

April 15, 2025

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Thursday, April 15, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse to discuss the FY26 Budget. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman David Thompson, Commissioners Pete Myers, Timmy Shelnett, Lee Bradford and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Rhonda Hawk, County Manager John Ward, Finance Director Jennifer Wall, County Attorney Chip Ferguson and Sheriff Keith Brooks.

Finance Director Jennifer Wall presented the proposed FY26 Budget of \$106,329,712 which is an increase of \$23,095,212 more than the original FY25 Budget. The current proposed budget is 3,000,000 more than formerly proposed as the increase in medical for the new jail was unaccounted for. County Manager John Ward and Finance Director Jennifer Wall discussed the increase with the Board. Sheriff Keith Brooks stated the need to fund his proposed budget with the additional personnel and equipment requested. Chairman Thompson asked if there was any way to cut the proposed budget. Sheriff Brooks stated that all positions were necessary for him to open the new jail.

There were no decisions made or votes taken during the work session. The work session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

DAVID G. THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

RHONDA HAWK, COUNTY CLERK