they do not have the ability to come up with deposits while trying to move in to a new place, they wait for the deposit on the old rental to come through; and that is a potential avenue for assistance that has been done in the past with that program. He added there are some other things they could do, but all of it would be tied to service, some type of third party verification; and he commented they are not just giving out funds to give out funds.

Commissioner Tobia asked how the FEMA reimbursement would be layered with State assistance programs; and how this would come into impact with the State program which is the Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program.

Mr. Golden stated the programs he was talking about through Emergency Services are not the same ones that would do employment assistance; these are really to meet basic needs; those employment services, they look to try and tie to and make sure those who are coming through the door to seek other assistance are aware of those services; for example if they had somebody come in the door who had not applied to FEMA yet, before they would seek to utilize County General Fund, they would seek to have that person go through FEMA process for approval or disapproval prior to utilizing General Revenue dollars, the same way because they are not going to be looking at these dollars to help with employment, they would then try to tie them to those types of services that are available from other agencies.

Commissioner Tobia stated if he is following correctly, someone that would be in need of these assistance would not be eligible for Federal programs and on top of that would not be eligible for State programs, on top of that had not taken precautions for insurance for a rainy day fund on their own; and he inquired if these would be the types of people who would potentially use these services.

Mr. Golden responded not entirely; he stated is not saying that they would not be eligible for State services, what he is saying is that they would be doing research into the clients to determine that they are not seeking services and funds for the same thing over and over; they would be trying to make sure the dollars were not being double dipped, that they were not receiving funds from FEMA and also coming to the County to receive funds for the same item; and what he is saying is that they could be eligible for those other programs, but that eligibility in and of itself, as long as they are not looking to duplicate, would not be something that would or would not hinder them from receiving assistance from Emergency Services.

Commissioner Tobia stated it looks like tentatively the Board agreed to decrease this amount \$168,000, and \$28,000 of that is from an Full Time Equivalent (FTE) which parks at a little over \$140,000; he inquired if any or all of that has been expended, or if the Board appropriated that for the next year, could they use those funds for the help or relief of those individuals, instead of doing the other programs that do not have the stringent verifications that Mr. Golden just mentioned, that do not track the individuals whether or not this is a one-time helping hand; and he inquired if they could use the potential allocated dollars for the Irma relief.

Mr. Golden stated it is actually \$185,000 that was cut from the program, it was \$140,000 in services, and a position of about \$44,000 and some change; so the total was \$184,942; as for the dollars that were left in the program, he would say there is enough need that he would hesitate to take the dollars away from the regular Emergency Services program that he has in place to serve these additional clients that are coming in; and the dollars have been programmed out of their budget for the next Fiscal Year, so the only dollars that are left are those that would be directly for the services that were left in place by the Board.

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Commissioner Pritchett stated Mr. Golden just mentioned \$185,000; she remembers when the Board did this and it was like \$102,000, so she inquired how he is getting a discrepancy of about \$85,000 right now.

Ms. Hayes stated it was the Community Based Organizations that was \$102,000; that was a 20 percent reduction over a five-year period; during the budget workshops, the Board voted to reduce the direct client Emergency Services by 50 percent; at that time, it was anticipated that was \$168,473, just for 50 percent and that included the FTE in the amount of \$44,000; at that time the benefits were not included; and that is where the difference was.

Commissioner Pritchett asked when the Board took those funds that were specified and moved at that point, was that part of the money that the Board had rolled into critical needs, right now; and she inquired if those funds have been absorbed into other areas that are identifiable.

Ms. Hayes stated they reduced the General Fund Transfer to Housing and Human Services for that program; right now in the General Government Reserves the tentative budget is set at just over \$21,000,000, which is 10.58 percent greater than the Operating Revenue; and of course the Policy states that is the goal to have General Government Operating Reserves at 10 percent, so the County is slightly over the 10 percent goal.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that is correct; the Board has part of that positioned to go into road reconstruction; and she inquired if Ms. Hayes is stating that Housing and Human Services would have to add back on another FTE if the Board did this.

Mr. Golden replied affirmatively. He stated one of the issues is that this is a very labor intensive process to get someone through, and the application process itself; he reiterated the third party verification takes a lot of effort as well as the application in making sure they are in contact with the landlord; and they verify what the lease looks like, they verify the rental amount if they are paying rent, and they verify all of those things independently of the client themselves because they will not take anybody's word for what they owe or what they need.

Commissioner Pritchett stated one thing she thought was a good thing in the budget was the one time moving forward to get people staying in their homes; and she asked if the Board is looking at adding money back in for the hurricane people, if it would be better to find an organization that is already doing this and then give them the funds so he does not have to hire another FTE right now.

Mr. Golden stated honestly he has not had a lot of time to think about this; what was brought forward was to put the dollars back; he thinks it is a Board decision regarding how it puts the dollars back; he does think, as Commissioner Barfield had stated, that there is a need for this; how the Board provides for that need is entirely up to the Board and he will obviously follow that directive.

Commissioner Pritchett noted she was just thinking about that right now as everyone is talking through this process; if the Board is looking at putting back \$168,000 for hurricane victims or whatever dollar amount it is looking for, it might be a better process right now to find an agency that is already working on this and already has the checks in place, and give them the money to help keep people in their homes; and if the Board revisits this and decides this is a program the County wants to pick up again, she is not against that. She continued she is guessing that the County probably already has the funds available to do this, so she is not sure if this is going to have to be a change in millage tonight; and she thinks this might be a discussion for a few days to figure out how to fund this and if the Board is going to fund this.

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Commissioner Isnardi inquired if it would be an absolute requirement that the individuals apply for FEMA assistance and be denied, in order to be eligible through the County.

Mr. Golden stated these are County dollars and he will do whatever the Board directs him to do; typically what he does, or would prefer to see, is someone double dip; if FEMA is going to give assistance with housing, then people should not request County dollars for housing, therefore that is something they would look at; and he reiterated whatever the Board direction is, they will design and be able to accomplish it moving forward.

Commissioner Isnardi stated some of her hesitation, and it is not because she is heartless and she does not want people to think that, but during budget discussions the Board spoke about if it gave his Department \$2 million, it still would not be enough to fill that need because there is always going to be a need; she is not sure where the onus of the responsibility comes, whether the onus is on the community, she thinks so and that is what she is doing in her neighborhood and community and she would implore everyone to do the same; she does not know that it is the Board's job as a government to try to completely fill that void, because this was just a minor storm, in 2004 it was much worse; and for those that are vulnerable, eligible or hit that income mark of food stamps, they have already talked about giving more monies to help replace food and that sort of thing. She added it is a fine line, the Board wants to take care of its residents, however, this is not going to be the first storm; she inquired what is going to stop anyone from asking for more money that the County just may not have; she stated her heart breaks for those in need and she would hope others would step up and help their neighbors, but the idea of reducing this was to try to make sure the responsibility goes back on the community members to take care of one another; this was news to her today that this was even being considered; the Board reduced the CBO funding by 20 percent, and as a Commission if it were to keep these things as part of the budget, she would rather see a fund that was for people over 65 and a fund that was for Meals on Wheels, and a fund for hurricane disaster relief, for those people that do fall between the cracks; and the Board is going in an area where it wants to help, it wants to feel good, and wants to help its residents, but at the same time she questions if that is solely the Board's role.

Commissioner Barfield stated the reason he believes it is important that this be done as a County is because they do have the processes in place and they have the opportunity to vet them so much better; they know what they are dealing with because the County has been doing this, and he thinks that is very important; he is not talking about this being an annual thing, he is talking about this being a onetime thing and maybe revisiting it at the next budget cycle; there is also Federal and State funding this time that will fill in a lot of these gaps so he believes the County is in a position that it can fill the gaps that the others do not; and the other thing is the charities and churches full of people are strapped, they have debris, roof damage, and all these other problems that they have to deal with and that is how the charities are funded, so it is a tough time for the County right now. He noted he thinks it is a concern in the County that needs to be dealt with now; and he thinks the right way to go is to go ahead and put back the \$180,000 and move forward from there.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she would not necessarily disagree with that if the Board held the same mindset that it does something like this as opposed to picking and choosing charities and CBOs because it does fall in the same category; if the Board is deciding which organizations are going to receive funding, maybe the answer is, if it is taking care of those who are most vulnerable and most in need, then it is not to a charter school, and not to an organization that provides different services that someone may not support; and this is just her opinion on that because \$180,000 out of the CBO would not be as much of a hit and the Board could shift the funds from there. She went on to say she has less heartburn about this than she does about the CBOs; that would seem more justifiable to her because it does not discriminate and the

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gentleman right there would not benefit from transportation for a charter school; and he or his neighbor may benefit from assistance with his water bill, power bill, or his groceries.

Mr. Golden stated it is actually \$184,942.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thinks the Board should go ahead and open it back up for the use it had before just in case there is not enough hurricane victims, if this is just keeping people in their homes; her thought on that is if he were to hire another FTE and there is only a need of \$3,000 for hurricane victims, then she thinks there should be a vote to just put it back in and make a new decision next year; and they can work on the hurricane victims.

Commissioner Tobia inquired if this is going to be a temporary need, how long Mr. Golden thinks that need will be.

Mr. Golden stated his understanding from what was proposed is that it is next Fiscal Year and then those dollars are gone again; he thinks one of the things he will look at if this is approved is to figure out if they need a FTE or if they can deal with a temporary position.

Commissioner Tobia stated that is the question; if this is about Irma and it is a temporary need and he needs an FTE, there are many problems, and that is just the quickest one on the surface; if the Board is voting for this, understand it is voting for a FTE and only a temporary need, which probably after dealing with Irma would not be helping the victims of the storm; and this is asking the taxpayers, the same people who had shingles fly off their houses and fences fall down, to pay more in taxes to help fund this program. He continued if this was a budget that did not have a tax increase that would be one thing, but this is asking those same people who work hard and pay taxes to pay more taxes so they can go to a subset of individuals here; and he inquired if this would be coming out of the Reserve Budget.

Mr. Abbate replied affirmatively.

Commissioner Barfield stated he would like to throw this out there too; within six months he would like Mr. Golden to give the Board a report where they are financially with all of this; and at that point, if an adjustment needs to be made, the Board can do so.

Commissioner Isnardi inquired if with that motion, those funds will be specifically designated, strictly for hurricane relief, or if this is going back into the Emergency funding, or if this \$184,942 is going into hurricane relief for Irma.

Commissioner Barfield stated no, it will be going into the Emergency Services Fund for them to determine what the uses are, and if it is hurricane related or not, they will have to deal with it.

Commissioner Isnardi stated that is the only reason why she cannot support it; if this was committed, she could almost bite her tongue and support it, because then she would know those funds are going directly to the people impacted, but again, because there is never enough funding for this program, like it was stated in the budget workshop, they can always use more funding, where if the Board gave him more funding, he would find a need for it because there are always people calling and asking for money, or needing money; if there is not a need for this much funding, and he only had, \$30,000 in need for the hurricane, the Board has now given that Department, or that allocation another \$120,000 for what they were doing before that the Board was trying to get away from.

Mr. Golden stated he thinks they would be very comfortable saying these are dollars dedicated just to assist those with Hurricane Irma impacts; whether it be rent, whether it be deposits, whether it be help making their deductible, because of those percentages on insurance, they

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have people who might have to replace a roof at \$15,000, and have an \$8,000 or \$9,000 deductible and it might be that type of use for these dollars; and he feels pretty comfortable that identifying these funds specifically for people impacted by the hurricane would work.

Commissioner Isnardi stated that is not what Commissioner Barfield just said.

Commissioner Barfield stated he will amend his motion to say that.

Commissioner Pritchett stated with all these conversations, just a reminder that when the County experiences homelessness with a family that has not been homeless before, the impact on the taxpayers between \$75,000 and \$95,000 a year between Emergency Services and if it is a family, it is a little more expensive; and if Mr. Golden can come up with a \$1,000 or something to keep somebody in their home, they have actually just had a net savings in revenue when they are able to do this, which saves the taxpayers thousands of dollars down the road; and that is just a good point to think about.

There being no further comments, the Board approved restoring \$184,942 to the Emergency Services Fund strictly for hurricane relief, for one-year only, and to be revisited in six months to see if the Board would like to continue it at that time.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [4 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>AYES:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Jim Barfield, Curt Smith, Kristine Isnardi
<b>NAYS:</b>	John Tobia

**ITEM I.A.3., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTIONS: FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TENTATIVE MILLAGES (CONTINUED)**

Ms. Hayes stated there still needs to be a vote on Item I.A.3.

There being no further comments, the Board accepted the FY 2017-2018 Tentative Millage Rates for Board Agencies, Charter Officers, and Dependent Special Districts.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [4 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>AYES:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Jim Barfield, Curt Smith, Kristine Isnardi
<b>NAYS:</b>	John Tobia

**ITEM I.A.4., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOMPUTED FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AGGREGATE TENTATIVE MILLAGE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CHANGE FROM THE AGGREGATE ROLLED BACK RATE**

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing for the announcement of the recomputed Fiscal Year 2017/2018 tentative aggregate millage.

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Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated based on the millage rates that were approved on Agenda Item I.A.3., he will now ask the Budget Office to read into the record the revised aggregate millage rate.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated the aggregate rollback rate for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget is 6.2967; the aggregate tentative millage rate for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget is 6.3268; and the tentative aggregate rate is 0.48 percent more than the aggregate rollback rate.

There being no comments, the Board acknowledged the announcement of the recomputed Fiscal Year 2017/2018 aggregate rolled back rate.

**ITEM I.B.1., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTION CERTIFYING STORMWATER UTILITY ASSESSMENT ROLL TO THE TAX COLLECTOR**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt a resolution certifying Stormwater Utility Assessment Role to the Tax Collector.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated he is now ready for the rate approval and adoption of the specific program Budgets; these actions are necessary in order to certify non-ad valorem assessment to the Tax Collector in accordance with the uniform method of collection, Florida Statute 917.3632.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated this requests the adoption of the Stormwater Utility Resolution ratifying, confirming, and certifying the annual Stormwater Utility Special Assessment Rolls.

There being no comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-165, ratifying, confirming, and certifying the annual Stormwater Utility Special Assessment Rolls.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.B.2., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTION CERTIFYING FIRE RESCUE ASSESSMENT ROLL TO THE TAX COLLECTOR**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt a resolution certifying Fire Rescue Assessment Roll to the Tax Collector

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated this requests the adoption of schedule of rates assessments and charges for Fire Service Operations, Hazardous Materials, Special Operations Team, Fire Prevention and Inspection Fees; and ratification, confirmation, and certification of the annual Fire Services Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll.

There being no comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-166, adopting the Annual Fire Services Special Assessment Rates, Fire Prevention and Inspection Special Rates, and the Hazardous Materials Special Operations Team Schedule of Rates for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017; and adopted Resolution No. 17-167 ratifying, confirming, and certifying the

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Annual Fire Services Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment Roll for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.B.3., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES ASSESSMENT ROLLS TO THE TAX COLLECTOR**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt a resolution certifying the Municipal Services Assessment Rolls to the Tax Collector.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated this is a request for the adoption of a resolution certifying the Municipal Services Benefit Unit Assessment Rolls to the Tax Collector.

There being no comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-168, adopting, ratifying, and certifying the Municipal Service Benefit Unit Assessment Rolls.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.B.4., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 USER FEES FOR THE MELBOURNE-TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt a resolution for FY 2017/2018 user fees for the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated this requests the adoption of the Resolution establishing user fees for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 for the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District.

Commissioner Isnardi noted that Melbourne-Tillman and staff went nine years without even a CPI increase, so this is something she wants the Board to keep in mind; the way this is voted upon is that three Commissioners vote and one Commissioner has veto power, so if that Commissioner decides not to vote for a larger increase then, the others have to agree; and she appreciates the fact that the Board was able to come up with something for them at 1.62 percent increase, which is better than nothing. She added they have failing equipment and the Board really has to do something because ultimately, when their ditches fill, and they have to expend water into Turkey Creek, it is going to affect the Indian River Lagoon, and she will discuss that later with the County Manager, but perhaps there is alternate funding that can be looked at; she just wants to make sure the County is funding this, because it is such an important part of the system; and she just wanted that to go on the record.

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There being no further comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-169, approving user fees for the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District for FY 2017-2018; and authorized the Chairman to execute the Resolution.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.B.5., PUBLIC HEARING, RE: ADOPTION OF FINAL FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGETS**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt the final FY 2017/2018 Budget.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated in accordance with the Brevard County Code of Ordinances, he requests the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budgets for the following agencies: Solid Waste Management, Stormwater Utility Department, Fire Rescue Operations, and Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District pursuant to the local government Emergency Management powers granted in Section 252.38, Subsection 3, of the Florida Statutes for approval of the Budgets; they will be retroactive to September 15, 2017; and he noted there needs to be a Board vote.

Commissioner Isnardi stated while she voted against the increase for Solid Waste Management, the Commission voted to move forward with it, so she will vote to approve this budget; however, she wants it noted that she does not agree with the increase for Solid Waste.

There being no further comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-170, adopting the final operating budget of Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District; and authorized the adoption of the final budgets for districts and programs such as Solid Waste Management Department, Stormwater Utility, and Fire Rescue Operations Assessment.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.B.6., RESOLUTION, RE: BAREFOOT BAY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET**

Chairman Smith called for public hearing to adopt the Barefoot Bay Water and Sewer District FY 2017/2018 Budget.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated this is requesting the governing body of the Barefoot Bay Water and Sewer District approve a resolution adopting a budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018; and a Board vote is required.

There being no comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-001, adopting the Barefoot Bay Water and Sewer District Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>AYES:</b>	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

**ITEM I.C.1., PUBLIC HEARING, TENTATIVE APPROVAL OF BREVARD COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET**

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider tentative approval of a resolution for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Brevard County budget.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated based on the action taken under Agenda Item I.A.3., he asked the Budget Office to read into the Record revised tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated the revised tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 is \$1,170,704,359; the revised tentative budget represents a decrease of 4.65 percent of \$57,118,185 from the current budget of \$1,227,822,544.

Mr. Abbate asked for tentative approval of the Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Brevard County Budget.

Commissioner Tobia stated while he will be voting no on this budget because it is a tax increase as defined by the State, he would like to thank Ms. Hayes and Mr. Abbate for their diligent work crafting this budget; he wishes the Board would have given them a little better discretion; the tax increase is very minor, it is not one percent it is not .1 percent, but 0.089 percent; he thinks if his plan was not looked upon favorably, it was incumbent upon other members to come up with a plan that was responsible to the taxpayers, that was not a tax increase, and would have allowed the Board, with good conscience, to say this is a budget that it could be proud of; and he asked Mr. Abbate and Ms. Hayes to understand this has no bearing on the hard work that they had in crafting this Budget. He added he thinks it was the failing of the Board to provide Mr. Abbate and Ms. Hayes a millage rate that was not a tax increase according to the Department of Revenue.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she cannot resist to comment on that; she knows as hard as the Department of Revenue that it would appear that way, but the overall millage is lower; it is a tax cut, except for those items such as Parks and Recreation and Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELS) which are voted in referendum which needed to come up to be responsible; it is such a small amount and she thinks Ms. Hayes and Mr. Abbate were incredibly creative with the amount of money they have, and considering the amount of growth going on in this County right now; the County is up in population and the Budget is not anywhere near where it should be with the population right now; and she thinks moving into the future to be a responsible Commission, it is going to have to look at a larger Budget to be able to provide services for the citizens that she believes she was voted in by her District to carry out. She added she looks forward to providing these services responsibly into the future.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she is going to support this Budget, but it is not because she agrees with everything in it, or because the Board did not discuss for hours on end what the Board should be doing or what its core function of government should be; however, the Board did make some decent cuts, she just wishes it could have done a little better; it was really close to the rollback rate, but the County is taking in over \$57 million dollars less and there is

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something to be said for that; and the millage rate has dropped from where it was last year. She noted she is holding on to that and praying the Board does better next year; although it did okay this year she thinks it can do better. She thanked staff for their hard work, for the many PowerPoint presentations, the many questions, and for all the prying into the Departmental Budgets, salaries, and supplies.

There being no further comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-171, adopting the County's Total Budget for FY 2017-2018, as indicated in Agenda Item I.A.2., at a total of \$1,170,704,359, which includes County agencies of \$959,044,830, Charter Officers of \$137,239,212, and Dependent Special Districts of \$74,420,317.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [4 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
<b>AYES:</b>	Rita Pritchett, Jim Barfield, Curt Smith, Kristine Isnardi
<b>NAYS:</b>	John Tobia

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

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SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

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CURT SMITH, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA