

**LUMPKIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
*Special Work Session***

AGENDA

**Lumpkin County Park & Recreation Community Center
Activity Room Main
365 Riley Road
Dahlonega, Georgia**

**June 14, 2010
9:00 A.M.**

The purpose of the special work session is to discuss the Proposed 2011 Budget.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Raber

II. PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

III. ADJOURN

Chairman Raber

**LUMPKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL WORK SESSION NOTES**

The purpose of the special work session is to discuss the Proposed 2011 Budget.

June 14, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Raber began the special work session at 9:00 a.m. Present were John Raber, Bill Scott, Tim Bowden and Clarence Grindle. Clarence Stowers was out of town.

PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

The Chairman said he thinks today is very important for the future of Lumpkin County. He commented on discussions citizens had with him just this morning. He said it wasn't that this board had created the current economic situation but they have to make decisions concerning it.

County Manager Stan Kelley gave a brief on what had occurred since the last budget meeting. Exemptions are up, net taxables are down. In other words, our tax digest has shrunk since last year and in order to have a balanced budget it is even more apparent that we must either increase the millage rate or cut services and/or employees.

Tax Commissioner Rachel Pruitt, who was also present at the meeting, pointed out that this digest affects not only unincorporated Lumpkin County but the City of Dahlonega and Lumpkin County Schools.

Commissioner Scott expressed deep concern about the county's economic situation going forward into 2012.

There was then discussion about Parks & Recreation and the savings that might be realized if the YMCA takes over running it.

Human Resources Director Fran Sullens pointed out that the new Federal Health Care Plan rules concerning insuring 26-year-old, regardless of their school status, might negatively affect the county's budget.

The County Manager said he needs a sense of direction from the board concerning the budget. The Chairman said that once the people realized the dire condition of the county when Steve Gooch took office that they understood the need for a millage increase. He said that the millage rate was increased but also SPLOST and LOST were producing healthy returns at that time. He said he is in favor of a millage rate increase in order to continue needed services. Commissioner Scott said he concurs with the Chairman's view. He said he doesn't understand how we can continue without an increase of 3/4ths or 1 mill. Commissioner Grindle said, as much as he hates it, that it appears we will have to raise the millage rate; he hopes it will be a small amount. Commissioner Bowden said he is not in favor of raising taxes. He said that we are in a completely different world right now and thinks that it is irresponsible to raise taxes. He pointed out that it appears that next year will be even worse.

Commissioner Scott then said he would favor up to 1%, Grindle said he would prefer 3/4%, Bowden said he is opposed to any increase.

The Sheriff said he wants it understood that most of the money he is requesting is for the additional officers at the Justice Center to comply with the recommendation from Judge Barrett concerning Justice Center security. The Sheriff said the \$90,000.00 is separate from the security and personnel needs for the Justice Center.

The County Manager said he needs to know exactly what the board wants him to look at funding for 2011.

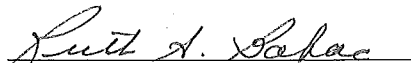
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The Chairman asked if the board would agree that the Chairman, County Manager, Sheriff and Major Ramsey sit down to discuss the Sheriff's request. They set a tentative 2:00 p.m. appointment today.

The Chairman asked the board if they were available to meet Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. to go over the outcome of the 2:00 p.m. meeting.

ADJOURN

Chairman Raber ended the meeting at 9:37 a.m.



Ruth A. Bohac
Clerk, Lumpkin County