



## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

June 9, 2026  
Administration Building,  
4th Floor, BCC Meeting Room,  
477 Houston Street,  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
9:00 AM

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

**Present:** Commissioner District 5 Dr. Kristen T. Burke, Chairman  
Commissioner District 1 John Sgromolo, Vice-Chairman  
Commissioner District 2 Alexandra Compere  
Commissioner District 3 Jim Renninger  
Commissioner District 4 Betsy Condon

**Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** County Manager Howard Wanamaker  
County Attorney Courtney K. Grimm  
Commission Auditor Heather Boucher

Chairman Kristen Burke called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Kristen Burke opened the floor for public comment at 9:01 am.

Hearing no comments, Chairman Kristen Burke closed public comment at 9:01 am.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. Legislative Wrap Up

*Item One (1) can be seen at [www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-video-archive-/BCC Workshop/June 9, 2026](http://www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-video-archive-/BCC%20Workshop/June%209,%202026), beginning at 1:01 and ending at 3:04. Below is a summary of the discussion.*

Troy Nagle, Assistant County Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation to begin the budget workshop discussion. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - Funded Appropriation Requests.

#### **Agenda Items for Discussion:**

- Funded Appropriation Requests
- Legislative Wrap-Up/Governors Proposal
- Budget Basis
- Reserves
- Ad Valorem Supported Fund Overview
- Budget Priorities/Board Direction
- Upcoming Meetings

There were comments, questions and discussions during this portion of the presentation regarding the timeline for the governors signature for the funded appropriations.

## 2. Fund Details

*Item Two (2) can be seen at [www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-vdieo-archive-/BCC Workshop/June 9, 2026](http://www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-vdieo-archive-/BCC%20Workshop/June%209,%202026), beginning at 3:05 and ending at 1:02:25. Below is a summary of the discussion.*

Troy Nagle, Assistant County Manager, moved on in the presentation to provide details and information for the fund details. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - Governor's Proposal: FY27/28 Year One \$150K Exemption. Mr. Nagle noted that Tracy Drake, Clay County Property Appraiser, was in attendance to offer information and answer questions.

There were questions and discussions regarding percentage in county services, funding loss if the legislation passes for year one and two, percentage for increase in property value, change in percentage commercial vs. residential, percentage of homes that are homestead in Clay County, effects/impact of the proposed tax reform, changes for homestead vs. non-homestead, ways to generate revenue (alternate sources), clarification that all fifty states have some version of property taxes, increase in property tax for commercial/renters, protection/funding for public safety, state trust fund, funding for the budget, process/procedure for assessing homes value, clarification of capital improvement, restricted vs. unrestricted funding, use of impact fees, Clay County is 60 out of 67 counties per capita, percentage for Public Safety of the \$300M, discretionary funds, conservation land assessment, cap on homestead and commercial property, save our homes cap, language for requirement that the BoCC funds constitutionals and levy of millage rate and adopting the rollback rate, clarification of bill - CS/SB 4-F, maintaining the millage rate, and the next budget meeting - July 23, 2026.

MJ Rood, Budget Manager, moved on with the presentation to provide details on this year's budget. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - Budget Basis.

The Board and staff continued discussions to clarify the 3% factored for personnel, COLA, medical cost increase, premium costs, maintaining employees, increase for CCFR/Law Enforcement at the State level,

## 3. Reserves

*Item Three (3) can be seen at [www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-video-archive/BCC](http://www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-video-archive/BCC) Workshop/June 9, 2026, beginning at 1:02:26 and ending at 2:21:44. Below is a summary of the discussion.*

MJ Rood, Budget Manager, continued the presentation to provide details and information for the reserves. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - Reserves.

Clay County Property Appraiser Tracy Drake, Clay County Supervisor of Elections Chris Chambless, and Clay County Clerk of Court and Comptroller Tara S. Green were in attendance to provide information and answer questions from the Board.

There were questions and discussions regarding the dollar amount that makes up the 16.7% (\$23M), clarification for the Constitutionals budgets differences year to year (CCPA - CCSOE - CCCOCC) as seen on page 10, software licensing for the Supervisor of Elections, use of court fees, distribution of funding for the Clerk of Court and Comptroller, change in Comptroller duties, state funding to support the change - (no), budget for additional judges, increases across departments to support the Judges, clarification for Clerk technology funding, resurfacing budget (CIP), proposed legislation regarding vehicles that pay no fuel tax, self funded - Unincorporated MSTU vs general fund transfer, clarification for the \$7M transfer, difference in budget adopted and amended in 25/26, collection rate, and ad valorem due date.

Sheriff Michelle Cook, CCSO, continued in the presentation to provide information to clarify the budget for CCSO. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - Page 15.

The Board and Sheriff Cook had discussions regarding what is covered in the \$11.5 M budget for CCSO other than personnel, percentage/number of employment - 930 Total - minus 52-54 because of the schools - 880 slightly less than half are sworn - 400 Sworn Officers, other support, and state mandated positions, funding for school officers (School District) and funding for officers in the Court House, staffing standards, costs to hire officers, extra millage funding for schools, funding for municipality police departments, importance of public safety, other people around the state voting on what happens in Clay County, impact of the tax reform on the county and funding.

Ms. Rood moved on in the presentation to provide details and information for the General Fund. See Presentation Attached to the Agenda - General Fund Transfers Overview.

Additional questions and discussion were had regarding the deficit, submitted budget request within the county services, line by line review of the budget, finding ways to adjust the budget, holding/freezing 35 positions, areas to make change/adjusts, future legislation that could effect alternate revenue sources, phase in if there is a tax reform, budget direction and initiatives - Challenger MSTU, 911 fund, need for PSAPs, definition for POC - Personnel Operating Capital and PSAP - Public Service Answering Point, reiteration of the next budget workshop - July 23, 2026, at 9:00 am, conversations had by the Property Appraisers with the four

municipalities, the most effected municipality effected in the State of Florida - Keystone Heights, assessment of unincorporated areas, and replacement of fees if the municipalities disband.

## **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

*Commissioners can be seen at [www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-vidoe-archive-/BCC Workshop/June 9, 2026](http://www.claycountygov.com/government/clay-county-tv-video-and-vidoe-archive-/BCC%20Workshop/June%209,%202026), beginning at 2:21:45 and ending at 2:38:24. Below is a summary of the discussion.*

Commissioner Jim Renninger noted that all areas of the budget need to be reviewed, including what cuts can be made; it is and will be a monumental task.

Commissioner Alexandra Compere thanked all the Constitutional Officers who were in attendance, and provided insight and expressed her appreciation to county staff. Commissioner Compere noted that we are a representative Government, discussed her approach, requested a copy of the entire budget, and stated that her course of direction would be a reevaluation of the level of service.

Vice-Chairman John Sgromolo expressed that he would like to see information on the numbers for doing personnel at a flat rate at no increase and the rate of inflation, review of software licensing, and spoke about areas to scale back or consolidate departments, mentioned the changes that are needed in the future, and the duty of the BoCC.

Commissioner Betsy Condon spoke about areas that stand out for her review of specific areas - software contracts, office supplies, combining departments, etc. Commissioner Condon mentioned the dire issue for employees, the gravity of the \$50M deficit, agreed with looking at things differently than before, and spoke about reviewing every single expenditure and reviewing the budget completely. Commissioner Condon expressed her gratitude for the staff's hard work, the Constitutional Officers' attendance, and the supportive messages she has received.

Chairman Kristen Burke touched on the difficulty of seeing the effects of potential changes and the need to educate the community. Chairman Burke mentioned areas that are sometimes not thought about, and growing accustomed to certain quality-of-life things. Chairman Burke noted areas of concern - software licensing costs, the effect of statewide voters on Clay County, and the importance of public safety. The goal of the Commission is to do the right thing.

Hearing no further business, Chairman Kristen Burke adjourned the meeting at 11:39 am.

Attest:



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Tara S. Green  
Clay County Clerk of Court and Comptroller  
Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

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[Kristen T. Burke DC \(Jun 29, 2026 08:31:03 EDT\)](#)

Kristen Burke  
Chairman or Vice-Chairman











# BCC Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes June 9, 2026 BCC#4

Final Audit Report

2026-06-29

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