

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 25, 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
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Volunteer Fire Department Contract

County Attorney Toni Sawyer stated she was contacted on September 13th by Vice-Chairman OD Netter stating Alan Conger had contacted him and he wanted to meet with her because he wanted to make some changes to the contract voted on by the Commissioners and signed by Chairman Philip Jay on September 10, 2013 due to some grammatical errors and other language Mr. Conger wanted changed or deleted from the contract.

The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the changes Mr. Conger made to the contract.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the changes made to the Volunteer Fire Department contract, add new attachment 18 which is the 2004 Homeland Security Grant Program Funding Letter, attachment 19 which is an email from John Irwin of PCC Customers Service, attachment 20 which is an inventory list from Georgia Forestry Commission to the contract, authorize the Chairman to sign all documents, and to send the contract back to the Volunteer Fire Department for approval. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chairman OD Netter, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

2013 Budget Review and Amendments

County Manager Frank Feild gave a comparison of the 2012 and 2013 real property revenue. He stated August 2012 collections were at 13.04% and August 2013 collections are at 14.66%. He also reported LOST collections are lower than expected.

Mr. Feild stated the Ambulance Fees are on track and he thinks EMS will be able to fund itself. He said that is an accomplishment for an EMS Department.

Mr. Feild stated expenditures are at 70.06%. We are in the process of cleaning up some unresolved issues in the EMA Department and the Planning & Zoning Department. He stated the Coroner's budget is over due to the unexpected increase in cases this year. Mr. Feild stated overall the County is in great Shape.

Mr. Feild reported at the August 6th Regular Meeting, the Sheriff requested two road deputy positions be added to his budget for 2013. The Commission approved a budget adjustment of \$24, 541.40. The effective date of hire was to be October 6, 2013. The Sheriff subsequently told the staff to put money in the budget starting September 29th. This is an extra week of pay for each deputy; and totals \$1,366.06 above what the Commission approved. The Sheriff has agreed to absorb the additional cost in his 2013 Budget.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to increase Administrative Services (Line 1500) by \$3,864.12 to cover the payroll for the Coordinator of the Development Authority of Ben Hill County and decrease debt service (Line 8000) by the same amount. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to transfer \$7,000 from Debt Service (Line 8000) to 5 departments to offset the cost of personnel salary adjustments. Vice-Chairman OD Netter seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

EMS Director Mark Shealey asked the Commissioners when a budget amendment will be approved for the \$29,962.00 that was approved at the July 9th meeting.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the \$29,962.00 budget amendment for the EMS day truck. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Scott Downing, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

The meeting was adjourned.

Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

Donna R. Prather, County Clerk