



BALDWIN COUNTY CALLED MEETING

Wednesday, September 08, 2021

Government Building, Suite 220, 1601 N Columbia St

11:00 AM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Henry Craig
John Westmoreland
Kendrick Butts
Emily Davis
Sammy Hall

OTHERS PRESENT

David Mcree
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Jill Adams
Cindy Cunningham

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Craig called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE / FISCAL MATTERS

Resolution to Adopt the 2021 Millage Rate and Accept Board of Education Resolution

Chairman Craig presented a Resolution to adopt the 2021 millage rate at 10.50 and to accept the Board of Education Resolution to set their rate at 15.29. Chairman Craig read the BOE Resolution.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to have a separate vote on the Resolution from the Board of Education to levy the education tax of 15.29. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland made a motion to accept the Board of Education Resolution to levy the education tax of 15.29. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Assistant County Manager Hudson presented the County Resolution to establish the 2021 millage rate of 10.50 mills and to levy the fee of \$25.00 for hospital based indigent care services special tax district in accordance with the Resolution adopted by the County June 28, 2018. She stated a motion is needed to adopt the Resolution and to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution.

Chairman Henry Craig read the County Resolution.

Discussion on 10.5 millage rate was held. Commissioner Davis stated Commissioners may not be able to say now what cuts could be made. Chairman Craig stated he disagrees because members have had a chance to look over this and decide what to cut if they are not in favor of the millage rate increase.

Commissioner Butts said the Board needs to sit down and decide if cuts can be made on fire & ambulance services. He stated he disagrees with the 10.5 rate.

Commissioner Hall stated he opposes taxes; but the County is in a critical situation. 85% of the County expenses are mandated. Costs are going up for county as well as everything else. This rate is necessary to meet out expenses and he will support the increase.

Vice Chairman Westmoreland stated he does not see where cuts can be made, and he too supports the 10.5 millage rate.

Chairman Craig said he appreciates the opinions of Commissioners Butts and Davis. He said the Board has worked hard for 8 years to keep taxes down. He does not support reducing fire services. He said we must continue to provide good ambulance services, and he has studied other counties and the increase in EMS for Baldwin County is very low as compared to other counties. It is a service he does not want to jeopardize. He recommends the County continue to negotiate with Grady. He feels the tax increase is necessary.

Commissioner Davis asked if the County could cut GIS? Ms. Hudson stated GIS is a very valuable service that provides information and data to all departments and to the community. Vice Chairman Westmoreland commented that if GIS is cut, the County would have to contract these services.

Commissioner Butts said he feels ambulance services should be bid out and cuts could be made to fire services. He stated the County should come up with ways to save money.

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented to set the millage rate at 10.5 and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed by the following vote:

Aye: Hall, Westmoreland, Craig Nay: Butts, Davis

A copy of each Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages 80 and 81.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Litigation

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 11:20 a.m. to discuss litigation. Vice Chair Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.


RECONVENE CALLED MEETING

Commissioner Davis made a motion to reconvene the Called Meeting at 12:40 p.m. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Westmoreland made a motion to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Henry R. Craig
Chairman


Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk

RESOLUTION FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF MILLAGE RATES FOR THE 2021 TAX DIGEST

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BALDWIN

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners caused proper notice appear in the legal organ of the County to report the *Current 2021 Tax Digest and 5-Year History of Levy*;

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32, said notice indicated that the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners would establish the millage rate at a meeting on September 8, 2021 at 11:00 am in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at 1601 N Columbia Street, Suite 220, Milledgeville, Georgia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that the Board does hereby establish millage rates for all tax districts for the 2021 tax digest as follows:

Baldwin County Unincorporated Board of Commissioners:

Gross unincorporated millage rate of 10.50 mills as the unincorporated millage rate for the Board of Commissioners.

Baldwin County Incorporated Board of Commissioners:

Gross incorporated millage rate of 10.50 mills as the incorporated millage rate for the Board of Commissioners.

Baldwin County Board of Education: A millage rate of 15.29 mills.


Hospital-Based Indigent Care Services Special Tax District:

A fee amount of \$25.00 in accordance with Resolution adopted June 28, 2018 by BOC to establish special district.


SO RESOLVED, this 8th day of September, 2021.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Acting by and through its Board of Commissioners


Henry Craig, Chairman

Attest:


Cindy Cunningham, County Clerk



Baldwin County Board of Education
A Charter System of Georgia

Mr. Wes Cummings

Board Chair

Dr. Noris Price

Superintendent

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Board of Education

Mr. John Jackson, Vice Chair

Dr. Gloria Wicke

Ms. Shannon D. Hill

Mr. Lyn Chandler

BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Resolution
2021-2022

WHEREAS The Constitution of the State of Georgia as amended in 1970 provided that: "The Fiscal authority of the several counties shall levy a tax for the support and maintenance of education not less than five mills nor greater than twenty mills (as recommended by the County Board of Education) upon the dollar of taxable property in the county located outside independent school systems... and,

WHEREAS The Baldwin County Board of Education has taken in consideration the needs for operating the public schools of the said county for the term 2021-2022, and finds that the taxable digest of said county, including public utilities, will amount to approximately \$1,111,993,134 and in adopting a budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022, it is found necessary to levy an education tax of 15.29 mills on all property returned in Baldwin County and a school bond tax of 0 mills on a total valuation for school bonds of approximately \$1,111,993,134

BE IT RESOLVED That the Baldwin County Board of Education does hereby recommend that the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Roads and Revenues of Baldwin County levy an education tax of 15.29 mills and a bond tax of 0 mills on all taxable property in Baldwin County

Mr. Wes Cummings Board of Education Chair



Noris Price, Secretary Baldwin County Board of Education