

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON DECEMBER 6, 2016 AT 6:30 PM IN THE  
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Philip C. Jay III	Chairman
Daniel Cowan	Vice-Chairman
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
John Mooney	Commissioner
Hope Harmon	Commissioner
Frank Feild	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

**Call to Order**

Chairman Philip Jay III called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bennie Calloway gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Amendments To The Rules Of Order**

No action was taken

**Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes**

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, and Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

**Public Comments: NONE**

**Acceptance of Prior Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Special Called Meeting Minutes held on November 02, 2016. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Hope Harmon, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes held on November 02, 2016. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Hope Harmon, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes held on November 08, 2016. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Hope Harmon, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes held on November 21, 2016. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Hope Harmon, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

**Constitutional Officer: NONE**

**Department Head Reports: NONE**

**County Board Reports:**

4H Agent Jeri Gelliland gave an update on all the activity for Ag. Extension and 4-H.

**County Manager's Report:**

The Solid Waste collection sites will close at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 24th and reopen on Monday morning, December 26<sup>th</sup> due to the Christmas holiday.

**Annexation Request: NONE**

**Rezoning Application: NONE**

**Alcohol Application: NONE**

**Consent Items**

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant and authorize the Chairman to sign all documents; approve the Road Department budget amendment by increasing revenue line item 33.4115 by \$30,000 and increasing expenditure line item 4200-54.1500 by \$30,000; transfer the Reaves Walker Property to the Development Authority of Ben Hill County and to endorse the ongoing transfer through the Revolving Loan Fund to sell the land and building to Derek Wilson for \$65,000 and return the money back to the Revolving Loan Fund. Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan seconded the motion. Commissioner John Mooney called for discussion.

After further discussion, Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to amend the previous motion to approve the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant and authorize the Chairman to sign all documents; to approve the budget amendment by increasing revenue line item 33.4115 by \$30,000 and increasing expenditure line item 4200-54.1500 by \$30,000; to transfer ownership of the Reaves Walker Property (118 Harper Drive) from Ben Hill County to the Development Authority of Ben Hill County and authorize the Chairman to sign all documents. Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Hope Harmon, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

***1. Hazard Mitigation Assistance Award***

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency has awarded Ben Hill County a grant to update our Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; which expires on June 16, 2019. This grant involves \$15,000 in Federal funds and a \$5,000 local match. We plan to contract with the RDC to help us with the project, and need to have it completed before December 16th, 2018.

## **2. Budget Amendment/LMIG Striping Project**

The County has received payment from DOT for the road striping project. This requires increasing revenue line 33.4115 (Road Department Grant I LMIG) by \$30,000 and increasing expenditures line 4200-54.1500 (LMIG Road Project) by \$30,000.

## **3. Reaves Walker Property Transfer**

The Reaves Walker property, located at 118 Harper Drive in Fitzgerald, was transferred from the Ben Hill Company to Ben Hill County on April 21, 2013 during settlement of a Ben Hill County Revolving Loan Fund debt. On May 8, 2012, the Commission declared this property, and all the property located thereon, as surplus by Resolution 12-4, and directed the County Manager to lease, sell or otherwise dispose of said property. The debt was settled by selling the equipment, and the excess funds were deposited in the County General Fund. On June 26, 2013, the Commission voted to transfer this property and the Brown Property to the Development Authority of Ben Hill County for \$45,000 to dispose of as excess properties. Funds have not been transferred, and the titles remain in Ben Hill County's name. The Revolving Loan Fund has subsequently negotiated a sale of the Reaves Walker Property as part of a business loan in the amount of \$65,000. The purpose of this agenda item is to clarify the ownership chain on this property, to affirm the actions that have been taken, and to move forward with transfer of the property with a deed to secure debt.

### **Old Business: NONE**

### **New Business:**

#### ***Leroy Dunnom/Presentation***

This agenda item was postponed.

#### ***South Georgia Regional Commission Board/Nominations***

Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan nominated Jason Dunn.

This agenda item will be added back to next month agenda for more nominations.

### **Agenda Changes and/or add ons: NONE**

### **Legislative Report: NONE**

### **Commissioner's Remarks:**

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to add Chairman Philip Jay written remarks to the record as written. Commissioner Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Vice-Chairman Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

### **Meeting adjourned**

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

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