

Liberty County, FL

Final Budget Hearing

Minutes

Monday, September 15, 2025 at 5:01 pm

AGENDAS ARE POSTED ON THE BOARD'S WEBSITE AT WWW.LIBERTYCOUNTYFL.ORG;
ATTACHMENTS ARE PROVIDED TO THE BOARD MEMBERS ONLY AND ARE AVAILABLE TO THE
PUBLIC UPON REQUEST.

Meeting Location

Liberty County Courthouse - 10818 NW SR 20; Bristol, Florida 32321

Zoom link and Call in numbers

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81179656757?pwd=0ah6UtTJSrnwETY6Yv2AIO809QTVGT.1>

1. Call To Order

Minutes:

- Chairman Dewayne Branch called the regular meeting to order in person and via zoom at 5:06 P.M. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Hannah Causseaux, Jim Johnson, Doyle Brown, Derrick Arnold, Clerk Jace Ford and Deputy Clerk Kaly Barfield.

2. Invocation

Minutes:

- Invocation was led by Brett Phillips.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chad Smith.

4. Audience Concerns

Minutes:

- There were no audience concerns.

5. Motion to Amend the Agenda

6. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Minutes:

- Motion to adopt the agenda made by Commissioner Causseaux, seconded by Commissioner Arnold. Motion Carried.

7. Board To Adopt Final Millage Rate

Minutes:

- Commissioner Branch introduces the purpose of the meeting: to adopt the final millage rate and budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026.
- The rollback rate for property tax is stated as 8.8128 mills, while the final millage rate is set at 9.224 mills, representing a 4.67% increase.
- Commissioner Branch opens public comment.
- Commissioner Johnson asked if this is the same as last year or an increase? Clerk Ford explained that it decreased.
- No public comment.
- Commissioner Branch closed public comment.
- Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-29 made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion Carried.

8. Board to adopt Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget**Minutes:**

- Commissioner Branch opened public comment on 2025-2026 Budget.
- No public comment.
- Commissioner Branch closed the public comment.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2025-30 to approve budget 2025-2026 made by Commissioner Causseaux, seconded by Commissioner Brown.
- Commissioner Johnson inquired about the cash carried forward, which was confirmed to be \$2 million in reserves.
- Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Branch Opposed.
- Motion carried.

9. Motion To Adjourn**Minutes:**

- Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Arnold. Motion Carried.

10. Signature

Florida Statute 125.001 requires that due public notice be given of all regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners of a County in the State of Florida. Florida Statute 286.0105 requires that notices of any meeting or hearing, if a meeting or hearing is required, must include the following language, "if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."