

1 MINUTES OF MEETING OF NORTH LAKE COUNTY
2 HOSPITAL DISTRICT OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2015
3

4 A meeting of the North Lake County Hospital District (the "District") was held on
5 September 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Lake County Commission Chambers, Administration
6 Building, 315 W. Main Street, Tavares, Florida.
7

8 Ms. Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of
9 Allegiance. M. Meredith Kirste, attorney for the North Lake County Hospital District,
10 called the roll to ascertain the trustees present for the meeting, with the following
11 members in attendance: Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman; Duane Keith Booth; Joyce
12 Richey Huey; Elizabeth Robuck; and Davis Talmadge. Ms. Hanson confirmed that a
13 quorum was present.
14

15 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
16

17 On a motion by Ms. Robuck, seconded by Mr. Booth, and carried unanimously by a vote
18 of 5-0, the NLCHD board approved the Minutes of August 27, 2015.
19

20 RECITATION FOR THE RECORD
21

22 Ms. Kirste gave the recitation, explaining that the name of the taxing authority is the
23 North Lake County Hospital District, the rolled-back rate is 0.9757 mills, the percentage
24 of increase over the rolled-back rate is 2.49 percent, and the millage rate to be levied is 1
25 mill.
26

27 On a motion by Ms. Richey Huey, seconded by Mr. Talmadge, and carried unanimously
28 by a vote of 5-0, the NLCHD accepted the recitation.
29

30 WAIVER OF READING OF THE ENTIRETY OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS
31

32 On a motion by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Robuck, and carried unanimously by a vote
33 of 5-0, the NLCHD voted to waive the reading of the entire proposed resolutions.
34

35 RESOLUTION SETTING THE MILLAGE

36 PUBLIC COMMENT
37

38 Ms. Kirste read the title of Resolution 2015-01, providing for the adoption of the
39 proposed millage rate for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year.
40

41 Ms. Sykes-Amos reported that the millage rate had been advertised as 1 mill, with the
42 rolled-back rate being 0.9757 for this year. She clarified that the rolled-back rate
43 represented the rate of taxes that would be assessed in order to have the same gross tax
44 revenue as in the prior year.
45

46 The Chairman opened the public hearing.
47

1 Mr. Vance Jochim, who writes a blog about fiscal and governmental issues, observed that
2 South Lake County has gone down to 0.8 mill and the County is getting more revenue,
3 because the property value equations are going up.¹ He suggested that the Board go to the
4 rolled-back rate and pay the same amount so that the taxpayers can have a break. He
5 recommended that there be an audit trail describing the calculations that they had made
6 before the resolution is passed at the next meeting, so that the citizens would be able to
7 understand how these rates are reached.

8
9 Ms. Sykes-Amos pointed out that there are spreadsheets on the NLCHD Budget Scenario
10 for 2015-2016, which are available both at this meeting and online. She explained that
11 they are only allowed to budget 95 percent of taxes, which is done by taking the year's
12 gross taxable indicated on the spreadsheet and multiplying it by the millage. She
13 mentioned that the Tax Collector receives 2 percent of that total, which is why the
14 numbers decrease.

15
16 Mr. Jochim asserted that they should show their work, as he did not see the proof in the
17 calculations provided on the spreadsheet.

18
19 Ms. Sykes-Amos commented that they would try to accommodate this request.

20
21 Mr. Phil Braun, Vice President and General Counsel for the Central Florida Health
22 Alliance Leesburg Medical Center, reported that while the property values have gone up,
23 the amount of tax is lower than it has been in the past. He relayed that not only are they
24 no longer able to raise the amount of money they used to, but they have also increased
25 use of money in both administrative costs and the amount of recipients who can request
26 money. He emphasized that the property values had not gone up enough to justify
27 reducing the amount of money raised by the 1 mill.

28
29 Ms. Robuck asked for clarification on the differences between North and South Lake
30 County.

31
32 Mr. Braun explained that South Lake did not have an elected board, but one that is
33 appointed by the governor. He reported that one hospital is the single recipient of their
34 entire millage and do not have to show any need projections, but are granted the money
35 to be utilized for their operations as they see fit.

36
37 Ms. Robuck pointed out that this Board has no control over if the Board exists, but
38 wondered if it would help to show fiscal responsibility when this issue does come up to
39 vote.

40
41 Ms. Carol Dozier, CFO at LifeStream Behavioral Center, relayed that the South Lake
42 County Hospital Tax District (SLCHD) has other sub-recipients and that LifeStream is
43 one of them.

44
45 Mr. Braun pointed out that the legislation that created the tax districting body does not
46 have any requirements for how the SLCHD utilizes its funding.

1 The Chairman closed the public hearing.

2
3 Mr. Booth related that a pharmacy owner he knows had supplied him with some numbers
4 on his demographics in the northern most part of North Lake County. He mentioned that
5 compared to the rest of Lake County and other independent pharmacies around the
6 country, he had a very high number of Medicare, Medicaid, and uninsured patients. He
7 remarked that he was not sure if these demographics were true for all of North Lake
8 County. He noted that South Lake property values were increasing much faster than
9 North Lake and he would like to roll back, but acknowledged that there is a greater need
10 than they have funds for. He stated that he was in favor of the 1 mill.

11
12 Mr. Talmadge opined that there is always a need and that they have stayed within the
13 spirit of the legislation by increasing their output to the clinics each year. He commented
14 that he was in favor of the 1 mill.

15
16 Ms. Hanson pointed out that there was more accountability and detail available now for
17 the NLCHD than in previous years.

18
19 On a motion by Mr. Talmadge, seconded by Ms. Richey Huey, and carried unanimously
20 by a roll call vote, the NLCHD approved the tentative millage rate for the next fiscal
21 year, subject to the final hearing.

22
23 RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET

24
25 Ms. Hanson clarified that the percentage on the budget worksheet reduces because the
26 expenditures remain constant.

27
28 Ms. Sykes-Amos explained that the Tax Collector receives 2 percent of what is collected
29 and this percentage goes down with each scenario. She related that the numbers are
30 based on the past year, but medical care is the balancing number, as its allocation relies
31 on what the millage has been set as.

32
33 Ms. Hanson clarified that going to the rolled-back rate reduces this amount by \$200,000.

34
35 The Chairman opened the public hearing.

36
37 Mr. Jochim informed the Board that the budget scenario worksheet could not be found on
38 the website. He asked for clarification on how the numbers were calculated and requested
39 that they rewrite the worksheets so that the everyday citizen will be able to understand it.

40
41 Ms. Sykes-Amos explained that though the tax rate has a 2.49 percent increase, the
42 expenditures for the coming year are 2.86 percent below the prior year, because there had
43 been \$600,000 of the LIP (Low Income Pool) credit carry forward in the 2014-2015
44 budget. She clarified where these expenses were located on the worksheet.

45
46 Ms. Kirste read the title of Resolution 2015-02, providing for the adoption of the
47 proposed budget for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year.

1
2 The Chairman closed the public hearing.

3
4 On a motion by Ms. Richey Huey, seconded by Mr. Talmadge, and carried unanimously
5 by a roll call vote, the NLCHD approved the adoption of the budget.

6
7 OTHER BUSINESS
8 FUNDING WORKSHEET
9

10 Ms. Sykes-Amos explained that each of the 3 scenarios illustrated on the worksheet are
11 based on the 1 mill funding. She gave a breakdown of each column and how the funds are
12 allocated.

13
14 Ms. Robuck commented that the LifeStream Primary Care Clinic was able to receive a
15 grant last year that assisted with funding, which would explain the disparity in their
16 request and what they had submitted this year.

17
18 Mr. Booth inquired if extra funding allocated to their sub-recipients would be rolled over
19 for the next year.

20
21 Ms. Sykes-Amos answered that they will include more information on what bills are still
22 coming in at their next meeting and will have cash pool of somewhere between \$350 and
23 \$400 thousand as more taxes come in. She explained that they fully funded the clinics
24 that had shortfalls last year and then split the difference between the two hospitals. She
25 mentioned that if the Tax Collector collects more in his fees than his budget, then the
26 district will receive a check for the difference.

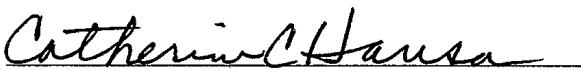
27
28 FINAL REMARKS
29

30 Ms. Sykes-Amos inquired if after the next meeting when the Board has approved their
31 budget, if they would authorize the Chairman to sign LIP agreements that will not exceed
32 what the Board had approved in the budget for funding.

33
34 Ms. Kirste reminded everyone that the final budget meeting will be September 24 at 5:30
35 p.m.

36
37 ADJOURNMENT
38

39 The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.
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41
42 
43 Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman