

June 7, 2004

Chairman: Richard Poindexter  
Commissioner: Michael Allen  
Commissioner: Dan Barrett  
Commissioner: Bobby Knight  
Commissioner: Ken White  
Citizens of Davie County of Davie

Submitted for your consideration is the FY 2004-2005 budget for Davie County. This Budget is balanced at \$57,710,917. I would like to thank the commissioners for their many long hours of service to our staff and citizens. Most citizens are unaware of the demands required to be a responsible elected public official. I personally thank you for all the time and effort you contribute to Davie County.

Last fall our citizens approved an \$8.825 million school bond and a .03 cent tax rate increase to retire that debt. However, this Budget only request a .02 cent tax rate increase to retire the \$8.825 million dollar school bond issue, due to each department holding the line or cutting back to make this happen.

Again this year the budget does not include any State revenues which I believe are at risk. I continue to believe the hold harmless money should never again be budgeted as operating revenues. We must begin to build our undesignated fund balance in our general fund, as noted by our bond rating company.

A special thanks again to all our volunteers including the Planning Board, Board of Adjustments, E&R Board, Volunteer Fire Departments, Rescue Squad, hospital, library, schools, senior center, recreation department, humane society, Habitat for Humanity, Store House for Jesus project and many, many others. I would also sincerely thank the staff for another good year of public service to our citizens.

The Highlights of this year's budget are as follows:

- .02 cent tax increase rather than .03 cent which covers most of the debt service of the school bonds
- A 2% wage increase for all full-time employee
- Board consideration of a pay plan adjustment for employees
- Maintains water and sewer rates at the same level for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row
- A 4% increase in school funding
- A 3% increase in inspection fees
- The appropriation of \$47,000 from a reserve fund and an additional \$3,000 to help with a volunteer group and the National Guard to help build a shelter for the Humane Society.
- An additional \$25,000 to EMS to move to a larger chassis size and 4x4 capability
- The request for an assistant to the manager to handle human resource and other managerial responsibilities

Respectfully,

Terry Bralley  
Davie County Manager