

# MINUTES

## LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

### FINAL BUDGET HEARING

**September 22, 2011**

The September 22, 2011 Final Budget Hearing of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was opened at 5:32pm by President Berndt. Present were: Commissioners Berndt, Adams, Carter, Shea and Becker; Chief Adams, Assistant Chief Bennett, Captains McDowell and Ketron, Logistics Mgr. Jeff Nickell, Finance Manager Ben VanKlingeren and Administrative Assistant Platas. Attorney Richard Pringle was also in attendance.

Commissioner Berndt stated that this is a Final Budget Hearing for the proposed millage and budget for the 2011/2012 fiscal year for the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District.

Commissioner Berndt stated “Adopted at the September 8, 2011 Tentative Budget Hearing was a millage rate of 3.000 mills for the fiscal year 2011/2012 to fund a budget for the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District in the amount of \$23,745,790. The tentatively adopted millage rate of 3.000 mills is a 5.98% decrease over the roll-back rate of 3.1909 mills”.

Public Questions/Comments on Millage:

Two members of the public spoke on the millage.

Attorney Pringle read Resolution #11-09-04, Adopting a Final Millage Rate.

Commissioner Berndt motioned to accept Resolution #11-09-04 with a second from Commissioner Becker.

Commissioner Becker	aye
Commissioner Adams	aye
Commissioner Carter	aye
Commissioner Berndt	aye
Commissioner Shea	aye

Motion carries.

Commissioner Berndt stated “Tentatively adopted at the September 8, 2011 Tentative Budget Hearing was a proposed budget for the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District for the fiscal year 2011/2012 in the amount of \$23,745,790, which is a 6.0% decrease over last year’s budget.

Finance Mgr Ben VanKlingeren briefly read over the Estimated Receipts and Expenditures.

Public Questions/Comments on Budget:

Three members of the public spoke on the budget.

Commissioner Shea questioned the Finance Manager on the deficit we are currently in. Assuming that things continue, the budget for 2012/13 indicates a deficit of 4 million. Finance Mgr stated yes, if we stay at status quo.

Commissioner Carter stated we are spending three times more than what is coming in. She also stated that everyone in this Community must give their fair share in taxes.

Attorney Pringle read Resolution #11-09-05 Adopting a Final Budget.

Commissioner Berndt motioned that we adopt the budget Resolution #11-09-05 with a second from Commissioner Becker.

Commissioner Shea requested his statement be typed verbatim: “This current year we have a budget deficit of approx 1.2 million. The budget that we are to adopt has a budget deficit of approximately 2.1 million, and if the status quo forward projection continues, with a budget that will be adopted on October 1, 2012 going forward would have a deficit of approx 4 million. Before I was elected to this Board last November, I have strenuously objected to the spending policies of this Board and I appeared at budget public hearings as we are having tonight and voiced my opposition to your course of action. Now that I’m on this Board, I have done in-depth study and have strongly urged major fundamental changes. The financial situation is overwhelming and if I believe we have maybe 6 months or hopefully, where we need a comprehensive study by the Commissioners whatever workshops are necessary to engage in a comprehensive re-think of this operation as a fire and rescue district. I look forward working with my fellow Commissioners in this endeavor to provide for the health and safety and welfare of Lehigh Acres. Thank you very much”.

Being put to a vote:

Commissioner Becker aye  
Commissioner Adams aye  
Commissioner Carter nay  
Commissioner Berndt aye  
Commissioner Shea nay

Motion carries 3-2 with the opposing votes from Commissioners Carter and Shea.

Adjourn:

6:10pm

RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012, COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2011, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2012; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District properly advertised and held a final public budget hearing to adopt a final millage rate for the District's fiscal year commencing October 1, 2011, and ending September 30, 2012.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1. The Governing Board does hereby adopt its final millage rate of 3.0000 mills to be levied for the general fund upon all real and tangible personal property located within the boundaries of the above named taxing authority.

Section 2. THE FINAL LEVY OF 3.0000 MILLS IS LESS THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 3.1909 MILLS BY 5.98 %.

Section 3. This final millage rate of <sup>3.0000</sup> mills for the general fund is to fund the expenses for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2011, and ending September 30, 2012.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER Berndt WHO MOVED THE RESOLUTION'S ADOPTION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER Becker AND, UPON BEING PUT TO A VOTE, THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Commissioner Jeffery Berndt	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Larry Becker	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner David P. Adams	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Kevin Shea	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Linda Carter	<u>Aye</u>

Duly passed and adopted on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2011.

Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres  
Fire Control and Rescue District

By: [Signature]  
Jeffrey Berndt, Chair

Attest by: [Signature]  
David P. Adams, Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012, COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2011, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2012; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District properly advertised and held a final public budget hearing on Thursday, September 22, 2011, to adopt a final budget for the District's fiscal year commencing October 1, 2011, and ending September 30, 2012.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1. The final budget of estimated expenditures and revenue for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2011, and ending September 30, 2012, is \$23,745,790.

Section 2. The final budget is approved and shall become effective at the beginning of the 2011/2012 fiscal year on October 1, 2011, and the taxing authority funds may be expended commencing on October 1, 2011, and ending on September 30, 2012.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER Berndt WHO MOVED THE RESOLUTION'S ADOPTION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER Becker AND, UPON BEING PUT TO A VOTE, THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Commissioner Jeffery Berndt	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Larry Becker	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner David P. Adams	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Kevin Shea	<u>Nay</u>
Commissioner Linda Carter	<u>Nay</u>

Duly passed and adopted on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2011.

Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District

By: [Signature]  
Jeffrey Berndt, Chair

Attest by: [Signature]  
David P. Adams, Secretary