

# Surgeons perform second transplant with pig heart

**Lauran Neergaard**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON – Surgeons have transplanted a pig’s heart into a dying man in a bid to prolong his life – only the second patient to ever undergo such an experimental feat. Two days later, the man was cracking jokes and able to sit in a chair, Maryland doctors said Friday.

The 58-year-old Navy veteran was facing near-certain death from heart failure but other health problems meant he wasn’t eligible for a traditional heart transplant, according to doctors at University of Maryland Medicine.

“Nobody knows from this point forward. At least now I have hope and I have a chance,” Lawrence Faucette, from Frederick, Maryland, said in a video recorded by the hospital before Wednesday’s operation. “I will fight tooth and nail for every breath I can take.”

While the next few weeks will be critical, doctors were thrilled at Faucette’s early response to the pig organ.

“You know, I just keep shaking my head – how am I talking to someone who has a pig heart?” Dr. Bartley Griffith, who performed the transplant, told The Associated Press. He said doctors are feeling “a great privilege but, you know, a lot of pressure.”

The same Maryland team last year performed the world’s first transplant of a genetically modified pig heart into another dying man, David Bennett, who survived just two months.

There’s a huge shortage of human organs donated for transplant. Last year, there were just over 4,100 heart transplants in the U.S., a record number but the supply is so tight that only patients with the best chance of long-term survival get offered one.

Attempts at animal-to-human organ transplants have failed for decades, as people’s immune systems immediately destroyed the foreign tissue. Now scientists are trying again using pigs genetically modified to make their organs more humanlike.



**Lawrence Faucette sits with his wife, Ann, at a hospital in Baltimore before receiving a pig heart transplant.**  
MARK TESKE/UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE VIA AP

Recently, scientists at other hospitals have tested pig kidneys and hearts in donated human bodies, hoping to learn enough to begin formal studies of what are called xenotransplants.

To make this new attempt in a living patient outside of a rigorous trial, the Maryland researchers required special permission from the Food and Drug Administration, under a process reserved for certain emergency cases with no other options.

It took over 300 pages of documents filed with the FDA, but the Maryland researchers made their case that they’d learned enough from their first attempt last year – even though that patient died for reasons that aren’t fully understood – that it made sense to try again.

And Faucette, who retired as a lab technician at the National Institutes of Health, had to agree that he understood the procedure’s risks.

In a statement his wife, Ann Faucette, said: “We have no expectations other than hoping for more time together. That could be as simple as sitting on the front porch and having coffee together.”

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## NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

### Last year’s property tax levy:

- A. Initially proposed tax levy.....\$177,389,394
- B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes.....\$ 1,132,177
- C. Actual property tax levy.....\$176,257,217

### This year’s proposed tax levy.....\$195,157,224

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on

**September 26, 2023**

**5:01 P.M.**

**At**

**Alachua County Administration Building  
12 Southeast 1st Street – 2nd Floor  
Jack Durrance Board Room  
Gainesville, FL 32601**

**A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.**

GF-37324948

## BUDGET SUMMARY

Alachua County - Fiscal Year 2023/2024

THE PROPOSED OPERATING EXPENDITURES OF ALACHUA COUNTY ARE 7.9% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

	DISCRETELY PRESENTED								
	GENERAL	MSTU-LAW ENFORCEMENT	OTHER SPEC. REV.	DEBT SERVICE FUNDS	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	ENTERPRISE FUNDS	INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS	NON-MAJOR COMPONENT UNITS	GRAND TOTAL BUDGET
	FUND	FUND	FUNDS	FUNDS	FUNDS	FUNDS	FUNDS		
<b>MILLAGE RATE PER \$1,000</b>	(7.6414 MILLS)	(3.5678 MILLS)							
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</b>									
TAXES - AD VALOREM	155,607,366	29,941,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	185,549,365
OTHER	9,544,360	0	15,979,479	9,145,440	33,330,934	0	0	0	68,000,213
LICENSES AND PERMITS	338,500		30,231,388		1,625,500	8,133,775			40,329,163
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE	9,710,725		14,296,197	12,000,000					36,006,922
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	19,505,882	2,111,742	9,979,491	1,024,927		12,150,783	47,768,115	31,000	92,571,940
FINES AND FORFEITURES	23,000		435,000						458,000
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	3,755,608	200,000	678,607	339,808		2,780,375	3,151,427	28,360	10,934,185
<b>TOTAL SOURCES:</b>	<b>\$198,485,441</b>	<b>\$32,253,741</b>	<b>\$71,600,162</b>	<b>\$22,510,175</b>	<b>\$34,956,434</b>	<b>\$23,064,933</b>	<b>\$50,919,542</b>	<b>\$59,360</b>	<b>\$433,849,788</b>
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN	26,784,138		19,953,109	6,556,529	10,062,934	1,425,575	200,000		64,982,285
DEBT PROCEEDS	0	0	0	0	25,000,000	0	0	0	25,000,000
RECEIPTS FROM CONST. OFFICERS	140,000	28,714				9,600			178,314
USE OF FUND BALANCE	71,238,405	1,717,360	58,071,105	20,734,623	39,673,913	9,378,563	31,782,395	429,745	233,026,109
<b>TOTAL REVENUES TRANSFERS &amp; BALANCES:</b>	<b>\$296,647,984</b>	<b>\$33,999,815</b>	<b>\$149,624,376</b>	<b>\$49,801,327</b>	<b>\$109,693,281</b>	<b>\$33,878,671</b>	<b>\$82,901,937</b>	<b>\$489,105</b>	<b>\$757,036,496</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>									
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	62,882,221	576,760	5,314,732	11,210,315	30,000,000		57,672,442		167,656,470
PUBLIC SAFETY	40,727,591	26,457	44,143,787		7,613,752	2,670,308			95,181,895
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	5,606,884		26,824,621		16,332,374	24,578,878			73,342,757
TRANSPORTATION	3,519,345		15,535,546		29,791,483				48,846,374
ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	11,861,536		17,348,754		4,999,640			411,028	34,620,958
HUMAN SERVICES	25,864,675		3,203,703						29,068,378
CULTURE/RECREATION	4,160,071		2,228,028		8,277,545				14,665,644
COURT RELATED	11,282,322		1,293,694		5,781,477			65,885	18,423,378
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$165,904,645</b>	<b>\$603,217</b>	<b>\$115,892,865</b>	<b>\$11,210,315</b>	<b>\$102,796,271</b>	<b>\$27,249,186</b>	<b>\$57,672,442</b>	<b>\$476,913</b>	<b>\$481,805,854</b>
RESERVES	12,132,826	1,602,687	18,540,690	14,876,251	6,326,478	5,003,910	25,229,495	12,192	83,724,529
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	33,190,201	3,851,886	2,029,330	23,714,761	570,532	1,625,575			64,982,285
PAYMENTS TO CONST. OFFICERS	85,420,312	27,942,025	13,161,491						126,523,828
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES, TRANSFERS, RESERVES &amp; BALANCES</b>	<b>\$296,647,984</b>	<b>\$33,999,815</b>	<b>\$149,624,376</b>	<b>\$49,801,327</b>	<b>\$109,693,281</b>	<b>\$33,878,671</b>	<b>\$82,901,937</b>	<b>\$489,105</b>	<b>\$757,036,496</b>

THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED, AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.

GF-37325359