



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

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COMMISSION TO CONSIDER 2011/12 BUDGET IN JULY WORKSHOPS

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (June 28, 2011) – On a typical day, 11,000 customers visit a Marion County Solid Waste facility, drivers traverse 2,800 plus miles of Marion County maintained roadways and nearly 30,000 residents receive water through Marion County Utilities.

While county services such as these are all-around us, residents don't often have the opportunity to take a front seat view of the budgets that these departments operate from. Come mid-July, however, residents will have a chance to take a look inside the budgets that run the various county services.

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners holds workshops each summer to review and adjust departmental and constitutional office budgets for the upcoming budget year. Over the course of a week and a half this July, commissioners will meet with and hear from every entity that receives county funding from traditional county departments to the Clerk of the Court, Economic Development Coalition and The Centers.

This year's first week of budget talks will kick off on Monday, July 11, and run through Friday, July 15. Sessions resume the following week on Wednesday, July 20, and will conclude on Thursday, July 21. Sessions begin at 9 a.m. in the McPherson Governmental Complex Auditorium (601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala) and are scheduled to end at 5 p.m. After the workshop series has concluded, commissioners will adopt a proposed maximum millage rate.

The current fiscal year's countywide millage rate is 3.89, a level slightly lower than the 2009-2010 rate of 3.9 mills. A millage rate of 3.89 equates to \$3.89 for each \$1,000 of taxable property values, or \$389 for a home with a taxable value of \$100,000. The county's \$574 million current fiscal year budget (from all revenue sources), pays for various public services, including Fire Rescue, EMS, roads, Growth Management, libraries, Parks and Recreation and many other services. This money also pays for indigent health care and the local judicial system as well as Marion County's five constitutional offices: the Sheriff's Office, Clerk of the Court, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector.

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"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"