

Commissioner Bowen called to order the Public Hearing scheduled meeting of the Lee County Hyacinth Control District (LCHCD) on September 9th, 2021, 5:01 pm in the William Opp Training Center at the District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

PRESENT:

Seat 1- Commissioner Ed Brantley, Secretary/Treasure
Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar, Vice Chairman
Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis, Not present
Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen, Chairman
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke
Seat 6- Commissioner T. Hart
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott

Legal Counsel – John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel
Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd
Chief Financial Officer- Sean O’Neill
Deputy Director, Lee County Hyacinth Control District- Kevin Watts
Deputy Director, - Eric Jackson
Public Information Specialist- Jamie Fowler
IT Director-Keith Lowe
Executive Administrative Assistant- Summer De La Cruz
Health Department - Arielle Ghanem

Commissioner Bowen announced that this is the Public Hearing to Adopt the Tentative Millage rate and a Tentative Budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

VISITORS:

Tracy & John McGee- Fort Myers

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board:
None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISCUSSION: Executive Director Dr. David Hoel discussed the millage rate of .0235 per \$1,000 for fiscal year 2021-2022. Budget for Lee County Hyacinth Control District of Lee County Fiscal year 2021-2022 of \$3,380,961.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board:
None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Brantley agreed that the proposed 4% COLA is justified based on current inflation data, but does not support a tax increase during difficult financial times that face our tax payers. Commissioner Farrar would like to see the roll back rate and believes with the increase of property value is an increase of revenue.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE:

Chairman Bowen requested a motion to adopt the tentative millage rate of .0235, an increase of 11.37% over the rollback rate. Commissioner Scott moved the motion, Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, Commissioners Brantley and Commissioner Farrar opposed a tax increase, but agreed to a 4% COLA. All in favor say “Aye”. Those opposed say “Opposed”

Seat 1- Commissioner Ed Brantley -Opposed
Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar- Opposed
Seat 4- Chairman Steve Bowen - Aye
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke – Aye
Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart- Aye
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott- Aye
4/2 motion passed.

Chairman Bowen read the Resolution to adopt the tentative millage rate for the Fiscal year 2021-2022.
Duly adopted at a public Hearing this 9th day of September, 2021 at 5:28 pm.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BUDGET:

Chairman Bowen requested a motion to adopt the Final budget \$3,380,961. Commissioner Hart moved the motion, Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. Commissioners Brantley and Commissioner Farrar opposed.

Seat 1- Commissioner Ed Brantley -Opposed

Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar- Opposed

Seat 4- Chairman Steve Bowen - Aye

Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke – Aye

Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart- Aye

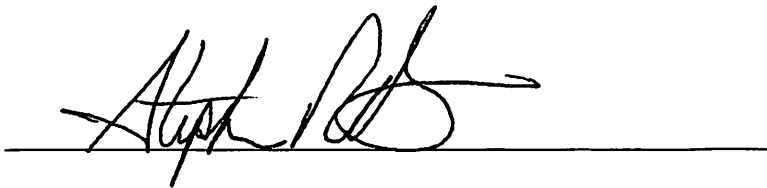
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott- Aye

4/2 motion passed.

Chairman Bowen read the Resolution to adopt the tentative annual budget for Fiscal year 2021-2022.


Duly adopted at a public Hearing this 9th day of September, 2021 at 5:32 pm.

No further business, Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 05:32 pm



Commissioner Steve Bowen, Chair

Term: December 2018 – November 2022



Commissioner Ed Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024