

**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES FOR MILLAGE RATE**

CALL TO ORDER: David L. Carmichael, Chairman

**INVOCATION &
PLEDGE:** David L. Carmichael, Chairman

PRESENT: David L. Carmichael, Chairman; Ron Davis, Post I; Sandy Kaecher, Post II; Chuck Hart, Post III; Brian Stover, Post IV; Frank Baker, County Administrator; Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk

MINUTES: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing on proposed millage rate increase:

Chairman Carmichael opened the public hearing on the proposed millage rate increase and asked Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director to speak. Ms. Pollard presented a power point presentation and handouts to the attendees. She explained the Tax Payers Bill of Rights requires the County to hold three Public Hearings on the millage rate if there was not a rollback. She further explained the budget process, and the proposed millage rate and how that would affect citizen's taxes. Ms. Pollard gave a breakdown of where the taxpayer's dollars go and the percentage of each area.

Chairman Carmichael asked for public comments.

Sue Wilkins spoke and asked how much the bond payments are for the Airport Authority and the Industrial Building Authority (IBA).

Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director, stated 11 million between everyone. A little over 2 million between the Airport Authority and the IBA.

Sue Wilkins asked if the IBA was, being financed this budget.

Tabitha Pollard stated the IBA is not for this budget only the Economic Development Inc. (EDO).

Jayson Phillips, County Attorney, stated Economic Development Inc. has its own Board and is not a part of the County Government and felt it was not appropriate for this board to provide an answer as part of the Budget Hearing. The County is considering entering into an economic services agreement with the Economic Development Inc.

Chairman Carmichael stated the IBA and the EDO are working together with the Board of Commissioners and wants to create grants and incentives for businesses and development projects.

Chairman Carmichael asked Ms. Pollard to go over the bond rating.

Tabitha Pollard stated the County currently has an AA rating due to the health fund balance and not having to rely on that money during the recession, like other counties.

Brian Stover, Commissioner Post IV, stated we are looking into hiring a new EDO director to promote the sale of Paulding County. We are streamlining business licensing, looking at redoing some of the zoning ordinances to make us more attractive to businesses. We are looking for a seasoned professional.

Chad Smith asked Ms. Pollard if when the 2016 bond was done, was that included in the budget. Was the money that was going to that anticipated with the tax cycle in 2019 in order to pay for that bond or was that included in the 2016 vote?

Tabitha Pollard stated the bond that was voted on was just for the facility it did not include the maintenance and operations of the facility.

Len Baklini asked where we stand on the General Fund today, and what our General Fund anticipated balance is for this time next year.

Tabitha Pollard stated we are currently trying to close out the year. Therefore, those numbers are very preliminary. We issue encumbrances for upcoming expenses and at the end of June 30th we attempt to close those out and charge them to the appropriate year. Sometimes the work does not get complete so we close out the year and roll the money for those projects to the next year. I do not actually owe those I have just issued a promise to pay. Because the funds will be rolled from one period to the next, it will add to fund balance this year.

Hearing no further comments Chairman Carmichael closed the Public Hearing.

CONCLUSION OF REGULAR BUSINESS

ADJOURN: Ron Davis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sandy Kaecher; motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk

David L. Carmichael, Chairman