

# **Board of County Commissioners**

## **Agenda Request**

Date of Meeting: April 19, 2010

Date Submitted: April 5, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Commissioner Kessler

Subject: Request Board Approval to Schedule an Additional Budget Workshop and To Appoint a 5 Member Citizen Advisory Committee

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### **Statement of Issue:**

This agenda item requests the Board to vote to schedule an additional budget workshop to discuss only the present Board of County Commission and Board's administrative budgets and to immediately appoint a 5 member citizen advisory committee to assist in this process with each Commissioner appointing one member from the County at-large.

### **Background:**

Last year's Wakulla County's overall budget was developed in the background of a State budget deficit of over three (3) **BILLION** dollars. The projected fiscal deficit for the state in the coming year is over five (5) **BILLION** dollars. Our County's home, commercial and vacant land values continue to show a decline and projections from our Property Appraiser's Office are in the area of a possible 10% decline for next year as compared to this year. All segments of our County budget have been asked to reduce their budget for next year by 10%.

### **Analysis:**

Although the Board of County Commission negotiates with the various constitutional offices and our administration looks for ways to cut its own budget, the Board of County Commissioners needs to examine its budget as well as the budget of its administration in an effort to cut expenditures. During these economic times it is especially important for the Board to reduce the tax burden upon its citizens and businesses as much as possible.

### **Options:**

1. Vote to schedule an additional budget workshop to discuss only the present Board of County Commission and Board's administrative budgets, and to immediately appoint a 5 member citizen advisory committee to assist in this process.
2. Do not vote to schedule an additional budget workshop to discuss only the present Board of County Commission and Board's administrative budgets, and do not immediately appoint a 5 member citizen advisory committee to assist in this process.
3. Board Direction.

### **Recommendation:**

Option #1