

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday June, 15th, 2011
10:00 A.M to 12:00 P.M

Vice Chairman Hearn called the budget workshop to order, in absence of Chairman Matthews, at approximately 10:00 a.m. Present for the meeting was Vice-Chairman Hearn, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Glass, Commissioner Thrash, Financial Analyst Davidson and CPA, Cheryl Idol.

Purpose

The Board of Commissioners met to discuss cuts to the Fiscal Year 2012 budget.

Tornado Disaster

The meeting started with Commissioner Glass reporting that approximately a quarter of a million dollars has been spent thus far on the tornado disaster. Commissioner Glass predicts that the dollar amount will be anywhere from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000.00 by the time the cleanup process is finished. He also stated that \$250,000 of this is related to volunteers. Commissioner Glass reported that they will open the bids for grinding at the next regular scheduled business meeting. Commissioner Horton stated that the amount of money spent on the tornado disaster was not budgeted in the 2011 budget. Commissioner Glass stated that hopefully by the end of the year we will be reimbursed by FEMA but only about 85% will be covered. Commissioner Horton and Vice Chairman Hearn both stated that the remaining balance will need to be addressed. Citizen Bob Chappell, Molly McDonald and Penny McBroom gave their thoughts on the cleanup and the fact that \$250,000 is a lot of money being spent. Commissioner Glass stated that Fitzhugh is continuing to work with the debris cleanup process and they have approximately four to five weeks of pickup left to do. Bob Chappell noted that if citizens put debris out on the right of way and then they go and put another load on the right of way that isn't related to the Tornado Disaster and Fitzhugh picks it up this is use of the taxpayer's dollar. Penny McBroom commented that this is a lot of money. Molly McDonald stated that we need to encourage the citizens to take the debris to the county landfill.

Budget Cuts

Commissioner Thrash started the budget portion of the meeting by stating that she would still like to see excess SPLOST dollars used to decrease the budget deficit. The commissioners discussed cutting the sports programs out of the recreation department budget for FY2012 and only funding the park and the facilities. Commissioner Thrash is concerned about how much money is being used to operate the jail and suggested they look at contracted out inmates to another jail facility. Commissioner Thrash also commented on the supplies being purchased and if bulk and state discounts are being applied to supplies purchased. She stated she would like to see a centralized purchasing system in place. The commissioners started with the budget review process and evaluated each department line item by line item with cuts being made to attorney fees, repairs/maintenance-vehicles, schools/meeting/training, For more detailed requests within each department the FY 2012 Budget Workbook is available for review at the Administration Building in the Board of Commissioners office.

Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Hearn called for a motion to adjourn at approximately 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Thrash made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Horton. The motion passed 4-0.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jay Matthews-Chairman

Jimmy Hearn-Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton-Member

Charles Glass-Member

Nancy M. Thrash-Member

Attest:

Carlette Davidson, Financial Analyst