

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 AT 5:01 P.M.
VENICE CITY HALL, VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present:

John Chappie, Secretary
Nora Patterson, Alternate
Stephen R. Deutsch, Treasurer
Brian Hamman, Alternate

Staff Present:

Charles W. Listowski, Executive Director
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Acting Chair John Chappie announced the opening of the Public Hearing on WCIND's final millage rate and final budget for FY2014-2015. The meeting was opened at 5:01 p.m. at Venice City Hall. Acting Chair Chappie announced the current year rolled back rate is .0374 mill, and the proposed final millage rate of .0394 mill. He announced that the percentage increase in millage over the rolled back rate necessary to fund the proposed final budget is 5.35%. Therefore, the percentage increase in property taxes based on the proposed final millage rate is 5.35%.

Mr. Listowski reported that the difference between the roll back rate of .0374 and the proposed final millage rate of .0394 under consideration for adoption is \$267,590, the distribution of which goes towards the Counties' requests for projects. The proposed final millage rate would fully support Counties' requests; example, Charlotte County's requests exceed the revenue generated, but Charlotte County has money in reserves (CNIF) to fund all of their requested projects. If the roll back rate is used there would be a balance of \$871.00 in Charlotte County's CNIF, and if the proposed final rate is used there would be a balance of \$24,712.00 in Charlotte County's CNIF.

Acting Chair Chappie opened the hearing for public comment. Mr. Leo Amos, addressed the Board indicating that he viewed his input as a "question and answer period". Mr. Amos asked if the Board voted on the proposed millage rate. Acting Chair Chappie advised that Mr. Amos has three 3 minutes to speak and will then close the public comment, and then the Board will discuss at the dais if the Board has any questions or comments. Mr. Amos noted that he would file lawsuit if the Board won't answer his question. Mr. Amos reiterated that "this is question and answer period folks, you have to answer me. Did you vote for the proposed millage increase?" Commissioner Patterson added that traditionally, at any of the County budget hearings, a question and answer period is not conducted. Mr. Amos also stated that "the tentative budget is suppose to be up on the internet 2 days prior to the first budget hearing. I spoke with the Indiana DOR, I mean the Florida DOR, it is up today, congratulations you finally did **something** right". Mr. Amos added that the Board should roll back the rate. Mr. Amos also expressed that "you talk about the counties and they have funds, this is a District that is suppose to manage the inland waterway. I read the auditor's report and I'm not impressed, that you're spending money on things that doesn't go along with the Charter. Misfeasance and malfeasances, your spending money on things that the Charter or State Statute doesn't allow, you really should roll back the rate". Acting Chair Chappie closed the public comment portion of the hearing.

Acting Chair Chappie requested a motion to adopt the final millage rate for FY2014-2015 of .0394 mill. Motion by Commissioner Patterson and seconded by Commissioner Deutsch. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Deutsch moved to adopt the final budget for FY2014-2015 with projected funds available of \$15,624,061, total expenditures of \$6,363,186, and reserves of \$9,260,875. Commissioner Patterson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Patterson moved to adopt the millage levy resolution 2014-06. The Chair publicly announced the following: the taxing authority named in the millage levy resolution is West Coast Inland Navigation District, the rolled back rate for FY2014-2015 is .0374 mill, the final millage rate is .0394 mill, and the percentage increase of the final millage rate over the rolled back rate is 5.35%. Commissioner Hamman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hamman moved to adopt the budget resolution 2014-07. Commissioner Deutsch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

With no further business before the Board, the Chair adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:22 p.m.