

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a "Called" Commission Meeting Thursday evening, September 11, 2008, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Vice Chairman Sammie Wilson
J. Robt. "Bob" Farr, Commissioner
Darrell L. Wester, Commissioner

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
Chairman Charles G. Newton, IV
Rev. Fred Favors, Commissioner

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES
WTHO Radio Station
McDuffie Progress Newspaper

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
Don Norton, County Manager
Annette Finley, County Clerk
Jimmy Whitaker, County Finance Director
Paul McCorkle, Commissioner Elect
Bill Jopling, Commissioner Elect
Wanda Sisson, Tax Assessor's Office
Steven Sewell, EMA/Fire Services

OTHERS
Six (6) citizens attended.

2nd PUBLIC HEARING FY 2009 BUDGET

Opening: Vice Chairman Wilson asked County Manager Don Norton to present the proposed FY 2009 Budget.

Don presented the FY 2009 Budget and noted that some minor Changes had been made since the 1st Public Hearing. The final FY 2009 Budget with recent changes as directed by the Board of Commissioners reflects the following:

Total FY 2009 Budget:	\$13,004,094.00
Increase From 2008:	Approx. 2.2%
Budget Contingency:	\$332,098.00
Salary Contingency (Based on approx. 2 ½% Salary Incr.) :	\$150,000.00
Capital Budget (Significant decrease from 2008):	\$136,300.00
Sheriff's Department:	3 New Deputies
Sheriff's New Vehicles:	4 @ \$26,000 = \$104,000

Public Input: Several questions were asked by the people in attendance regarding taxes and they were advised that these questions would be addressed during the following Millage Rate Hearing.

Adjournment: 6:35 PM

3rd PUBLIC HEARING 2008 COUNTY M&O MILLAGE RATE

Opening: Vice Chairman Wilson opened the Hearing and asked County Manager Don to address this matter.

Don presented a breakdown of the Current 2008 Tax Digest and a 5-Year History of Levy reflecting a Net Tax Increase of \$523,216 (12.49%) from the City of Thomson, Town of Dearing and McDuffie County in tax revenue as a result of the tax reassessment and regular digest additions. Of the \$523,216 increase, approximately \$365,000 was due to reassessment Note was made that the Net M&O Millage Rate would remain at 7.8 mils in the Unincorporated area and 8.5 mils in the Incorporated areas which is constant with the previous 6 to 8 years or more.

Public Input: Several questions were asked regarding a tax increase and the Government Complex Center. County Manager Don Norton and Commissioner Wester responded.

Adjournment: 6:50 PM

“CALLED” COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Vice Chairman Sammie Wilson called the meeting to order, acknowledged that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairman Sammie Wilson offered the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

A motion to approve the current Agenda was made by Farr, seconded by Wester and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Announcement: SPLOST V Election – September 16, 2008**

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Resolution – Adopt FY 2009 Annual Budget: Vice Chairman Wilson announced that after 2nd Hearing heard earlier on this date, the FY 2009 Annual Budget is now final and ready for adoption. The Resolution is copied below and made a part of these minutes.**

After discussion, a motion was made by Farr to approve the FY 2009 Annual Budget as presented; motion was seconded by Wester and passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution – Adopt 2008 County M&O Millage Rates and Confirmation of the 2008 Board of Education Millage Rate:** Vice Chairman Wilson reported that the 2008 Millage Rate was being presented for final action by the Board. A copy of the Resolution adopting the 2008 M&O Millage Rates for McDuffie County and confirming the Board of Education is copied below and made a part of these minutes.

After discussion, a motion to approve and set the 2008 Millage Rate at 7.8 mils for the Unincorporated area and 8.5 mils for the Incorporated areas (same as in recent years) with no increase in the tax rates was made by Farr, seconded by Wester and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion was made by Farr to adjourn; motion was seconded by Wester and passed unanimously.

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Sammie L. Wilson Sr., Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Annette Finley, County Clerk