

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2010 AT 6:30 PM
IN THE BEN HILL COUNTY COUTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

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

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

Godfrey O'Rear gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Philip Jay and the Commission body presented 4H students Breanna Crook, Haley Gilleland, Jenna Gilleland and Devin Jenkins a resolution for earning the Title of National Champions in the 4-H Consumer Skill-A-Thon Contest.

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 Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Constitutional Officers/Department Heads reports: NONE

Department Head Reports:

Road Department Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported that the roads are wet and muddy and that parts of four roads in the County are closed. They are working hard and trying to fill pot holes until it dries out.

Senior Citizen Director Cathy Posey reported that they will be having a fish fry on February 18th for anyone that would like to attend.

Lavonia Stepherson introduced Charles Powell, Executive Director of Mental Health for South Georgia to the Ben Hill County Commissioners.

County Manager Paula Jones reported that the County is looking at bidding out our phone service, updating the County personnel policy, zoning ordinance, animal control ordinance and continuing to update our webpage. Work will begin on our LARP project which will resurface Washington Avenue. Resurfacing Osierfield road will begin soon; this project will be of no cost to the County.

Annexation Request

Cinderella's Cleaning Service/Susan D. Smith – from R – 15 & R – 9 County to N – C City.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to approve the annexation request for Cinderella's Cleaning Service. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public comments were heard as follows: NONE

Acceptance of prior month's minutes:

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for January 4, 2010. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter abstained.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for January 5, 2010. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for January 22, 2010. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for January 27, 2010. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Old Business

Warning System Grant Application

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the Warning System Grant application and to allow the application to be signed by the Commission Chairman. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2009 Budget Amendments

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to review the 2009 budget amendments and to vote on each one individually, starting with expenditures and finishing with revenues. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Expenditures

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the amendments for elections department. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for Administrative Grants. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to accept the amendments for General Government Buildings. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the amendments for Superior Court judges. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the amendments for Magistrate Court. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the amendments for the Sheriff. Commissioner

Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for Sheriff Department Grants. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for School Resource Offs. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the amendments for the Coroner. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the amendments for E-91. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to accept the amendments for the Seniors Grant. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the amendments for the Recreation Grants. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Revenues

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for Administrative Grants. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the amendments for the Recreation Grants. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for the Seniors Grant. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to accept the amendments for Misc. Insurance Payments. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the amendments for FEMA/GEMA. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the amendments for Contingencies. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept amendments to the revenue portion of the budget. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business

Qualifying fees for 2010 County Elections

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept the qualifying fees the same as the previous election for 2010 County Elections. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter and Commissioner Scott Downing abstained.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to dissolve the Queensland water club. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

County Manager Paula Jones will forward information on the Queensland water club to Attorney Toni Sawyer for review.

Resolution to submit 2010 CDBG application

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to apply for the CDBG Grant. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tan Note

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to allow the County Manager to contact all local banks to ask for bids. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss Development Authority Training. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RLF Grant Application

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to approve the RLF for the grant application, in the amount of \$99,999.99 with USDA. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Development Authority Training

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter discussed the upcoming training for Development Authority members. Vice Chairman Netter stated that the training is mandatory for all members. Members that do not receive at least the basic training will not be able to continue as a member of the Development Authority Board.

Tax Amnesty Program

Commissioners discussed possibly putting a one time only tax amnesty program in place. It was discussed that money is not being collected on back property taxes. This would be a program that would help people that owe back taxes, penalty's and interest. The program would be done for only a certain period of time, it would forgive penalties and interest for people that owe back taxes. It would be done across the board to help citizens. Commissioners are looking at April 15th as the deadline for the program. A public hearing would be held to explain the program to citizens. Chairman Jay asked for citizen input regarding the program. Commissioners hope that the program will help clean up back taxes that are owed. This program will be voted on hopefully in March, after a public hearing has been done and the program has run in the news paper, to educate all citizens of the program guidelines.

A meeting will be scheduled for February 23rd to discuss the Comprehensive Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

_____ Philip C. Jay, III, Chairman

_____ Paula J. Jones, County Clerk