

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON DECEMBER 31, 2015 AT 2:00 PM IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follow:

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

2016 Budget

County Manager Frank Field reported the proposed 2016 County budget was posted on the County website at www.benhillcounty.com on December 21st, and has been available for public review in the lobby of the County Commission Office. Notice of the availability of the proposed budget was published in The Herald-Leader on December 23rd; along with the Notice of the Public Hearing and Special Called Meeting.

Georgia Law requires County Commissions to adopt balance budgets. This means what we spend cannot exceed what we collect.

Part of the County Manager's job is to prepare and present a balanced budget to the Commission for its review and approval. However, before the Commission adopts a budget, it must insure the public has an opportunity to review and comment on it. That is the purpose of tonight's public hearing.

We estimate the County will collect \$10,090,223 in revenues during 2016. The Expenditures Budget is therefore capped at \$10,090,223; and we have a balanced budget. The Joint Services Budgets were negotiated separately with the City. They include the Library, the Grand Theater and Conference Center, the Humane Society, Animal Control, Code Enforcement, the Airport, and Recreation Services.

The meeting was adjourned.

Public comments and questions were heard from Allen Conger and Jim Casper. The Commissioners discussed other opportunities to increase revenues and addressed the public comments.

Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

Donna R. Prather, County Clerk