

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

5:30 PM

The Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, met in regular session on August 11, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Max K. Rodes Park Community Building, 3410 Flanagan Avenue, West Melbourne, Florida.

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Robin Fisher	Chairman/Commissioner District 1	Excused	
Jim Barfield	Vice Chairman/Commissioner District 2	Excused	
Trudie Infantini	Commissioner District 3	Present	
Curt Smith	Commissioner District 4	Present	
Andy Anderson	Commissioner District 5	Present	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Infantini led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING, RE: STATEMENT OF PROPOSED RATES FOR THE MELBOURNE-TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT FY 2015-2016

Commissioner Infantini called for the public hearing to consider statement of proposed user fee rates for the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District for FY 2015-2015.

Dan Anderson, District Manager of Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District, introduced the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District Members who were present. He went on to say Melbourne-Tillman in April 2015 adopted a tentative budget for submittal to Brevard County for FY 2015-2016; and he acknowledged the County Budget Office for all their assistance. He advised the Board this budget is being presented with a user fee rate structure; and the proposed increase would generate an approximate \$175,000. He pointed out the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District has become very proactive in water quality issues in an effort to help clean up the Indian River Lagoon; and it will be doing slope stabilization along with construction of weirs throughout the District will help to achieve the cleanup of the Lagoon. The District is asking the Board's approval of the rates for 2015-2016 as follows: 1) Residential Rates from \$19.13 to \$21.04; 2) Commercial Rates from \$37.14 to \$40.85; and 3) Agricultural Rates from \$6.69 to \$7.36.

Mike McCabe, Deputy District Engineer, provided a spreadsheet to the Board of other fee's and taxes that are charged throughout the District; and he stated it shows comparisons where the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District stands in the efforts they make in their work.

Commissioner Smith asked when was the last time Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District had an increase; with Mr. Anderson replying in 2006. Commissioner Smith noted that is not much on an increase in nine years. Mr. Anderson stated at that time most of the user fees rates were going towards flood control and storm water; and at that time water quality was not an issue, not it is front and center, and they have been commissioned with having to take care of all

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the runoff and clean it before discharged into the river. He noted under the old legislation it was just a flood control issue, and now it is a water quality issue.

David Isnardi, Melbourne-Tillman Board Member, stated he has been on the board on and off for 12 years; in all that time he never agreed to an increase because there were certain things that were not done with the Melbourne-Tillman; and he wanted to see and internal audit, he wanted accountability, he wanted a complete tour of all of the assets, and he wanted to meet all the employees and look at their salaries in comparisons with other Districts; and now they have done all of those things. He noted last year was the first time he agreed to look at it as a positive to have an increase, because they are tapping into Reserves; and if Melbourne-Tillman had a catastrophic event those Reserves would be depleted quickly. He advised Melbourne-Tillman has used their Reserves every single year over the last six years; and he thinks it is not a smart thing for such a small amount to continue, and even with this amount they still might have to go into reserves, but not nearly the devastating mark. He stated Melbourne-Tillman needs this increase, they have done all the right things; and asked the Board to strongly consider the increase. He remarked Melbourne-Tillman is the most efficient government agency in entire County.

Jim Tapp, Melbourne-Tillman Board Member, asked Dan Anderson if Melbourne-Tillman runs the way it is right now with the anticipated workload ahead, when how long does he anticipate the reserves to last. Mr. Anderson responded last budget year the deficit was \$700,000; they had to into reserves for; there is approximately \$3.5 million left in reserves; and if Melbourne-Tillman has to do this the next several years the reserves will be depleted and it will not be able to make budget. Mr. Tapp asked an average Water Control District throughout the State of Florida, what is their main cost fee per unit for residential. Mr. Anderson replied the average is \$65.00 to \$100.00 per user fee.

PUBLIC HEARING, RE: TENTATIVE APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RATES FOR MELBOURNE-TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

Commissioner Infantini called for a public hearing to consider tentative approval of proposed user fee rates for Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District for 2015-2016.

Commissioner Infantini stated the Reserves are still at the same about as the whole year's budget, and because of that she cannot vote to raise the rates; and she realizes it is a very small amount, but at the same time the Reserves are still abundant and will get the County through the next four years. She noted that she agrees at some point in time they will need an increase. She pointed out Melbourne-Tillman sold land a long time ago; and the land has created an abundance of Reserves, which they have been utilizing. She stated the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District is the most efficiently run government entity that she has ever seen. She reiterated she would not support a tax increase.

Commissioner Smith asked Commissioner Infantini if she acknowledged the Melbourne-Tillman being most efficient, why hamstring them by not giving it another \$1.90 per unit. She responded it is not that they do not have the money, they are operating Reserves. She went on to say Brevard County already had Tropical Storm Fay, and it did not happen where they went through \$4 million in Reserves. Commissioner Anderson stated as a County Commissioner that represents most of the taxpayers in this area, his main concern is for residents not to get flooded.

Commissioner Smith made a motion that the Board accepts this proposal, with Commissioner Anderson seconding it. Motion dies lack of District 3 and District 5 voting affirmatively.

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RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 1]
MOVER:	Curt Smith, Commissioner District 4
SECONDER:	Andy Anderson, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Curt Smith, Andy Anderson
NAYS:	Trudie Infantini

continued

Morris Richardson, Assistant County Attorney, stated the Board of County Commissioner has to approve the Budget, including the user fees; and in the circumstances of Melbourne-Tillman, both Commissioners from District 3 and District 5 have to vote in the affirmative on the approved Budget, including the user fees. He pointed out the resolution that is being voted on, states September 29, 2015, is going to be the final Budget hearing; he is 99 percent certain that is fine; and there is small chance this needs to be certified to the Tax Collector by September 15, 2015, with non-ad valorem assessments, he does not think that applies here, but he is going to check and make sure. He asked in the motion can the Board state September 29, 2015, or earlier as may be required.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board approved the proposed rates of the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District for 2015-2016; and recommended for final approval of rates and adoption of the operating budget for the District at the September 29, 2015, Board meeting or earlier as required.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Andy Anderson, Commissioner District 5
SECONDER:	Trudie Infantini, Commissioner District 3
AYES:	Trudie Infantini, Curt Smith, Andy Anderson

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

ROBIN FISHER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK