

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 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
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Paula J. Jones	County Manager

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

Commissioner Richard Goodman gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation of Alvie Dorminy Resolution #0905

Chairman Philip Jay read the Resolution, each Commissioner commented on Alvie. The Resolution was presented to Alvie's wife and daughter.

Constitutional Officers/Department Heads reports:

Probate Judge David Hobby gave a revenue report, stating that the revenues are up from last year. Due to a lot of people having financial difficulties, people are being allowed to work off their tickets through community service if they do not have the funds to pay their tickets.

Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported that they are still putting in pipes, with most of the large pipes being all ready installed. They are currently putting in small pipes and are behind on their daily activities, which they are trying to catch up on while continuing to install the pipes.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to suspend the portion of the County meetings Ordinance 2-192, that states that every Commissioner must address the chair and not each other also to suspend 2-195 which will allow the Commissioner's to address public speakers. Commissioner O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Senior Citizen Center Cathy Posey reported that the Senior Citizen Center raised \$747.00 by raffling a "Jazzy" chair and that this money will be put to good use at the Center. She stated that the kids that are working through Project search are working out very good.

Recreation Director Joe Parrish reported that they have taken bids on the paving at the Blue Gray Park and they have accepted the lowest bid. The paving will include the walking area and the big parking lot. This should be completed in about two months.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a two motion agenda change, first to move the Commissioners remarks to right before adjournment, also to add to the agenda the sale of County vehicles on Gov deals. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

County Manager Paula Jones reported that BHC has tried to apply for all funding that has been offered this year. We have been awarded, through DOT stimulus funds, the resurfacing on Osierfield Road from highway 206 to the Irwin County line. We have also received a CHIPS grant award, which will assist citizens with down payments and rehabilitation on homes. We did not receive funding on our CDBG grant, which would have upgraded the water system in the Queensland community. We are still searching for a solution to this on going problem. We are making progress on our CDBG street and drainage project in the Westwood and Cotton mill community's; this will be completed by year end. The roof on the courthouse annex is almost complete; Linda McDonald Tax Commissioner should be back into her offices in the next couple of weeks. Hopefully our next County Commissioner's meeting will be in the Annex meeting room. Also, it is time for us to start working on the 2010 budgets.

Public comments were heard as follows:

Mike Wynn with the rifle range stated that the range needs to be extended by adding a slab with ten shooting tables and a roof, to draw in more members. Mr. Wynn stated that he has 290 something yards and needs 600 yards. He stated that it would cost around \$12,000.00 to have this done. Commissioner O.D. Netter asked County Manager Paula Jones to get with Joe Parrish and Tim Kegebein to look into this.

Acceptance of Prior Month's Minutes

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to accept meeting minutes from August 4, 2009. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to accept meeting minutes from August 7, 2009. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to accept meeting minutes from August 19, 2009 with an amendment to paragraph 3, regarding the votes of the decision to deviate from the plan and do away with the cul-de-sacs at Westwood subdivision. Commissioner Scott Downing voted against this motion. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from August 27, 2009. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Annexation request from the City of Fitzgerald

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to deny the application for the annexation of Lobingier Avenue. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to post pone the application for annexation of Irwinville Highway. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Old Business - NONE

New Business

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to nominate Sherry Sue Davis to the Library Board, replacing Daphne Williams. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Census contact person

County Manager Paula Jones suggested appointing someone from the City and someone from the County as the contact person. This will be moved to Old Business for the next meeting.

Army Corp. Flood Project

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to post pone until after the Chairman has met with the City. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

South Georgia Hospital Authority

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to post pone this item, until Commissioners have received a recommendation for this in writing. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DOT Contract-Asphalt paving & CDBG Grant

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to postpone this item. Commissioner O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Appointment of Voting Delegate-Fall Policy Conference

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion for Chairman Philip Jay to attend this conference. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Appointment of Deputy County Clerk

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to go into executive session – Personnel. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to come out of executive session. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to appoint Trish Beard full time Deputy County Clerk. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

County Manager Paula Jones stated that we are not adding a position. She stated that there is money in the budget for this appointment. It is merely giving Trish a title as she will be assuming County Clerk duties.

County Vehicles to be sold on Gov Deals

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to declare the following vehicles as surplus. Ford F350 – 1995, Chevrolet Cheyenne – 1996, GMC 1500 – 1987, Ford F150 – 1992, Mack Semi Truck – 1985, Phelan Trailer – 1973. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner O.D. Netter made a motion to put these vehicles up for bid on Gov Deals. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner O.D. Netter suggested that we place an exact copy of the Resolution for Alvie Dorminy in the regular meeting room in recognition of Alvie and for citizens viewing. This will possibly start a portrait wall in the commissioners regular meeting room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

_____ Philip C. Jay, III, Chairman

_____ Paula J. Jones, County Clerk