

**MINUTES FOR THE BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14, 2016, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #1, 301 W. CRAWFORD STREET**

**SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION**

The Chairman called the work session to order.

**The following members were present:**

Mike Babb, Chairman  
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman  
Lynn Laughter, Member  
Barry W. Robbins, Member  
Roger Crossen, Member

**Others Present:**

Mark Gibson, County Administrator  
Robert Smalley, County Attorney  
Department Heads  
Press

**Budget Workshop:**

Chairman Babb called the budget workshop to order at 5:03 p.m. Chairman Babb noted that this budget workshop is being held to further discuss the 2017 budget that is scheduled to be adopted on Monday, December 19, 2016 during a special called meeting. Chairman Babb noted that the most discussed item of the 2017 budget is the proposed increase for County employees and how much of an increase it would be. Chairman Babb asked County Administrator Mark Gibson and Finance Director Alicia Vaughn to inform the Board of the options that are available should the Board choose to increase the pay of County employees. The Board is considering a 0% to 3% pay adjustment for most employees, and a 2% increase to the Sheriff's road deputies and corrections personnel, or a 0% to 3% pay increase to all employees and an additional pay 2% pay increase to the Sheriff's Road deputies that have POST certification, or a 3% to all employees with no additional increase to the Sheriff's office, or no increases for any employees. The Board needs to decide when if there will be any adjustments or increase they would begin. Commissioner Robbins stated that he is not in favor of any increases or adjustments for County employees and may possibly consider a 2% increase for the Sheriff's deputies to begin in July 2017. Commissioner Laughter stated that she is in favor of a 3% pay adjustment for most County employees, and an additional 2% increase for both the Sheriff's deputies and corrections to begin in January 2017. Commissioner Crossen agrees with Commissioner Laughter however he would like to implement the adjustment/increases in July 2017. Commissioner Robbins further stated again that he is not in favor and would not support of any adjustments/increases for County employees but would consider a 2% increase for the Sheriff's deputies to begin July 2017.

Commissioner Brooker arrived at the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Chairman Babb noted that he would support the adjustments/increases to begin July 2017.

Commissioner Brooker noted that he would also support the adjustments/increase to begin July 2017.

Commissioner Brooker instructed County Administrator Mark Gibson to research the outside agencies that are funded by the County to see if there are any cuts funding that could be made to those agencies.

**MINUTES FOR THE BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14, 2016, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #1, 301 W. CRAWFORD STREET**

The budget workshop was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

---

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN  
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

---

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /