

**CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2008/2009 BUDGET
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2008 5:00 PM
COUNTY ANNEX, 107 GROSS ROAD, KINGSLAND, GEORGIA**

The Camden County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Budget on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. at the County Annex, Kingsland, Georgia.

Present: Chair Preston Rhodes; Vice-Chair Katherine Nisi Zell; Commissioner David L. Rainer; Commissioner Stephen L. Berry; Commissioner Charlene Sears; County Administrator Steve Howard; and County Clerk Jodi Gregory. County Attorney Brent Green was absent.

Chairman Rhodes opened the public hearing at 5:00 p.m., delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Administrator Steve Howard began the public hearing with an overview of the previous work session regarding the FY 08/09 Budget, and that this public hearing is a result from the Commissioners request at the last work session to ensure the public, all departments and constitutional officers had a chance to be heard.

Chairman Rhodes opened the floor to the audience.

- **Harvey Fry**

Thanked County Administrator Steve Howard for his approach to programs he has proposed in this budget because it includes all; not just general government but the elected officials as well.

- **Vernon Copeland**

Mr. Copeland stated that he believes there are items in the budget that can be cut to save money. And, although the millage rate is not increasing, it is remaining the same, which provides little help to the taxpayer. Mr. Copeland stated he does not see a need for Support Services, although he is not sure what this department is for. He further believes there is waste in the Tax Assessors' office, Planning and Development and the JDA. Mr. Copeland also stated that users of recreational services should have to pay for those services; not someone who does not use the services. Mr. Copeland also compared the taxes of Camden County to Glynn County stating that Camden is at 27 mils and Glynn is at 24 or 25 in some districts. Camden County has one rate for the whole county even though services are not equal throughout the county.

No further comments being offered, Chairman Rhodes closed the Public Hearing at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Preston Rhodes, Chairman

Jodi Gregory, County Clerk