

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON AUGUST 3, 2010 AT 6:30 PM  
IN THE BEN HILL COUNTY COUTHOUSE ANNEX

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Those present for the meeting were as follows:

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

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

Commissioner Richard Goodman gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the pledge of allegiance.

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 and each other. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public comments were heard as follows:

Jack Bryant discussed opposing issues on the proposed Ben Hill County coal plant.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to extend jack Bryant's time for his coal plant discussion. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Constitutional Officers: NONE

Elected Officials and Department Head Reports:

Recreation Director Joe Parrish reported that on August 6, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. the Blue Gray Park will be having a ribbon cutting and has invited the County Commission.

Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported that the County could offer no help to property owners regarding the drainage of Otter Creek. The Army Corp of Engineers informed the County that this area is wetlands and the County could not get a permit to clean out the creek.

EMA Director Jason Miller reported on homes having locked gates. He stated that in the event of an emergency EMS has no authority to enter a locked gate without the land owner or proper authorities being there to allow them access.

### County Board Reports:

Lavonia Stepherson with Wiregrass Georgia Technical College, Adult Literacy Program reported that we still have a problem in our Community with adult literacy. Ms. Stepherson thanked the Commissioners for the past year's donation and requested support for this year.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to fund the program with a \$1,000 donation. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter withdrew his motion. Scott Downing seconded the withdrawal, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion **to fund the adult literacy program with a \$2,000 donation from the Ben Hill County Development Authority**. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### County Manager's Report

County Manager/Clerk Paula Jones reported that the digest passed on Monday with no increase on the County's millage rate. There was discussion of changing September's meeting date because it falls the day after Labor Day. The Commission decided to leave the September meeting set for September 7, 2010.

### Annexation Request – NONE

### Rezoning Request – NONE

### Acceptance of prior month's minutes:

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept July 1, 2010 at 1:15 PM Special Call meeting Minutes. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept July 1, 2010 at 2:00 PM Workshop meeting minutes. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept Workshop meeting minutes from July 12, 2010. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept meeting minutes from the regular monthly Commission meeting for July 13, 2010. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Richard Goodman made a motion to accept Workshop meeting minutes from July 29, 2010. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter abstained.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept Special Call meeting minutes from July 29, 2010. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter abstained.

Old Business

**Road closure Request - Clover Road**

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to approve the closing of Clover Road. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Protein Plus – Development Authority Loan extension of interest only payment from 6 months to 12 Months**

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to extend the loan from 6 months to 12 months interest only payments. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**South Georgia Regional Hospital Authority – Dissolving of Board**

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to accept the resolution to dissolve the SGRHA board. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business

**Resolution – Calling for Liquor by the drink Referendum**

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to adopt the "liquor sales by the drink" resolution stating Ben Hill County's desire to have authority to issue licenses for "liquor sales by the drink" and directing the Board of Registration and Elections to call the special election referendum." Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Each Commissioner signed the resolution and it was given to County Attorney Toni Sawyer who will Forward it to the Board of Elections who will be meeting on Wednesday August 4, 2010. It was also stated by County Attorney Toni Sawyer that it is not clear at this time whether the resolution should be passed 90 days or 60 days before the election. Therefore, we will pass it at 90 and 60 days.

**County Physician – Retirement of Dr. Charles Durden**

Commissioner's requested that County Manger/Clerk Paula Jones write Dr. Charles Durden a letter to find out if he has retired.

**Expired term of Lawton Tinley – Hospital Board**

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to re-appoint Lawton Tinley to the Hospital Board. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner's closing remarks - NONE

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

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Philip C. Jay, III, Chairman

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Paula J. Jones, County Clerk