

**GRAYS HARBOR PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 2  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2016 BUDGET HEARING  
November 10, 2015**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Andrew Bickar, District 4  
Ryan Farrer, At Large 2  
Armando Juarez, Jr, District 2  
Miles Longenbaugh, District 3  
Pete Scroggs, District 5  
Robert Torgerson, At Large 1  
Maryann Welch, District 1

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Tom Jensen, CEO, GHCH  
Joe Vessey, CFO, GHCH  
Teresa Ramirez, Executive Assistant, GHCH  
Brad Berg, Foster Pepper PLLC  
(via conference call)  
Members of the Public

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Maryann Welch called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Attorney Brad Berg joined the meeting via conference call.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing was held on November 10, 2015 for consideration of adoption of the proposed 2016 Budget of Grays Harbor Public Hospital District No. 2, of which a copy was presented at the October 27, 2015 Board of Commissioners Regular Board meeting. Notice of this Hearing was published in the Daily World on October 27 and November 03, 2015.

Commissioner Welch brought forward Resolution 2015-07 2016 Budget & Tax Levy, with the 2016 Budget attached. Joe Vessey, CFO, indicated that based on the County Assessor's recent release of preliminary values, and noting an increase to Public Hospital District No. 2 assessed valuation, an adjustment from \$2.3M to \$2.4M was made to the tax levy as indicated in the Resolutions and 2016 Budget.

Commissioner Welch brought forward Resolution 2015-08 2016 Levy.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Welch opened the Budget Hearing to members of the public.

- Mr. Cook supports the hospital's need to stay current and support the levy. Appreciated hearing that the Commissioners were working with the other entities to make the levy work for everyone.
- Mr. Manley expressed that he knew from the beginning that the Commissioners would come to this moment regarding the levy. He expressed concern that the recent staff raises were unnecessary, compared to what other people in the area are trying to deal with. As a landlord, the levy will cost him money and he can only charge so much because people around here can't afford it. He expressed his belief that it is too soon to ask for a levy, given that the hospital went back to the black and made a profit. He commented on the formality of asking for public comment at these types of meetings, citing his attendance at a Port Board meeting in which Commissioners took all of five minutes to arrive at their decision after public comment.
- Mr. Schave expressed concern that the levy will cut into the retired firemen's pension fund. He requested clarification on what the levy amount works out to per thousand.
  - It was clarified that the amount is 0.50 cents per thousand. Mr. Schave was referred to Mr. Vessey for any additional clarifying questions.

There being no further comment, the Hearing was closed.

**Action:** Commissioner Torgerson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2015-07; 2016 Budget & Tax Levy for Grays Harbor Public Hospital District No. 2. Commissioner Farrer seconded the motion.

Commissioner Torgerson brought forward that the Hospital District has deferred a great deal of maintenance and infrastructure of its facilities over the last several years, and is truly at the tipping point for maintaining a first rate facility. In order to proceed forward it is dependent upon the levy.

Commissioner Welch added that there has been a concerted effort on the part of the Board and Management to ensure that the levy is done in such a way to minimize impact on the other districts, and to make it work for everybody.

The motion was carried and unanimously approved.

**Action:** A motion was made by Commissioner Scroggs, seconded by Commissioner Juarez and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2015-08 2016 Levy.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **November Board Meeting**

Commissioner Welch called for attendance at the November 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Except for Commissioner Bickar, all others will be in attendance.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Welch adjourned the meeting at 1:14p.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.**

**ATTEST:**

  
Teresa Ramirez  
Recording Secretary

  
Robert Torgerson  
Board Secretary