

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 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
Scott Downing	Commissioner
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Chairman Philip Jay called the meeting to order.

### **2005 SPLOST Projects**

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to bid out the designs from Glenn Gregory; if the bid is not acceptable, Frank Feild, Cam Jordan, Jason Miller, and Joe Parrish can rebid the plans again. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

### **Property Transfer**

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the quitclaim transfer of the property at 110 Sherman St. to the City as part of this exchange of properties and services; and authorize the Chairman to sign the documents. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

### **2014 Budget**

County Manager Frank Field reported we budgeted \$ 8,935,944 in collections. We believe we have done very well on revenues in 2014. As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, we should be at 75% collections budgeted vs actual. There are 20 line items that are currently over 75% in collections; and we are at 79.8% total collections when we remove real property and insurance premium tax. We are optimistic about having a positive fund balance at the end of the year.

Mr. Field also reported we budgeted \$ 8,813,173 in expenditures. This has increased to \$ 9,037,717 with budget adjustments made during the year. We were at 82.49% as of September 30<sup>th</sup>; which is about 7.49% over budget.

However, if we continue to hold down expenses wherever we can, there should be no problem in balancing the budget by the end of the year.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve a budget amendment for EMA in the amount of \$18,000.00. Commissioner Scott Downing seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

### **2015 Budget**

County Manager Frank Field gave the Commissioners a power point presentation that outlined the budget strategy for 2015. He suggested using the 2014 budget as a baseline with the single exception of the Elections Department, since 2015 is not an election year. He stated some adjustments must be made to individual budgets; and we will be discussing them. We recommend allowing any Constitutional Officer or Department head that is uncomfortable with their proposed 2015 Budget to present their case before a final decision is made. We propose scheduling a Public Hearing to present the Budget during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of November; with adoption prior to Thanksgiving.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to add Board of Elections to the agenda. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

### **Board of Elections**

Election's Supervisor Cindi Dunlap complained that she has a noise issue in the Elections Building. She also stated a State Investigator visited her office today from the Secretary of State Office as a routine visit and she was written up for the noise problem. She stated she came before the Commissioners asking for any ideas to help resolve the issue.

The meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_ Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk