

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 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.

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Communication Study

County Manager Frank Feild introduced Mr. Todd Mechler, a contractor with TUSA Consulting Services out of Tallahassee Florida that conducted the Communication Study.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to allow anyone on the E911 Advisory Board to ask Todd Mechler questions regarding the Communication Study. 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.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to relax the rules on addressing the Chairman, Commissioners, and the public. 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. Mechler presented his findings after completing the Communication Study. He recommended purchasing radios for the Sheriff and perform the following short term options as soon as possible:

- 1) Confirm radio programming
- 2) Confirm licensing/site ERP
- 3) Confirm amplifier configuration
- 4) Perform IM study
- 5) Perform noise floor measurements
- 6) Perform line sweeps

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to purchase the recommended radios for the Sheriff Department, complete the short term options listed, and drop the Road Department tower and relocate it. 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 vs. Actual

County Manager Frank Feild gave a brief summary of the 2014 budget revenues and expenditures as of January 31, 2014. Mr. Field stated he thinks we are in good shape starting out. He mentioned letters have been mailed to all 911 surcharge companies requesting address changes to have all checks sent to the Commissioner's Office.

Request for Funds

Superior Court Judges

Mr. Frank Feild reported the Superior Court Judges is requesting an increase in their supplement from \$12,000 to \$20,000 with Ben Hill, Crisp, Dooly, and Wilcox all sharing in the cost of the increase.

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Superior Court Judges increase in the amount of \$6,487.20 and increase Real Property line item by \$6,487.20. Vice-Chairman OD Netter seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Magistrate Court

Chief Magistrate Judge Romelle made a request hire a part-time employee to help operate his office because he only has two clerks at this present time. He stated when one of them is absent it cripples his office.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the part-time employee. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion. After further discussion, Vice-Chairman OD Netter withdrew the motion.

Board of Elections

Election's Supervisor Cindi Dunlap addressed the Commissioners with concerns for her budget and raises for her office. She presented several spreadsheets estimating the amount of money she will need to operate during this election year.

After further discussion, County Manager Frank Field recommended recalculating Election's budget and allow Cindi time to address the increase with the Board of Election.

Request for Adjustments

County Manager Frank Feild stated an error was discovered in the Debt Service Line 8000 of the approved budget. The total needs to be increased from \$5,988 to \$47,012 in order to cover the 2014 TAN Note. To balance this, we have increased Real Property Revenues (Line 31.1000) by \$47,012. The Real Property revenue number was very conservative, and there should be no problem in meeting these revenue projections.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the budget amendment to Debt Services and Real Property. 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