

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in their said office at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 22, 1978, according to adjournment.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

C. Waldo Marlowe, Chairman

Junior W. Dew, Vice-Chairman

Edward W. Williamson

L. A. Hinson

David L. McPherson

James E. Hill, Jr., Attorney

Emogene W. Suggs, Clerk

There were approximately forty citizens present to be heard on the subject of the proposed budget change for the Sheriff's Department beginning December 4th at 12:00 Noon and ending June 30th. This change is the result of the referendum referred to in the minutes of the November 20th meeting.

Chief Deputy Stuart Sasser was present to answer questions concerning the proposal in the absence of the Sheriff. There was a lengthy discussion of the proposal and each citizen present was given a chance to be heard. The general consensus of the majority of those expressing themselves was that they did not want increased taxes, wanted a cost-cut in spending, conservatism in funds approved and want adequate law enforcement. Some strongly suggested that all slots not be funded, especially those which are vacant at this time (3).

Deputy Sasser pledged to be conservative and asked that all slots be funded that are presently under the Public Safety Commission and the Sheriff's Department which is thirty eight. The total proposal presented to the Board was \$273,294.00 for the patrol division and the jail, with no fringe benefits included, some of which are mandatory.

Deputy Sasser also stated that all present employees will be offered a transfer to the Sheriff's Department with some demotions and salary changes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hinson, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and passed by the following vote to approve the Sheriff's budget request as presented except that the Sheriff and Chief Deputy be given a 7% salary increase rather than the \$250.00 per month requested; and that fringe benefits presently available to all County Employees be added to the budget:

See minutes of December 18th E.W.S. for change

Voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Hinson, Williamson and Dew

Voting against the motion were Commissioners McPherson and Marlowe.

The following tax release was approved upon motion by Commissioner Dew and seconded by Commissioner Williamson:

Ordered: that a refund be issued to Billy & Juanita Strickland, Tatum Township, due to an error in listing the amount of property they own. The refund is for 1978 taxes in the amount of \$34.30

The Chairman told the Board that he had been approached by a group of citizens

in the South Lees Precinct asking that provisions be made for a voting building in that Precinct. This is being taken under consideration.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned until December 4, 1978, at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:

Euoyne W. Leggs
Clerk

Waldo Marlowe
Chairman