

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON AUGUST 16, 2012 AT 6:00 PM IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follow:

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| Philip Jay III | Chairman |
| OD Netter Jr. | Vice-Chairman |
| Kathy Davis | Commissioner |
| Bennie Calloway | Commissioner |
| Scott Downing | Commissioner |
| Frank Feild | County Manager |
| Donna Lampkin | County Clerk |

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Proposed Millage Rate

Allen Conger stated his concerns about the collection of taxes; he said it is not all the Tax Commissioners fault. He said it seems to be more money coming in now since everything has come up concerning back taxes. He passed out a handout that explained tax executions, 2005-2011 tax delinquencies, a list of business that have tax delinquencies, back taxes audit report, 2012 revenue budget, and a list of areas that he considers have some waste.

Sharon Branch expressed her concerns with back taxes. She ask do penalties accrue monthly or is it a one-time fee for late taxes. She stated late taxes should accrue monthly penalties to give those not paying an incentive to pay. She asked if the Commissioners are taking furlough days. She questioned the proposed garbage fee and she suggested listing the names of those that have not paid taxes in the newspaper.

Ken Averyt said the problem he has is with those that are not paying their property taxes. He said those on the unpaid list are those that has status in the community and they are part of the click that have money; but are not contributing to the community.

Sammy Howell stated his issue is the increase of taxes. He said when all else fell, increase taxes; but that can't continue. He mentioned the clerks and secretary can work from cubicles and the back taxes need to be collected.

Gudrun Mills said she wanted to motivate people in the community to take part in keeping the County on the straight and narrow. She said we need to be more frugal, sacrifice more, and save more. We need to find out why we are off and over spending. She also said we need to keep the community clean and economize in households as well as in the community.

Ben Mills ask the question does the County get money from Water Light & Bond Commission. The answer was no. Mr. Mills stated Water Light & Bond Commission gives \$2,000,000.00 to the City and they should give the County some of the money. He stated the County should look into that. He said the time has come to consolidate County and City Government and we need to have a tax sale because taxes are priority over everything. He also mentioned how Dewey McGlamry was great Road Superintendent.

Chairman Philip Jay stated that Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein is currently operating the Road Department with the 1998 budget.

Commissioner Scott Downing mentioned he appreciates people being informed and thanked everyone for coming out and getting involved in our community.

Commissioner Kathy Davis thanked the public for coming out and sharing their feelings with the Commissioners. She said the Board respects each one of them and appreciate their concerns.

The meeting was adjourned.

_____ Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Lampkin, County Clerk