

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON OCTOBER 5, 2011 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Philip Jay III	Chairman
O.D. Netter	Vice-Chairman
Kathy Davis	Commissioner
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Donna Lampkin	County Clerk

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Chaplain Godfrey O'Rear 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 all voting for the motion.

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.

Public Comments:

Russell Prescott expressed his concerns about the safety of the water supply. He state he has contamination in his well and no one can tell him where the contamination is coming from. He also said he called the University of Georgia and the State Health Inspector Chris Calhoun concerning the contamination. His well ran dry and he had to dig deeper to restore water to his home and that's how he discovered the contamination.

Commissioner Scott Downing made the motion to give Russell Prescott more time to address the Commissioners. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Kathy Davis, and Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter all voting for the motion.

Russell Prescott wants others to be aware of what is going on with his well and how low the water supply has gotten. He asked the Commissioners for any suggestions that can help his situation.

Acceptance of Minutes

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes held on September 6, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 20, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Special Called Meeting minutes held on September 20, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 21, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 22, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 23, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 26, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Special Called Meeting minutes held on September 27, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes held on September 27, 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 Scott Downing made a motion to approve the Special Called Meeting minutes held on September 29, 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.

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Elected Officials and Department Head Reports: NONE

County Board of Reports: NONE

County Manager Report: NONE

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Request: NONE

Beer and Wine Application: NONE

Old Business:

The Special Administrative Aide Michael Santee described the condition of the Dillard's mobile home by stating it is no longer suitable to sell because the owners left it trashed and others are using it for a dumping site. He asked the Commissioners for permission to destroy the mobile home. The Commissioners instructed Michael Santee to notify the owners to give them a chance to retrieve their personal belongings and notify the lien holders to see if they would repossess the mobile home.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to follow the International Property Maintenance Code book guidelines on this matter. 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.

The Special Administrative Aide Michael Santee presented the Commissioners with a letter from County Attorney Toni Sawyer stating how to precede with the tax sale properties.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to move forward on the tax sale properties by sending notifications to the owners that the property will be sold. 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.

New Business

Representative Jay Roberts presented the Commissioners with a replica of the Senior Airman Michael Buros highway sign. A portion of state highway 129 South was named after him.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the sign and display it in the Commissioner's meeting room. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Scott Downing, and Commissioner Kathy Davis all voting for the motion.

Representative Jay Roberts also stated he is still waiting on the redistricting maps.

Recreation Director Joe Parrish stated the new facility will have five offices for him and his staff and a new gym for recreation use at Paulk Park.

J. Glenn Gregory of J. Glen Gregory & Associates presented the Commissioners with a contract concerning building a new recreation building for Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Department of Leisure Services for review and would like to discuss the contract later at a workshop meeting.

Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter asked Planning Director Jason Miller to look on the Department of Community Affairs website for extra funding that might be available to help finance the new recreation building.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to reappoint Dr. Robert Ludwick to the Ben Hill County Board of Health. 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 Scott Downing made a motion to reappoint Lavonia Stepherson to the South Georgia Community Service Board. Commissioner Kathy Davis seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Kathy Davis, and Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter all voting for the motion.

Vice Chairman O.D. Netter made a motion to accept the Resolution for Commissioner Richard Goodman, place the resolution on wall in the Commissioner's meeting room, and give a copy to his wife. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman O.D. Netter, Commissioner Scott Downing, and Commissioner Kathy Davis all voting for the motion.

Legislative Report:

Commissioner Scott Downing stated there is a good chance non-partisan election will be back up this year because of some power behind it that hasn't been behind it in the past and there will be a bill on the floor allowing the community decide whether they are non-partisan or not . He mentioned that the SPLOST ballot may be simpler than it has been or maybe a separate ballot because the voters were getting confused. He also stated the immigration bill will have a huge financial impact on Ben Hill County which includes the SAVE Program and the E-verify Program. The SAVE Program must be budgeted for and it must be shown in the budget. Commissioner Downing also mentioned that this is the first meeting without Commissioner Richard Goodman and he misses him.

Vice-Chairman O. D. Netter mentioned the top priorities that was discusses at the Legislative Conference that is listed on the ACCG web page under the county platform are the \$23 million that has been collected from prepaid 9-1-1 wireless fees but none of the funds have been allocated back to local governments, Comprehensive Tax Reform, Interbasin Tranfers, Regional Transportation Sales Tax, and State and Federal Mandates Fiscal Analysis. Vice-Chairman Netter stated he would give all this information to Michael Santee to post on the Ben Hill County website.

Commissioner Kathy Davis stated she attended the Development Authority class and received a certificate.

Agenda Changes and/or add on: NONE

Commissioner's Report: NONE

The meeting was adjourned.

_____ Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Lampkin, County Clerk