

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON AUGUST 27, 2014 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 Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner Scott Downing was absent.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter called the meeting to order.

Queensland Well/Mr. Larry Stewart

Mr. Stewart had previously approached asked the Commissioners to connect his rental property to the original Queensland well. He stated he would repay the County by making payments.

County Manager Frank Field stated he and Jason Miller had prepared a quote in the amount of \$16,400.00. This would include the water line running along the county right-of-way in the ditch on the north side of Lonnie Brown Drive and obtaining a right-of-way to run water lines across the yards of 3 other property owners. Mr. Field stated this would not be reasonable.

Chairman Philip Jay entered the meeting at 4:20 pm. Vice-Chairman OD Netter turned the meeting over to the Chairman.

After further discussion, Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to lease the original Queensland well to Mr. Larry Stewart. Commissioner Daniel Calloway seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to amend the previous motion by adding the County will lease Mr. Stewart the original Queensland well for \$1.00 a year for 25 years. 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.

Zoning Application/Terry Rodriguez

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to postpone this agenda item until the next Regular Monthly Meeting. 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.

Land Bank

County Manager Frank Field stated there is one word in the Joint Land Bank Agreement that needs to be changed for clarity. In Article IV, Board, the 4th sentence should be changed to substitute the word **OR** for the word **AND**; making it read “parties **OR** may be”. This change is necessary to broaden the definition of appointments to the board, because Cam Jordan does not live in City of Fitzgerald and would therefore not be eligible for appointment by the City. This is the only change recommended after an intense legal review; so I think we did a good job in putting the agreement together. Mr. Feild recommends the Commission approve making this word substitution.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the changes to the Joint Land bank Agreement. 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.

RLF Loan/Ronald Clemons

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve Ronald Clemons Revolving Loan Fund loan in the amount of \$65,000.00. 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.

2014 Budget Review

County Manager Frank Field gave a brief update on the revenues and expenditures as of July 31, 2014. He stated there is some overage with the Tax Assessor, Sheriff Department, and the Coroner.

Budget Request

Mr. Feild reported the cost of new ambulances will increase by about \$60,000 beginning on January 1st due to new regulations on their construction. EMS Departments all over the country have already realized this, and the stampede has begun to buy new ambulances before the end of the year. Mr. Feild stated the EMS needs to order a new ambulance this week.

This will allow us to replace our highest-mileage ambulance in late 2014 or early 2015. Then all of our ambulances can be retrofitted multiple times; saving us over \$120,000 each time we do it. He stated he have a current bid for a 2014/2015 Chevrolet 4500 Type III Traumahawk Ambulance by AEV with Stryker Power Cot and Stryker6252 Stair Chair for \$145,521.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the purchase of a new ambulance. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion. After further discussion, Vice-Chairman OD Netter amended the motion by adding ordering the ambulance immediately. 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.

The meeting was adjourned.

Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

Donna R. Prather, County Clerk