MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON AUGUST 19, 2025 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM IN THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Jamie Handley Chairman
Clay Reid Vice Chairman
Jowan Johnson Commissioner
Mel Powell Commissioner

Michael Pomirko County Manager/Clerk

Lisa Willis Pitts Mayor

Lucas McFall Acting Abbeville Mayor

Chairman Jamie Handley called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Commissioner Mel Powell gave the invocation

All pledge for the flag.

FLOST Discussion

Chairman Jamie Handley opened the meeting with the first line item of business the discussion of FLOST and the percentage breakdown by each city and the County. Chairman Handley asked County Manager Michael Pomirko to give some insight into the two plans he has crafted for today discussion. County Manager, Michael Pomirko gave each person in attendance a sheet showing two plans that could help us come to an understanding much faster he hopes. Plan one was to take the percentage breakdown from the previous LOST renegotiations that happen in December 2022. According to Pomirko, you could take the 4.5% from Pitts and divide four ways with three cities and one county receiving a 1.13% increase. The City of Pitts cannot accept any percentage on FLOST because currently they have a zero-millage rate in place. This plan if Pitts took a percentage would give them a negative millage rate. The breakdown was as followed:

Abbeville: 24.53%
Pineview: 7.63%
Pitts: 0.0%
Rochelle: 19.03%
Wilcox Co: 48.83%

The second proposal from Pomirko included the true meaning of maxing out FLOST and giving each and every citizen the best millage rate decrease. Pomirko added that if we read HB581 & HB92 the true meaning of the bill is to replace property tax with the sales tax from FLOST that will offset the millage rate for each governing authority. This breakdown shows a greater outcome because you are taking a value of a mill and doing your best to reduce the most for the taxpayers. Pomirko did try to produce the most accurate numbers because he could not get his hands on a five-year history from the cities which would produce the value of one mill. This plan includes the following:

Abbeville: 20.90%
Pineview: 8.20%
Pitts: 0.0%
Rochelle: 20.90%
Wilcox Co: 50.00%

After little discussion in the room both Abbeville Acting Mayor Lucas McFall and Pitts Mayor Lisa Willis felt that the second plan was the best for each governing authority. It would help lower millages rate to the best potential it could hit.

Chairman Handley asked the board if they felt good about the second plan Mr. Pomirko presented today with all in agreement.

Chairman Handley called for a vote with for the upcoming FLOST breakdown to include the following percentage breakdowns. Abbeville 20.90%, Pineview 8.20%, Pitts 0.0%, Rochelle 20.90%, & Wilcox County at 50.00% which gives you a final number of 100%. Commissioner Mel Powell made a motion to accept the percentage breakdown of Abbeville 20.90%, Pineview 8.20%, Pitts 0.0%, Rochelle 20.90%, & Wilcox County at 50.00% which gives you a final number of 100%. The motion was second by Vice Chairman Clay Reid with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mel Powell to adjourn the meeting. The motion was second by Commissioner Jowan Johnson with a unanimous vote. 5:40p.m.

Jamie Handley, Chairman

Michael Pomirko, County Manager