

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON AUGUST 4, 2009 AT 6:30 PM
IN THE BEN HILL COUNTY COUTHOUSE

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Philip C. Jay, III	Chairman
O. D. Netter	Vice Chairman
Richard Goodman	Commissioner
Kathy Davis	Commissioner
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Paula J. Jones	County Manager

Chairman Philip C. Jay, III called the meeting to order.

Rev. Terry Cole gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made an amendment to move commission remarks to the end of the meeting. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the amendment, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made an amendment to show that Commissioner Scott Downing was not present for the meeting. He and his wife had a new baby boy.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to **move the rezoning hearing first on the agenda and to place the hearings as the first item on the agenda in the future.** Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to **rezone the entire subdivision at Sturgeon Creek Plantation as general farming classification.** Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Constitutional Officers/Department Heads reports:

Sheriff Bobby Mclemore reported that the inmate count is down. Medical inmate cost is high this year. Starting a High risk warrant Task force to find people with warrants, so they can get them off the books.

Commissioner O.D. Netter requested for County Manager Paula Jones to ensure that everyone involved in the reclassification rezoning of Sturgeon Creek Plantation to be notified by letter.

Road Superintendant Tim Kegebein reported that all roads that were closed from the storm are now open. Pipes are being installed and ditching work is being done daily. Tim wanted to thank everyone for their patience and also wanted to thank the local land owners that are supplying the road department with dirt that is being used in the disaster repairs.

E911 Diane Sims reported that someone from RDC is coming next week and someone is coming from California to update their system.

Senior Citizen Center Cathy Posey Would like to invite everyone to the fish fry on August 20, 2009 at 5:00. At which time they will have the drawing for the jazzy chair. Cathy thanked Ken and his guys for their help and the Sheriff for allowing inmates to clean her floors.

Library Sandy Hester reported that the library is doing very well. Sandy reported that they have a vacancy on their board and needs someone appointed to this vacancy.

Recreation Director Joe Parrish reported that the pool is closed and they are working on up grading the drainage system with SPLOST money. They are also working on the blue & gray walking track and the parking lot. August 19th they will start taking bids on paving; this will be paid for out of the grant that they received

County Manager Paula Jones reported that the County and the Sheriff has applied for an energy grant, which will allow us to replace lighting and AC units at the Jail and the Senior Citizen buildings. Paula also talked about the tax assessors score, receiving a check from GEMA for recent flooding, the roof on the courthouse annex, CDBG project, final mill rate being set by Friday.

Public comments were heard as follows:

Mr. RL Holland has asked the County to supply him with a pipe, so that he may be able to enter his property. He stated that he cannot get to his pond from Hardin or Rhine Road. He stated that you cannot go over the dam to get to his pond. Commissioner Philip Jay asked Commissioner O.D. Netter and Tim Kegebein to work with Mr. Holland in trying to work this out.

Mr. Ossie Walton stated that he worked with the nutrition department at the Senior Citizen Center and that he had been out sick. When he returned from his illness, with his medical excuse, he was told that he was no longer needed. Commissioner Philip Jay asked Commissioner O.D. Netter and County Manager Paula Jones to work this situation out.

Acceptance of Prior Month's Minutes

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to accept all meeting minutes for the month of July. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Old Business

Commissioner O.D. Netter discussed how long it would take the road department to complete the disaster repair work. Tim stated that it would take the eighteen (18) months. Commissioner O.D. Netter suggested that Tim hire a couple of extra temporary workers to help complete the work.

Commissioner Richard Goodman asked if anything has been done regarding the second ward building and the Federal Building. Building Inspector Ken Anderson stated that he has started cleaning out and

moving stuff in the second ward building. Nothing has been done at the Federal Building as of yet. Ken stated that we are waiting for a definite decision on the move.

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to **appoint Steve O'Neal to the MHDDAD Board replacing Chairman Philip Jay.** Commissioner O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Chairman Jay asked County Manager Paula Jones to **ensure that Mr. O'Neal received a letter of his appointment to the MHDDAD Board.**

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to **approve the Criminal Ordinance with a date change to take effect September 1, 2009.** Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion that any changes made to the County ordinance will be submitted to the Commissioners in writing and will be dealt with in a regular county meeting. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to **appoint Gill Braddy as the ninth (9th) member of the RLF board.** Commissioner O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to postpone "Project Search" and the presentation from Jannis Paulk regarding the Ben Hill County web site until **Friday 7th at 9:00 A.M.** commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to go into executive session regarding BOE letter of recommendation from Attorney Toni Sawyer. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to allow **Attorney Toni Sawyer to send a letter to BOE members regarding compensation.** Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

_____ Philip C. Jay, III, Chairman

_____ Paula J. Jones, County Clerk