

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON MARCH 19, 2013 AT 4:00 PM IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follow:

Philip C. Jay III	Chairman
OD Netter	Vice-Chairman
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Lampkin	County Clerk

Commissioner Scott Downing was absent.

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter showed a video from NACO that explained why counties matter and the services it provides.

2013 Budget

County Manager Frank Feild gave a brief summary of the 2013 revenues and expenditures for the month of February.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter suggested moving from calendar year to fiscal year. He stated he thinks it would be worth spending the money to make the changes to line up with the state.

County Frank Feild also recommended the following 1st quarter budget amendments;

- Increase the Senior Citizen Nutrition budget by \$1546.00 because Southern Georgia Regional Commission provided the additional amount for meals.
- Increase Probate Court 2013 budget from \$120,221 to \$127,875 because of a retirement error in the 2012 Probate Court budget that was discovered by the Auditor.

Vice- Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the \$1,546 increase to the Senior Citizen Nutrition Budget. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the \$7,654 increase to the Probate Judge budget to correct a retirement error in 2012. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Vice-Chairman OD Netter all voting for the motion.

Probate Court Collection Service Agreement

Probate Judge David Hobby is requesting to enter into a Collection Service Agreement with Parkway Asset Recovery to furnish collection services for all court related collections and other debts owed to the Court. He stated that after people have been on probation for a year, their fines are only collectable thru civil court. Most probationers are therefore able to avoid paying fines because there is no mechanism in place for pursuing collections.

After further discussion, Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to postpone this agenda item. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Agency Staffing Analysis Report

Sheriff Bobby McLemore gave the Commissioners an Agency Staffing Analysis report from the Georgia Sheriff Association. The report is based on the activity in the County.

He also gave handouts that explained the reason for the Sheriff Department, Jail, and E911 being over in the salary line item. He stated that he has never added in the leave time that the employees take into his budget. He stated when employees take leave time he has to call in employees to work their shift; therefore he has to pay the leave time to the employee and pay to have their shift covered. He said this causes an estimated \$80,519 increase in his salary budget. Vice-Chairman stated it is best to do amendments as this occurs.

NACO Resolution

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the NACO Resolution supporting Nomination of Honorable James D. Healy to the National Freight Advisory Committee. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Mr. Netter also mentioned there might another resolution concerning Tax Exempt Municipal Bonds. He said he emailed everyone the information from NACO regarding this issue.

EMS Director Mark Shealy asked the Commissioners for an increase on line item Dues & Fees because the EMS licenses renewal is actually \$10,900.00 but only \$10,050.00 was budgeted.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion amend EMS budget and increase the line item Dues & Fees by \$850.00. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Mr. Shealy also reported Medicare has announced sequestration effect on Medicare rates. We will be affected by these cuts. It will most likely cut our revenue by 10 to 15 thousand dollars. We have had a substantial increase in call volume thus far in 2013 and I feel we can make up this cut when paired with other cost saving measures. He stated we will do our best to offset these and hope that congress will intervene as they have in the past but he feels like this time we may be stuck with these cuts.

He also explained that he had purchased a neat scanner and it will save an estimated \$3,500.00 on postage, supplies, fuel, and man hours.

The meeting was adjourned.

Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

Donna R. Lampkin, County Clerk