

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON JUNE 3, 2014 AT 6:00 PM IN THE  
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follow:

Philip Jay	Chairman
OD Netter	Vice-Chairman
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

**Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Land Bank**

No public present.

County Manager Frank Feild reported the Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Land Bank location will be housed in the former Election's Officer in the Courthouse Annex as part of the Ben Hill County Strike Force.

This is Special Purpose Entity, created by local law, designed to return stranded properties to the tax rolls. It will consist of a five member board with three year staggered terms. Two members are appointed by the City, two members are appointed by the County, and the fifth member will be appointed jointly. Both city and County will be limited to one elected official. The fifth member could possibly be a School staff member, a not-for-profit representative, a business representative, or an individual citizen. A school representative will be invited to participate in all Board meetings in an ex-officio capacity.

Initially, the duties of the Executive Director will be divided between a City staff member and a County staff member; both formally appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Board. The City staff member will perform the duties of Treasurer; the County staff member will perform the duties of Secretary and Registered Agent. An Executive Director may be appointed by the Board at any time and assume the full responsibility of that office.

The Land bank can acquire real property by the following ways; extinguish City and County real property tax liens on a case-by-case basis; initiate Quiet Title Actions; Execute legal documents relating to real property; hold and manage real property; Initiate Civil Action to protect land bank real property; transfer interests in real property; and dispose of proceeds in accordance with the Land Bank Act. The School Board can also choose to extinguish its real property tax liens in conjunction with a Land Bank action.

The City and County agreement provides for the Land bank to receive 75% of the City & County taxes collected on real property that the Land Bank returns to the tax roll for a period of five years. This enables the Land bank to have a modest revenue stream to operate and maintain other properties.

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Vice Chairman OD Netter seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, 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