



**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
FY11 Budget Presentations
Glynn County Board of Commissioners
8:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 4, 2010
Third Floor Conference Room
W. Harold Pate Courthouse Annex
Brunswick, Georgia**

Present:

Committee Members: *J. Clark and T. Thaw*

Other Commissioners: *A. Callaway, H. Lynn, T. Sublett*

Staff: *D. Chunn, M. Doering, P. McNicoll, B. Rowell, C. Stewart, C. Temple, S. Trautz, W. Worley*

Press: *N. Batiwalla, P. Shierling*

Others: *Charlie Creveling, Joe Floyd, Billy Gillis, Daniel Parshley, Marsha Smith, Richard Strickland, Tim ? (Southland)*

- 1) *Consider approval of the April 27, 2010 Finance Committee FY11 Budget Minutes.*

The following motion made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Thaw passed unanimously.

Approval of the April 27, 2010 Finance Committee FY11 Budget Minutes. (Vote: 2-0)

- 2) *Discussion with Southland Waste Services on recycling programs. (H. Lynn)*

Commissioner Howard Lynn introduced Southland representative, Billy Gillis, and asked that he discuss their Single Stream Recycling programs. Mr. Gillis stated that they would provide recycling carts to 26 thousand customers every other week for a five year term for \$2.50 - \$3.00 per month per home. He read the rates for several different scenarios and stated that the cost would be much less if the County would give them a five year contract for recycling. Commissioner Lynn stated that a RFP would be issued next year. Mr. Will Worley, Assistant County Attorney, stated that the current contract expires in 18 months and that contract currently calls for recycling. He stated that Mr. Gillis's program is just a change in the container. Mr. Worley stated that a new contract that covers only recycling for five years must be bid out. Commissioner Lynn said that the County will not force recycling but this is a way for the County to "go green" and would reduce landfill costs. He stated that garbage prices would have to go down and also stated that the County would not expand the contract beyond 1.5 years.

Commissioner Thaw questioned what the County pays now for recycling and commented that it's free to customers now. Ms. Becky Rowell, Assistant County Administrator, stated that the County pays \$3.41 per household that signs up for the service per month. Commissioner Lynn stated that there are several facilities in Georgia that take recyclables. Mr. Gillis informed the Committee that they offer a reward program to recyclers in other areas. They will award points that can be redeemed at Lowes, Home Depot, Applebees, etc. He said they would like to offer this program as a model in South Georgia but they must have ten thousand homes to do this. Commissioner Lynn questioned whether the County could end this contract within the

next six months and rebid and Mr. Worley responded that they could do that but are required to give notice. Commissioner Lynn stated that he would like to rebid in the next six months. Commissioner Thaw stated that the full Board would have to decide to do that. Commissioner Clark advised Mr. Gillis that they should use this time to educate the public about recycling. Commissioner Thaw stated that if they would offer the points program, more people would sign up.

3) *Outside Agency Appropriations.*

Mr. Charles Stewart, County Administrator, stated that he had recommended a 10% cut to outside agency appropriations and the Finance Committee didn't seem to be in favor of reducing the DA's and Public Defenders appropriations. Mr. Stewart stated that there is no need to reduce the outside agencies now since the budget is balanced. Commissioner Thaw stated that he would like to hear from each commissioner. He asked that each commissioner take the list and if they think it could be cut, to vote and then turn the list back in to Mr. Stewart. Commissioner Clark agreed with that process. He stated that 10% is the fairest way but some agencies can handle more or less than others. Commissioner Thaw agreed since some get state funds and are getting cut by the state, such as the Public Defender. Commissioner Sublett requested data showing the percent of County funding to their total budgets.

4) *Budget Summary.*

- *Fire Fund Budget balancing scenario.*

Mr. Stewart requested guidance in balancing the Fire Fund budget. He stated that it is very difficult to reduce the Fire budget further and that it is almost exclusively funded by property taxes. He stated that the fund balance has built up through the years and could sustain the use of fund balance to balance the budget. Mr. Stewart recommended the use of fund balance. Commissioner Thaw questioned how much was in fund balance and Mr. Stewart responded that the fund has a little over \$3 million. Commissioners Thaw and Clark then agreed with the use of fund balance.

Commissioner Lynn commented on the Sea Island Police Fund and questioned whether the County really needs this since Sea Island has its own security force. Police Chief Matt Doering responded that the Sea Island property owners pay half of the costs for those officers.

5) *Update on Recent Legislative Action.*

Mr. Stewart commented on the following changes in State law:

- Property Appraisal office will be required to send tax notices to all property owners next year, not just the ones that have made returns.
- The Board of Equalization will report to the Clerk of Superior Court. They were under the Property Appraisal office in previous years but there was the appearance of conflict and the County Administrator's Department has been in charge of them for the last few years. He stated that he has been using a part time employees as the secretary of the BOE and he doesn't know what the Clerk of Superior Court will require.

- Transportation sales tax can be added for roads expenses by CRC district. Our CRC district is comprised of ten counties. This will be very cumbersome to implement.
- There are other changes that he will discuss at a later date.
- Ms. Rowell stated that they also approved regional Board of Equalization but she didn't think that it was mandated. For example, if the County chose to, we could have a regional board with Brantley County.

6) *Budget Adoption Calendar.*

Ms. Phyllis McNicoll, Finance Director, discussed the budget calendar and stated that the goal is to have the budget approved June 17 which is the last regular Commission meeting in June. State law requires that the budget is adopted by June 30. She stated that the Budget Team would like to submit the proposed budget to the Board of Commissioners on May 14 and advertise that it is available for public inspection at that time. Commissioner Thaw requested that the Finance Committee have one more budget meeting at 3:30 on Tuesday, May 11.