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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY
Special School Board Meeting – Minutes [Approval 8/14/07]
Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 Tentative Budget
(School Board Meeting Room, Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center)
Tuesday, July 31, 2007 – 5:05 P.M.

Attending

Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Chairman
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Vice Chairman
Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Member
Mr. Steven K. Teuber, J.D. Member

Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary and District Superintendent
Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney

Mrs. Donna Lesansky, Recording Secretary

I. Call To Order

The School Board of Lee County, Florida, met Tuesday, July 31, 2007, at 5:05 P.M. in the School Board Meeting Room in the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center for a Special School Board Meeting to conduct the Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 Tentative Budget. Mrs. Dozier presided.

Motion by Dr. Kuckel, seconded by Mr. Chilmonik and carried 4-0 to accept the agenda as the Order of Business as presented.

II. Presentation

Mr. Lee Legutko noted that this is the first of two public hearings required under Florida Statutes to allow the public an opportunity to provide input with regard to the proposed millage levy and the 2008 Fiscal Year budget. He added that the total tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 is \$1.6 billion.

Mrs. Desamours referred to a package of material that the Board previously received, which included a copy of the July 27, 2007, public advertisement related to today's public hearing. She explained that the notice of the September 11, 2007, public hearing will be through a direct mailing to the public from the Property Appraiser's office. She added that the manner in which these hearings are advertised is prescribed by law.

Mrs. Dozier requested that a notation stating that the hearing notices are advertised pursuant to Florida Statute be included in future advertisements.

Mrs. Ami Desamours continued with a PowerPoint presentation. *(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be filed with the official minutes.)* She noted that the actual calculated roll-back rate is 6.9832 mills; however, only 6.960 mills is actually being levied. Ms. Desamours explained that this is the first instance of a decrease in the roll back rate since 2000 and is occurring as a result of last year's large tax roll increase combined with this year's small increase.

Mrs. Desamours further stated that the proposed millage rate for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 is 6.960, which represents a decrease of .052 mills from last year's millage rate of 7.012. She explained that although this year's millage rate is lower, it will generate more dollars because of the growth in the tax roll due to new construction and higher appraised values.

Mrs. Desamours outlined the proposed millage levy as follows:

	<u>Tentative Millage Levy</u>	<u>Proposed \$ to be Raised</u>
RLE (required local effort)	4.361	\$400,609,111
Basic Discretionary	0.510	\$ 46,849,495
Capital Outlay	2.000	\$183,723,509
Supplemental Discretionary	<u>0.089</u>	<u>\$ 8,175,696</u>
Total Mills	6.960	\$639,357,811

Mrs. Desamours stated that the total proposed 2007-2008 budget for all funds is \$1,682,611,701. She explained that the operating fund at \$772,645,853 represents approximately 46% of the budget; the debt service fund at \$51,081,815 represents approximately 3%; the capital projects fund at \$676,897,567 represents approximately 40%; the special revenue fund at \$71,835,766 represents approximately 4.3%; and the internal service fund at \$110,150,700 represents approximately 6.5%.

Mrs. Desamours referred to a pie chart to explain that the budget funds are apportioned as follows: instruction and direct school expenses, 66%; operations/maintenance, 12%; contingency reserve, 11%; student transportation, 6%; support services, 4%; and other, 1%.

With regard to the instruction and direct school expenses, it was the consensus of the Board to request that the Superintendent provide a document comparing the District's 66% with other school districts throughout the state.

Dr. Browder stated that the Lee County School District is the 9th largest school district in Florida and one of the 60th largest in the nation. He added that the District's budget supports almost 82,100 students and also mentioned some of the challenges facing the District as well as the successes that have been recognized. Dr. Browder concluded by explaining that the following actions would be taken at today's hearing: (1.) adopt all proposed millages for the 2007-2008 tentative budget; (2.) adopt the tentative budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year; and (3.) adopt all resolutions related to the millages and budget.

III. Public Hearing

Mrs. Dozier recessed the Special Board Meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 5:29 P.M. to consider the adoption of the Proposed Millage Levies and the Tentative Budget for 2007-08.

Dr. Browder presented his recommendations:

- (1.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the 2007-08 Tentative Proposed Supplemental Discretionary Millage of .089 mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$8,175,696.
- (2.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Required Local Effort Millage of 4.361 mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$400,609,111.
- (3.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Basic Discretionary Millage of .510 mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$46,849,495.

- (4.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Capital Outlay Millage of 2.000 with a proposed amount to be raised of \$183,723,509. The total millage will equal 6.960 Mills with a total amount to be raised of \$639,357,811. The total millage rate to be levied does not exceed the roll back rate. It is a decrease in the roll back rate of .33%.
- (5.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the Resolution determining revenues and millages levied and the Resolution adopting the tentative millage rates for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.
- (6.) That the Lee County School Board adopt the Tentative Budget and related Resolution adopting the Tentative Budget for the 2007-2008 school year as follows: General Operating in the amount of \$772,645,853; Special Revenue Budget in the amount of \$71,835,766; Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$51,081,815; Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$676,897,567; Internal Service Budget in the amount of \$110,150,700, for a total Tentative Budget of \$1,682,611,701.
- (7.) That the Lee County School Board accept the 2007 Certification of Taxable Value for Lee County, Form DR420S, and authorize the Superintendent to complete and execute the form.

Mrs. Dozier asked if anyone would like to address the Board regarding the issues on the agenda for Public Hearing.

Mr. Kim Hawk observed that although spending has doubled over the past 30 years, graduation rates and test scores have not. *Mr. Kim* advocated for vouchers.

There being no further requests, Mrs. Dozier closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Board Meeting at 5:31 P.M.

IV. Adoption

(1.) Supplemental Discretionary Millage:

Motion by *Mr. Teuber*, ***seconded*** by *Dr. Kuckel*, and ***carried 4-0*** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2007-08 Tentative Proposed Supplemental Discretionary Millage of .089 Mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$8,175,696.

(2.) Required Local Effort Millage:

Motion by *Mr. Teuber*, ***seconded*** by *Dr. Kuckel*, and ***carried 4-0*** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Required Local Effort Millage of 4.361 Mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$400,609,111.

(3.) Basic Discretionary Millage:

Motion by *Dr. Kuckel*, ***seconded*** by *Mr. Teuber*, and ***carried 4-0*** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Basic Discretionary Millage of .510 Mills with a proposed amount to be raised of \$46,849,495.

(4.) Capital Outlay Millage:

Motion by Dr. Kuckel, **seconded** by Mr. Teuber, and **carried 4-0** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2007-2008 Tentative Proposed Capital Outlay Millage of 2.000 with a proposed amount to be raised of \$183,723,509. The total millage will equal 6.960 Mills with a total amount to be raised of \$639,357,811. The total millage rate to be levied does not exceed the roll back rate. It is a decrease in the roll back rate of .33%.

(5.) Resolution :

Motion by Mr. Teuber, **seconded** by Dr. Kuckel and **carried 4-0** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the Resolution determining revenues and millages levied and the Resolution adopting the tentative millage rates for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

(6.) FY08 Tentative Budget and Related Resolution:

Motion by Mr. Teuber, **seconded** by Dr. Kuckel, and **carried 4-0** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the Tentative Budget and related Resolution adopting the Tentative Budget for the 2007-2008 School Year as follows: General Operating in the amount of \$772,645,853; Special Revenue Budget in the amount of \$71,835,766; Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$51,081,815; Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$676,897,567; Internal Service Budget in the amount of \$110,150,700 for a total Tentative Budget of \$1,682,611,701.

(7.) Acceptance of the 2007 Certification of Taxable Value:

Motion by Mr. Teuber, **seconded** by Dr. Kuckel, and **carried 4-0** to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2007 Certification of Taxable Value for Lee County, Form DR420S, and to authorize the Superintendent to complete and execute the form.

V. Schedule Final Budget Public Hearing

Motion by Mr. Teuber, **seconded** by Dr. Kuckel, and **carried 4-0** for to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a Public Hearing on the Final 2007-08 Millage Levies and Final Budget for the 2007-2008 School Year for Tuesday, September 11, 2007, at a Special Board Meeting to begin at 5:05 P.M. in the Board Room at the Lee County Public Education Center.

VI. Comments

Board Members: none

Board Attorney: none

Board Auditor: none

Dr. Browder thanked all of the staff members who were involved in the budget process for their hard work and diligence.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Dr. Kuckel, **seconded** by Mr. Teuber, and **carried 4-0** to adjourn the July 31, 2007, Special School Board Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

MINUTES BOOK NO. 44 - FY08

Jeanne S. Dozier., Chairman

ATTEST:

James W. Browder, Ed.D., Secretary and District Superintendent

An audio/visual tape of this meeting has been produced to provide a verbatim record of the proceedings. Members of the public may obtain a copy of the tape of any meeting by making a request for such through the Communications Department and paying the actual cost of copying the tape. Members of the public may view any Board meeting tape at the Communications Department at no cost. Anyone wishing to view a Board meeting tape should contact the Communications Department at 337-8327 to make such a request.