

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF **BUDGET** WORKSHOP
April 28, 2009

The Board met in workshop session duly called at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room E, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Tina Pinkoson, Chairman; F. Wesley Eubank, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, Eileen F. Roy, and Barbara Sharpe, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and staff members. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pinkoson.

The Superintendent welcomed Ms. Susan Siegle, recently appointed School Board attorney. He stated that Mr. Jim Lang will continue in that position until the end of May.

Dr. Boyd also reported that Governor Crist has submitted a Request for Waiver that may allow the state to receive stimulus money. The Governor has also announced that the House and Senate are coming closer to approving a budget. Dr. Boyd then turned the meeting over to Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent, Planning and Budget.

Mr. Birkett reported that the fourth budget calculation from the legislature has just been received. At his request, Ms. Kathy Black, Executive Director reported on the status of IDEA stimulus funding.

A meeting of the One-mill Oversight Committee will be scheduled for later in May, to report on how the one-mill proceeds are being spent. All the one-mill money will be tracked by separate project codes, so reports can be easily generated.

A comparison of House Bill 5001 and Senate Bill 2600 was provided, along with explanation of some of the categories. Mr. Birkett reviewed the 2009-2010 Estimated Budget and responded to Board member questions. He cautioned against being too secure with this budget, explaining that inclusion of stimulus and one-mill money create an overly optimistic view. He also noted future needs that call for recurring reserve funds.

Utility Budget Comparisons 2008-09 to 2009-10 were provided. Concerning water expense, Mr. Eubank suggested the use of wells might be increased.

Mrs. Roy referred to a report that if the state closed only twelve tax exemptions, it could result in the creation of hundreds of thousands of new jobs and save the state budget. She stated that she will be going to Tallahassee soon.

Recognition was given to the citizens of Alachua County who passed the one-mill referendum, thereby saving this District from some of the decisions that other counties are presently having to make.

An upcoming state meeting should provide more information on managing Education Stimulus funds.

Another budget work group meeting was scheduled for May 19, 2009, at 4 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.