The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on August 6, 2019 at 11:00 am for the Budget Workshop meeting. Chair LaFaye Copeland, Vice-Chair Keith Moye, Commissioners June Knight, Ray Prince, Phillip Drew, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Clerk John White, Finance Director Holly Murkerson, and Executive Assistant Mary Griffin were present.

County Administrator Buddy Johnson and County Financial Director Holly Murkerson presented the proposed 2020 budget to the Board of Commissioners.

The budget as presented has expenses of $15,392,654.00 and revenue of $13,576,302.00 for a short of -$1,816,352.00. Mr. Johnson stated that we may have to raise the millage rate to stop the bleeding or the fund balance will be depleted. Each department budget was reviewed. Mrs. Copeland had to leave the meeting at 12:00 due to a previous appointment.

Mrs. Murkerson explained that one of the reasons for the increase in the sheriff’s budget was the wages were not budgeted correctly last year. The sheriff also explained that he is requesting a new investigator and deputy in his budget. The Board of Commissioners asked several questions of the sheriff during this time.

Mr. Johnson stated that you also must have a plan in case the SPLOST does not pass in November. Mrs. Knight stated it sounds like we are holding the taxpayer’s hostage.

Motion by Mrs. Knight to raise the millage rate by 2.75 mills. The motion died for lack of a second. Motion by Mr. Drew, second by Mr. Prince to raise the millage rate by 4.75 mills in case the SPLOST did not pass in November. Moye, Drew, Prince – Yes, Knight – No. The motion was approved.

The Budget Workshop was adjourned after the vote.