

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON NOVEMBER 05, 2019 AT 6:00 PM IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Steve Taylor	Chairman
Hope Harmon	Vice-Chair
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
John Mooney	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Call to Order

Chairman Steve Taylor called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

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

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting held on October 08, 2019. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Special Called Meeting held on October 31, 2019. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Department Head Reports: NONE

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report: NONE

Annexation Request:

Chairman Steve Taylor stated the City of Fitzgerald sent a notification for annexation for property located at 102 Sadie Street. The property will be rezoned from General Business (GB) County to General Business (GB) City.

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business:

Rodeo/Special Exception

Chairman Steve Taylor stated we are waiting for legal counsel to prepare an ordinance for special events county wide before acting on this agenda item.

New Business:

2021 5311 Transit Application

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to authorize RMS to apply for an FTA Section 5311 grant to aid in the operation of the Ben Hill County Transit Program for FY 2021 on behalf of Ben Hill County. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Building Purchase 602 S. Grant Street/Ratify

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to ratify the purchase of the building located at 602 S. Grant Street. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to adopt the amended Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner John Mooney, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Salary Study

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to adopt Plan B Modified of the Salary Study. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Sale of Mobley Bluff Property Resolution

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the resolution to advertise for sealed bids for the sale of surplus real property Mobley Bluff. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Mobley Bluff Well Resolution

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the resolution to transfer Mobley Bluff Well to the property owners of Mobley Bluff. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Election's Building/ 115 West Pine Street

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the resolution to advertise for sealed bids for the sale of surplus real property Board of Elections building located at 115 West Pine Street. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Christmas Bonus

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

Fitzgerald Ben Hill Planning & Zoning Commission Appointment

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to appoint Warren Elder to the Fitzgerald Ben Hill Planning & Zoning Commission Board to complete John Bishop term. Commissioner Daniel Cowan second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Agenda Changes and/or add on: NONE

Legislative Report:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon reported on Wednesday, October 30th, she, Commissioner Calloway, and County Manager Mike Dinnerman attended the ACCG 11th District Meeting. Executive Director Dave Wills highlighted the 2020 Census, Cybersecurity, and other legislative priorities. The legislative team was there to answer questions and talked more about some of the issues they think are going to be hot topics this upcoming session. ACCG is asking the General Assembly to require online platforms that host third-party sellers like Amazon, Ebay, to collect and remit the applicable sales taxes.

There is also a joint task force taking a closer look at Service Delivery Strategy and LOST to help improve the working relationship with cities and counties, ensure one can't hold the other hostage in sense, and clarifying the definition of the laws on both.

Clint Muller also talked to county officials about the importance of home rule and having a relationship with our local legislators. All commissioners were encouraged to reach out to their legislators to talk about issues pertaining to our area locally.

Vice-Chair Harmon stated she put a folder in everyone box with all the information that was given at the meeting.

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session

Commissioner's Remarks:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon informed everyone she and Sheriff Lee Cone is hosting a free women's self defense and situational awareness training November 14, 2019 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Matthew's World Class Karate building located on 208 N. Main Street.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon informed everyone she, Sheriff Lee Cone, and Chief Bill Smallwood is hosting a neighborhood watch information meeting December 2, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the Ben Hill County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Steve Taylor thanked Vice-Chair Hope Harmon for all her efforts regarding the self-defense class and neighborhood watch. He also thanked all the Commissioners for all they do and stated he is happy to work with them.

Meeting adjourned

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk