

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON NOVEMBER 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
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Kathy Davis	Commissioner
Richard Goodman	Commissioner
Paula J. Jones	Acting County Manager/Clerk
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Trish Hardeman	Deputy Clerk

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

Rev. Steve O'Neal-First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to move the resolution for the Christian Kitchen up to present on the agenda and the Comprehensive Plan being moved to after public comments. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Marshall/Myrt Wilson Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Christian Kitchen Center

Chairman Philip Jay read resolution 10-08 for Marshall/Myrt Wilson Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Christian Kitchen Center and presented the resolution to them.

Public comments were heard as follows:

Jack Bryant spoke on future jobs for Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County.

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 Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Transmittal resolution for Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan

Vice-Chairman OD. Netter made a motion to go ahead and do the Transmittal resolution for Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan and to allow the Chairman to sign the resolution. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to change the agenda to move DMC/Phoebe presentation up. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Joel Wernick CEO for Phoebe Putney – Partnership with Phoebe and DMC

Joel Wernick with Phoebe Putney Hospital spoke on the upcoming merger of DMC and Phoebe Putney Hospitals. Mr. Wernick stated that a new board would be created and also stated that they would be interested in community volunteers. This board will operate the hospitals day to day operations. Vice Chairman O.D. Netter asked Mr. Wernick about the Hospital board meeting with the Commission body in The Future. Mr. Wernick replied absolutely. Mr. Wernick discussed some changes that had taken place in other mergers that Phoebe had been involved in. Mr. Wernick stated that Phoebe will be investing in DMC, they will be recruiting Physicians and opening up Specialty Clinics. Chairman Philip Jay and Mr. Wernick talked about the Emergency room and the Administration Staff at DMC. Commissioner Kathy Davis asked if we would ever have the medical capabilities available to us here that would prevent us from having to go out of town for treatment. Mr. Wernick stated that it depends on what the particular issue is. People usually have to go to a bigger city for chemotherapy, we are bringing the chemotherapy capabilities here. Mr. Wernick stated that we are currently recruiting for oncology nurses; this is two positions that were not here before and this will create two new jobs, that's two new paychecks. Mr. Wernick stated that we have everything needed to be successful, we do need your support, your communication, your advice, your criticism and guidance.

Constitutional Officers: NONE

Elected Officials and Department Head Reports:

Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported that he received the bridge report last month and everything is in good shape except one bridge that's at the college. Mr. Kegebein stated that this bridge needs to be updated and we are currently working on some grants, federal funding would help to replace it. Commissioner Richard Goodman asked Mr. Kegebein about John Keen who had called him about his mobile home. Mr. Keen had received a letter from the County regarding Flint road. Mr. Kegebein told Commissioner Richard Goodman that we will have to get some right of way there and it will depend on where he's located at, Mr. Kegebein stated that he would be glad to talk to Mr. Keen. Mr. Kegebein stated that he is trying to work with the land owners to keep from having to move utilities to get the right of way on the road. Commissioner Scott Downing thanked Mr. Kegebein for what he's done in getting roads resurfaced. Mr. Kegebein stated that they were able to resurface Lindy, Jefferson and Lobingear by moving money from Glenn Merritt, the Cotton Mill and Westwood. The new L-MIG will resurface Newcomer, and we've sent in for next year's projects which will include Broxton Hwy, and part of Roanoke on Lindy and Lynn road to Walker.

Chairman Philip Jay reported that he was asked a question by the Lafavor's, as to why the entire Department heads were not at the commission meetings. Chairman Philip Jay stated that one reason is the length of the meetings; he also stated that it is set up so that the department heads have the opportunity to present us with any requests or let us know if they have any problems and they can attend the meetings if need be.

County Board Report's: NONE

County Manager's Report:

Acting County Manager/Clerk Paula Jones reported that she has the first proposal Budgets ready to handout to Commissioners tonight. Ms. Jones stated that we still need to meet with Joint services but I wanted to go ahead and get the budgets out for the Commissions to start reviewing to see which departments you want to meet with. We can begin the meetings with the department heads next week if you like. Its less than 1% increase over last year and its less than a 1% increase since 2008

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to add a resolution for the Lady's Hustlers softball team to the agenda. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Annexation Request - NONE

Rezoning Request – NONE

Beer and Wine Application - NONE

Acceptance of prior month's minutes:

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept October 11, 2010 workshop meeting minutes. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion to accept October 13, 2010 Commission meeting Minutes. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. County Physician discussion

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to dissolve the services of the County Physician position as of January 1, 2011. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business :

1. Resolution – Alva Hiedel – BHC Extension

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to do a resolution for Alva Hiedel at the December 2010 Commission meeting. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Vehicle Lease – Sheriff's Department

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to allow the Sheriff to enter into an agreement of lease to own for 4 vehicles, pending the approval of County Attorney reviewing the lease agreement and that the proposal which reflects 4 vehicles with the price will be entered into the records. Vice Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Hanging Basket – Revolving Loan Fund

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to approve amending the contract for the Hanging Basket allowing the Revolving Loan Fund to loan the Hanging Basket an additional \$3000.00, pending recommendation of the Revolving Loan Fund Board. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. Resolution for Lady Hustler's Softball Team

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to do a resolution for the Lady Hustler's Softball Team. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner's closing remarks

Chairman Philip Jay remarked that questions had come up related to the Joint Development Authority with criticism from public comments of the Commission meetings. Chairman Philip Jay reviewed the past 10 years of projects with the Joint Development Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

_____ Philip C. Jay, III, Chairman

_____ Paula J. Jones, County Clerk