

LAKELAND AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

Directors:

City of Lakeland Commissioner Glenn Higgins (Chairman)
Polk County Commissioner Sam Johnson (Vice-Chairman)
City of Lakeland Commissioner Jim Verplanck (Secretary)
Polk County Commissioner Bob English
City of Lakeland Commissioner Gow Fields

Executive Director: Danny Ours

Attorney: Ben Darby

Chairman Glenn Higgins called the September 3, 2008, Lakeland Area Mass Transit District Board of Directors Public Hearing to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call. Commissioner Fields, Higgins, Johnson, and Verplanck were present at the time of the Roll Call. Quorum was called. Commissioner English arrived at 5:39 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 – Proposed FY 08-09 Millage Rate

Chief Financial Officer Sheila Thompson recommended Board approval of the Proposed FY 08-09 Millage Rate of .5000. The Aggregate Rolled Back rate is .5334 which exceeds the allowed Millage Rate for the District. Mr. Ben Darby read from the Florida Statutes regarding the requirements of the public hearings. Commissioner Fields asked if the \$93,000 dollars to be gained by using the .5000 rather than the .4880 would be paid by non-homestead residents and businesses. The staff's response was yes. A brief discussion followed.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments

Chairman Higgins opened the floor to public comments on the proposed Millage Rate. No one addressed the Board at this time. Chairman Higgins closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Verplanck moved for approval of the Proposed FY 08-09 Millage Rate of .5000 which is a decrease from the Aggregate Rolled Back Rate. Commissioner Fields seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Agenda Item #3 – Tentative FY 08-09 Budget

Ms. Thompson presented the Tentative FY 08-09 Budget for review. The Budget reflects a 12 % increase in revenues and a 10% increase in operating expenses over the approved FY 07-08 Budget. Ms. Thompson reviewed the line items and stated that Winter Haven Area Transit funding issues would not affect our budget. A brief discussion followed.

Agenda Item #4 – Public Comments

Chairman Higgins opened the floor to public comments on the tentative FY 08-09 Budget. No one addressed the Board at this time. Chairman Higgins closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Verplanck moved to approve the tentative FY 08-09 Budget for \$15,177,540. Commissioner Fields seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Chairman Higgins adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:43 p.m.