

Baldwin County Commissioners
Work Session
May 19, 2015
5:15 p.m.

A Work Session of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 5:15 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Sammy Hall presiding.

Members Present: Emily C. Davis
Tommy French
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig
Johnny Westmoreland

Also Present: David McRee
Ralph McMullen
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Sammy Hall called the Work Session to order at 5:15 p.m.

Update on County Extension Service / 4-H Program

County Extension Coordinator Robbie Jones presented an activity report on 4-H participation, events, camps, awards programs, and Summer Fun Days. Mr. Jones discussed the schedule for the Clover Road Challenge II with stops in Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia, PA; Cleveland, OH; Dayton, OH; Lexington, KY and Gatlinburg, TN. He reported on accomplishments of 4-H members naming participants who were selected to compete at State 4-H Congress, winners in poultry judging events as well as Junior/Senior DPA. Mr. Jones also presented statistics on Extension Service activities for agriculture samples and FACS Support.

Financial Policies for Debt Issuance and Management

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented Section III – Debt Issuance and Management Policies. She stated a copy of the policy has been sent to Commissioners for their review. She discussed comments and recommendations received from Commissioners. Ms. Hudson reported the policy is very straightforward since state requirements dictate how much counties may borrow.

Ms. Hudson discussed Section B - Conditions for Issuing Short-Term Debt. She stated the County shall develop adequate reserves to avoid the necessity of short-term borrowing to cover cash flow shortages. In the interim, financing in anticipation of a definite fixed source of revenue such as Tax Anticipation Notes is acceptable per the Georgia Constitution. The County will reduce annually the amount of borrowing for cash flow purposes by \$250,000 less than the amount borrowed the prior year until such time requirements for TAN borrowing is reduced to \$3,000,000.

She discussed Section I – Credit Ratings. She stated the County has never had the need to sell rated bonds. The County Revenue Bonds are backed by revenue sources and the General Obligation Bonds are backed by SPLOST funds. Ms. Hudson reported a sentence was included in this section to read “The County will strive to achieve and maintain an investment grade credit rating.”

Commissioner Henry Craig stated he feels that as Baldwin County grows, the County should be prepared to get the best credit rating possible. He recommended the policy include a minimum credit rating of AA.

Chair Hall stated any further recommendations regarding these financial policies should be submitted to Finance Director Hudson. This item will be placed on the next Agenda for the Board’s consideration.

Old Business

There was no old business to come before the Board.

New Business

Commissioner Westmoreland asked for an update on the mowing schedule for County roads. He asked that the schedule be posted on the County website so the public will be aware of when their road will be mowed.

Adjournment

Commissioner John Westmoreland made a motion to adjourn the Work Session at 5:50 p.m. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk