

08 20 2019 Work Session 12 30 PM

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1

1. [12:30 PM - 1:00 PM Impact Fees Presentation](#)

Attachment: [polk school workshop 8-20-2019rev2 \(2\).pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Clancy, Consultant, Duncan Associates, presented a power point on Impact Fees and the legal basics. He stated that fees must be reduced to avoid double charging for items like developers charges and other taxes. He also mentioned that sub area fees have to be addressed.

Mr. Wilson explained that sub area fees was not something we suggested, but that BOCC was considering doing something along those lines.

Mr. Clancy explained that developer credit would increase with fees. The County's fees were updated in 2015, the school fees were phased in 2017 by 50% and road fees went up 100% and the rest of the fees went to 100% in 2018. In 2019 to current the maximum fee for single family unit is \$12,000. He also spoke about current changes but the cost per student has basically stayed the same. The big change was on the credit side.

Lori Cunningham pointed out that there was a slide missing in the handout and requested it be sent in a memo. She also stated that single family fees, in reality; are not what we are receiving. Mr. Clancy reminded her that this study was done five years ago.

Board of County Commissioner's, Bill Beasley, Polk County Manager, Todd Bond, Budget Director and Leanne Thomas, Deputy are all involved with impacts fees. Mr. Beasley stated that the Board County Commissioners understand that the challenges being faced are increasing fees but not going to get to 100%. It will be done incrementally over several years. The County considered multiple options in reaching the 100% mark. There are other

factors involved in just impact fees.

Kay Fields thanked BoCC for the thoughts on a tiered approach. She stated that going from 50% to 100% would be harmful on the community and first time home owners. Mrs. Fields would like to see what was done years ago, we sat down annually with the board and talked about fees. We need to build on this relationship.

Lori Cunningham also thanked BoCC. She stated that it is very important to us that this is taking place because we are totally underfunded for the services we provide. Mrs. Cunningham asked if this will be a three step 18 months plan or 3 step 3 year?

Mr. Beasley stated that this has not been voted on. They will implement January 1, 2020.

Lori Cunningham agrees with Mrs. Fields that it has been difficult for us to do what we need to do and wishes it was more. We are struggling to meet the need of growth.

Lisa Miller mentioned that we have people saying "we need better schools and better facilities" and have stated that they will not build here if we don't have adequate schools. We are underfunded for the capacity that we hold.

Lynn Wilson asked if each year it will be voted on? Mr. Beasley stated that it will if there are any adjustments made. Mr. Wilson wanted to know how are we going to get the 75%? He stated that if we implemented the full 100% we would have the highest impact fees in the state of Florida.

Sara Beth Reynolds stated that she was concerned looking at the PowerPoint today; we need more funds to build more schools, but we need to make sure that it is phased in gradually.

Billy Townsend thinks this is a very fluid discussion that should be treated every 4 years in conjunction with BoCC but the professionals should meet every 2 years to produce a report. Our organizations need to be in touch.

Bill Beasley mentioned that he had talked with Superintendent Byrd about a standing committee.

Superintendent Byrd stated that she wanted to make clear that if any community members needed questions answered, it would be at the BoCC Board meeting.

Item 2

2. [1:00 PM - 1:15 PM Policy Updates](#)

Attachment: [Neola Policy Docs 8 20 19 wk session.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Staff Policy Docs 8 20 19 wk session.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Wendy Dodge, Legislative Liaison went over two sets of policy updates:

- Staff Generated: addressing the grooming policy, required about students wearing badges
- NEOLA recommended updates: 4 updates

Billy Townsend asked about the status on records retention. Wendy Dodge stated that it will come forward at the September 3rd meeting.

Lisa Miller would appreciate if updates can be send out before getting on the board agenda.

Wendy Dodge stated that she does send out a policy update to show changes made.

Item 3

3. [1:15 PM - 1:45 PM Operational Levy Presentation](#)

Attachment: [Nonvoted Current Operating Discretionary Millage.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Wes Bridges, General Counsel, stated that there was discussion at the last work session about which additional tax revenue would be available that can be used for current operational needs, eg: salaries. He included with the memo a document that Ms. Fortney obtained from FSBA showing what other districts have done. Manatee had both 1/2 Cent Sales Tax and full millage for operating expenses. Many other districts have adopted millage for various purposes. Language varies from district to district.

Lynn Wilson thinks the core issue is the inability to go out 3 years. He is open to the area with the highest mileage rate and go back to that level. We could recover some dollars without violating our promise to the voters. Would we roll one referendum into two different things, recovering all lost millage or recover part of it?

Wes Bridges stated that we cannot recover revenue that we didn't assess previously, its not retroactive. We can recover for the last year but we would have to do a referendum.

Lori Cunningham stated that she read into it differently and understood that based on what was done in Resolution 17-19-08 it allows the board to levy a non-voted discretionary millage beginning January 1, 2022.

Wes Bridges stated that it is already done. He mentioned we have a small portion and have the discretion to levy discretionary funds.

Kay Fields reminded the Board that a Polk promise was made when they did the renewal to go out three years. She will not support going back on their word.

Sara Beth Reynolds agreed with Mrs. Fields; we promised we would not do anything for 3 years. She will consider it in 4 years. The people she has spoken with in the community will not support.

Lori Cunningham asked if we should do nothing until 2022?

Mr. Bridges reiterated that it is correct, it was in the Resolution adopted by the school Board and was transmitted to the County Commission. The information was placed on a ballot.

Lynn Wilson stated that he did sign and read the Resolution. It seemed like the right thing to do at the time. He doesn't feel like we are breaking a promise if we change a small piece the third year. He stated what we promised was that we would not enact new taxes but this doesn't mean that we can't have a referendum. It will be ill advised to put this on a ballot during a Presidential election year.

Lisa Miller wanted to clarify if it wouldn't take effect but would be acted on so it can take effect after it expires.

Lynn Wilson stated that what he is hearing is that the board is in favor of doing a referendum in 2021 for 2022. He is just offering a possibility based on his conversations with Mr. Pitts and Mr. Bridges.

Wes Bridges requested the advice of a consultant.

Lynn Wilson would like numbers in terms of dollars by the next work session.

Item 4

4. [1:45 PM - 2:00 PM PCSB Refunding COPS 2019A & 2019B](#)

Attachment: [Refinancing of COPS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mike Perone, Associate Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, will bring 2 renewals at the next meeting. They come due in next couple of months at the same cost and rates. The banks have agreed to carry them for another year. This will allow us to get out of all our swaps. If pricing isn't good, then we will continue with SWAPS.

Item 5

5. [2:00 PM - 2:15 PM New Job Description-Senior Manager ESE \(Curriculum, Charter & Private Schools\)](#)

Attachment: [8-20-19 WS New Job Description, Senior Manager, ESE \(Curriculum, Charter & Private Schools\).pdf](#)

Minutes:

Teddra Porteous, Associate Superintendent Human Resources and Dr. Kimberly Steinke, Assistant Superintendent - Learning Support, presented a new job description for Senior Manager, ESE (Curriculum Charter & Private Schools)

Kimberly Steinke stated that under IDEA we are required to service all students in Charter and private schools. She mentioned that 56 out of 90 private schools that receive services from us, we have 700 students and can easily rise to 800. We have one staffing specialist for each of these areas. The funds are coming out of a grant. The overall cost of this position with benefits. Mrs. Porteous stated that total per position would be \$56,000 and about \$15,000 in benefits.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 6

6. [Unified School Improvement Continuation Grant \(UniSIG\) \\$6,814,445.00](#)

Attachment: [eAgenda Documentation for UniSIG.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mattie Freidt, Director of Preschool Programs stated that there are currently three major Pre School programs, which are VPK with 493 students enrolled, Title I VPK with 405 children and Head Start with 942 children. These programs are housed in 64 schools and 105 classrooms.

Mattie Freidt stated that Preschool programs are facing a political climate issue. She is concerned that there are four areas with migrant families and other families that may be affected by the political climate such as South Winter Haven, Frostproof, Kingsford, Mulberry area, Haines City and Poinciana areas have had a significant drop in request for services. Parents are drawing back from this political push when it comes to the income eligibility questions. They are not willing to report extra people living in the home due to deportation problems.

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

7. [Review the August 20, 2019 School Board Agenda](#)

Minutes:

R-29 Billy Townsend stated that DOE rejected Lake Wales Charter as an external operator. LSI seems more in control than Ed Direction

Jacqueline Byrd stated that DOE would like us to have more collaboration with the external operators. LSI had the highest performance rating with DOE. LSI is only contracted to work with McLaughlin. The state imposed that there is a hold back, where if they don't make it a portion is held back from the \$106,000.

Kay Fields asked about turnaround expenses; where is the money coming from?

Jacqueline Byrd mentioned that the funds are coming from the state. They are not coming from our budget.

R-37 Sarah Fortney would like to see names attached to the organizational charts in the Staffing Plan. She feels that there is a problem with the Chief of Staff position. She thought we had a Director of Discipline and it appears that some positions have a promotion for pay increase within the organizational system.

Lisa Miller would like better understanding of some of the duties for these new job descriptions. She would like clarification on the Chief of Staff position and the responsibilities it will carry.

Jacqueline Byrd stated that this position will assist with efficiencies and academic improvements. We want to start addressing the efficiencies in our districts. There are other counties with this position as well.

Sarah Fortney will not support the of Chief of Staff position based on budgetary concerns.

Kay Fields stated that she has been in discussion with Superintendent about the need to have a position but haven't been able to afford it. We are running a million dollar corporation and we to have the info structure in place to meet our mission; "Students First". She is in support of the Chief of Staff position.

Lisa Miller will support of the Chief of Staff position.

Lori Cunningham will support the Chief of Staff position.

Sara Beth Reynolds will support the Chief of Staff position.

Billy Townsend will support the Chief of Staff

OLD BUSINESS

8. [FSBA Master Board Training](#)

Attachment: [FSBA Master Board Program.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Master Board Forum Agenda.pdf](#)

Minutes: November 5, 2019

NEW BUSINESS

9. [Board Comments](#)

Minutes:

Sara Beth Reynolds asked when the meeting for the Attendance Boundary Committee will take place and Angela Usher stated that the meeting for the Attendance Boundary Committee will be held on the last Wednesday in October.

Lisa Miller mentioned that she was made aware of a group of people coming to the Board meeting to discuss food insecurity and students needs. They would like to expand the "Sharing Table" that is currently in schools.

Sarah Fortney asked about approving Guardians. Mrs. Byrd explained that all schools are covered. She also asked about naming the employee clinic after Marianne Capozziello.

Billy Townsend commented about the transportation call center was good and asked about a "special needs" call center as well. He also spoke on VAM and that it is discredited by the American Statistical Association.

Billy Townsend, Lisa Miller and other board members would like a notification by email of transfers that will take place due to VAM scores before the transfers take place.

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m. Minutes approved and attested this 3rd day of September 2019.

Lynn Wilson, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent