

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON JANUARY 26, 2015 AT 3:00 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
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner Bennie Calloway was absent.

Chairman Philip Jay called the meeting to order.

**Public Defender**

Circuit Public Defender Tracy Mullis of the Cordele Judicial Circuit stated the objective of the Public Defender's Office is to provide effective and quality service to their clients; but they need adequate and qualified attorneys to operate the office efficiently. She is asking the counties in the circuit to fund three personnel positions.

The Commissioners did not make a decision; but stated they would continue to discuss the request.

**State of the County/Chairman Philip Jay**

Chairman Philip Jay submitted the 2015 State of Ben Hill County Address.

**2014 Budget Review**

County Manager Frank Field gave a brief overview for the expenditures and revenues as of December 31, 2014.

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to discuss the Kubota Lease Agreement at this time in the meeting. Commissioner Daniel Cowan second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

**Kubota Lease Agreement**

Commission Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Kubota Lease Purchase agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign it. Vice-Chairman OD Netter seconded the motion; which passed with Commission Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chairman OD Netter, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

**2015 Budget**

*Supplements*

County Manager Frank Field discussed the potential supplements that the Constitutional Officers and Elected Official could have if voted for by the Commissioners. He stated the only person in the County receiving a \$200 per month local supplement is Lisa McCard, the Associate Magistrate. Prior to his departure, Romelle Green also drew a \$200 per month local supplement.

Mr. Feild stated Probate Judge David Hobby budgeted for and requested a pay increase for 2015. This increase would be slightly less than a \$200 per month local supplement. I discussed this with him; telling him this must be a Commission decision, and I promised to submit his request during this meeting.

Mr. Feild recommendation is if the Commission wants to authorize local supplements, they are awarded to all eligible officials or none at all.

The Commissioners did not take any action at this time.

#### *Employees Supplement*

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to award supplements for Pamela Turner, Tim Kegebein, Jason Miller, and Donna Prather because they made a major impact on our operations and financial performance. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Vice-Chairman OD Netter all voted for the motion.

#### *Budget Adjustments*

Vice-Chairman OD Netter made a motion to approve the budget amendment to increase the Superior Court Judges salary line item by \$6,488; increase Debt Services principal debt services line item by \$13,000; and add \$2,804 to Title Ad Valorem Revenues and \$2,804 to Mobile Home Taxes revenue to balance the 2015 budget at \$9,201,676. Commissioner Daniel Cowan second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman OD Netter, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Scott Downing all voting for the motion.

#### **Special Revenue Fund Budget**

Commissioner Scott Downing made a motion to approve the 2015 Special Investigation, Jail Fund, Drug Abuse & Education Fund, Supplemental Juvenile Fund, E911 Fund, Development Authority of Ben Hill County, Sheriff Special Fund Budgets. Commissioner Daniel Cowan second the motion; which passed with Commissioner Scott Downing, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Vice-Chairman OD Netter all voting for the motion.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Philip C. Jay III, Chairman

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Donna R. Prather, County Clerk