

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2003**

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Sanders, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Clarence Williams, and Eddie Creamer, Commissioners; Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk; Kendall Wade, Clerk; Ruth Williams, Finance Officer.

ABSENT: Commissioner Jimmy Mosconis

5:30 P.M. Chairman Sanders called the meeting to order.

(Tape 1-5) Chairman Sanders announced the opening of the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners Final Budget Public Hearing for FY 2003-2004. She informed the audience if they would like to address the Commission then they would need to complete a Speaker's Card.

(Tape 1-9) Kendall Wade, Clerk, said he would like to read the following into the record: Final Budget Hearing for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Monday, September 22, 2003, 5:30 p.m. Franklin County Board of County Commissioners; The millage rate for he proposed budget is 25.42% over the rolled-back rate. The rolled-back rate is 4.146 mills. The millage rate for the 2003-2004 budget as advertised is 5.200, and the total budget is \$22,338,359.00. The total certified taxable value of real estate for budget purposes is \$1,626,152.00. He explained the Board could now entertain public comments.

(Tape 1-46) Chairman Sanders stated one person had completed a speaker's card. She said Dawn Mansfield has asked to address the Board. Ms. Mansfield thanked the Board for recognizing her. She said she has several questions about the budget. She explained she was out-of-state when the budget was being discussed. She asked several questions regarding the budget and line items in the budget. Ms. Williams answered her. Ms. Mansfield said her real problem was how much her property taxes increased. She said she hasn't seen any road paving or repair in the area, no police protection, no water and sewer, etc. She said it was a shocked to see, when she did arrive home, her tax bill in the mail. She stated the assessed value of her land has increased and her taxes are being increased by \$900.00, with a Homestead Exemption, in one year. Commissioner Creamer said when he took office approximately seven years ago the millage rate was almost 9 mills. He stated from that time on this Board worked really hard, by not giving any department an increased, at lowering the millage rate. He said the departments worked with the Commissioners and now the millage rate is much lower rolled-back rate at 4.146 mills some increases need to be made. He stated some of these departments have been waiting seven or eight years to get the increase they had needed and requested. He explained this included the Constitutional Officers. He said this year the Commissioners had to increase the budget because there were a lot of things the County needed. He stated the past seven years the County has tried to keep everyone from spending needlessly and they have been very gracious about the situation and watched their budgets very carefully. Ms. Mansfield said she was most concerned about the roads in

her area. She stated the sand on her road gets really bad when it rains and she said she doesn't have any lime rock on the road. She thanked the Board for at least listening to her concerns this afternoon.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING MILLAGE LEVY

(Tape 1-360) A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida, Adopting the Final Levying of Ad Valorem Taxes for Franklin County for Fiscal Year 2003-2004; Providing for an Effective Date. Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida, on September 22, 2003, adopted Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Final Millage Rates following a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida, held a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and Whereas, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not exempt from taxation within Franklin County within Franklin County has been certified by the County Property Appraiser to the Board of County Commissioners as \$1,626,152,240.00. Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida that: 1. The fiscal year 2003-2004 operating millage rate for Countywide is 5.200 mills, which is greater than the rolled-back rate of 4.146 mills by 25.42%. 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. Duly Adopted at a public hearing this the 22nd day of September 2003. Board of County Commissioners Franklin County, Florida. Cheryl Sanders, Chairman; Attest: Kendall Wade, Clerk of Courts. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion to adopt the Resolution Adopting Millage Levy for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Resolution Adopting the Millage Levy for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION ADOPTING BUDGET

(Tape 1-433) A Resolution-Franklin County Board of County Commissioners-Resolution Adopting Budget. Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida, after due consideration of the needs of the people of said County, has ascertained the amount of funds required for a budget for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year, and Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners has given due notice as required by law, and has held public hearings as required by Florida Statute 200.065, and Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the Budget for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 in the amount of \$22,338,359.00. Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida, that: 1. The fiscal year 2003-2004 Final Budget is adopted. 2. That copies of this Resolution containing said budget be spread upon the records of Franklin County, Florida. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. This Resolution duly adopted at a public hearing this the 22nd day of September 2003. Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida. Cheryl Sanders, Chairman; Attest: Kendall Wade, Clerk of Courts. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion to adopt the Resolution Adopting Budget for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Resolution Adopting Budget for fiscal year 2003-2004.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.**



CHERYL SANDERS, CHAIRMAN



KENDALL WADE, CLERK