

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2011 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE BEN HILL COUNRY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

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|-----------------|------------------------|
| Philip Jay III | Chairman |
| O.D. Netter | Vice-Chairman |
| Kathy Davis | Commissioner |
| Scott Downing | Commissioner |
| Richard Goodman | Commissioner |
| Paula Jones | County Manager/Clerk |
| Toni Sawyer | County Attorney |
| Donna Lampkin | Assistant County Clerk |

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Lavonia Stepherson gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to relax the rules on addressing the Chairman, Commissioners, and the public. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, and Commissioner Kathy Davis both voting for the motion. Commissioner Richard Goodman was not present.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Kathy Davis made a motion approve the agenda. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Kathy Davis, Commissioner Scott Downing, and Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter all voting for the motion. Commissioner Richard Goodman was not present.

Public Comments:

David Coffey expressed his opinion of the Tax Assessors office stating the property values are out of position and the fair share and amounts on the tax digest are incorrect. He also said the Board of Equalization is inadequate. He encouraged the Commissioners to make some changes in the office.

Acceptance of Minutes

Vice-Chairman O. D. Netter made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on August 1, 2011; Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion, which passed

with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter and Commissioner Kathy Davis both voting for the motion. Commissioner Scott Downing abstained from the vote and Commissioner Richard Goodman was not present.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes held on August 3, 2011; Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter seconded the motion, which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, and Commissioner Kathy Davis all voting for the motion. Commissioner Richard Goodman was not present.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made motion to approve the Work Shop Meeting minutes held on August 22, 2011; Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Kathy Davis, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion. Commissioner Richard Goodman was not present.

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Elected Officials and Department Head Reports:

Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported the LMIG resurfacing and striping projects on Broxton Highway and Roanoke Extension are completed and the SPLOST resurfacing projects on Dogwood Lane, Robin Ridge, Cardinal Court, and Brook Hill Drive are completed.

Commissioner Richard Goodman entered the meeting.

EMA Director Jason Miller reported Code Red was up and running effectively. He encouraged everyone to tell others in the community to sign up for the service.

County Board of Reports:

Lavonia Stepherson reported 57 students successfully passed the GED test do to the Ben Hill County Development Authority financial support. She asked for continual support and the completion goal was set at 80 students for the next year.

County Manager Report:

Paula Jones reported the budget process has begun and needed directions as to how to proceed with the budget hearings.

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Request: NONE

Beer and Wine Application: NONE

Old Business:

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to nominate Pamela Turner to the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Addictive Disease Board. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Richard Goodman, and Kathy Davis all voting for the motion.

The Special Administrative Aide Michael Santee asked the Commissioners for guidance on the next course of action with the foreclosure property taxes and for a Workshop meeting with them.

New Business

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter asked the Commissioners to turn the Reaves-Walker property over to the Development Authority because someone is interested in purchasing it through the Revolving Loan Fund.

Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Development Authority agenda item was postponed until the next meeting.

Judicial In Rem Tax Foreclosure Ordinance agenda item was postponed until the next meeting.

Risk Management Policy agenda item was postponed until the next meeting.

The Regular Monthly meeting was changed to October 5, 2011 due to the ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter nominated Commissioner Scott Downing as the 2011 Legislative Conference voting delegate. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Kathy Davis, and Commissioner Richard Goodman all voting for the motion.

Legislative Report:

Commissioner Scott Downing stated he and Chairman Philip Jay III had attended the Georgia Department of Transportation meeting. He stated two of the projects submitted by Ben Hill County were selected on the short list. The projects chosen are the bridge at Wire Grass Georgia Technical College and the four lanes on Hwy 107 and Hwy 112. He thanked everyone that was involved in the project process and the Chairman for involving him.

Chairman Philip Jay III informed every one of the public hearing for the Transportation Investment Act 2010 on September 19, 2011 beginning at 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Grand Conference Center. He stated this will be an educational meeting.

Commissioner Scott Downing stated the last meeting for the Statewide Water Plan is September 12, 2011 to finalize the water plan for our area. The public is welcome to come to that meeting and make comments.

Agenda Changes and/or add on:

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to add Redistricting Map Report to the agenda. Commissioner Richard Goodman seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Richard Goodman, Commissioner Kathy Davis, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

Commissioner's Report:

Vice-Chairman O. D. Netter reported he met with Representative Jay Roberts concerning the redistricting map. He stated Ben Hill County has to redistrict because of the population changes according to the 2010 census report. Both maps were shown to see the proposed changes.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to allow David Coffey to ask a question concerning redistricting. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Kathy Davis, Commissioner Richard Goodman, and Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter all voting for the motion.

David Coffey ask the Commissioners what was the Ben Hill County population report was based upon. Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter answered him by saying the 2010 census report.

The meeting was adjourned.

_____ Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

_____ Paula J. Jones, County Manager/Clerk