

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON MAY 07, 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
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner John Mooney was absent.

Call to Order

Chairman called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

Chairman Steve Taylor stated Computer Purchase for the Sheriff Office needs to be added to the agenda under new business.

Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the agenda and amendment to add agenda item Computer Purchase for the Sheriff Office under new business. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon and Commissioner Daniel Cowan both voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting held on April 2, 2019. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon and Commissioner Daniel Cowan both voting for the motion.

Constitutional Officer:

Chairman Steve Taylor reported on behalf of Tax Commissioner Barry Foster in his absence. The Tax Commissioner's office will be closed May 15th thru May 17th for training, May 23rd, May 24th, and May 28th for the new system upgrade, and May 27th for Memorial Day.

Department Head Reports:

Road Superintendent Tim Kegebein reported Sturgeon Creek Road is closed due to repairs. The Road Department is also working on Otter Creek Road. Mr. Kegebein asked the Commissioners if they receive calls from the public to let them know they are asking for patience and they are working as quickly as they can.

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report:

Mr. Dinnerman stated the county is financially sound and haven't had to borrow any TAN. He also reflected on where we were last year this time regarding finances. Mr. Dinnerman stated, by this time last year, we had borrowed 1.5 million in TAN.

Mr. Dinnerman stated the jail had a cyber-attack by virus. The ransom is \$240,000 to release the data. The GBI, FBI, and Secret Service has been contacted

Mr. Dinnerman stated E911 has moved to its permanent location. There are a few glitches that are being worked on; but the project is 99% completed.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway entered the meeting.

Annexation Request:

The City of Fitzgerald sent notification regarding annexation of .43 acres located at 107 Northwood Drive and the public road right away adjacent.

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business:

Management Authority for E911 Resolution

Chairman Steve Taylor stated the purpose of the resolution is to transfer management of E911 services from the Sheriff to the Board of Commissioners.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to adopt the Management Authority for E911 Resolution. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

New Business:

Tax Anticipation Note Resolution

Chairman Steve Taylor stated the purpose of the resolution so the bank can complete the Tax Anticipation Note process.

Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon made a motion to adopt the 2019 Tax Anticipation Note Resolution in the principle amount of \$4,000,000 at a 4.50% fixed interest rate to be drawn as needed with Community Bank and Colony Bank Corp. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner Bennie Calloway all voting for the motion.

Fitzgerald Utilities Liaison Meeting Regarding Natural Gas Emergencies

Chairman Steve Taylor stated we received a booklet from Fitzgerald utilities regarding public awareness meeting for natural gas emergencies.

Computer Upgrade/ Sheriff Department

County Manager Michael Dinnerman stated the Sheriff Department needs new computers to be compatible for the new server. The Sheriff Department has applied for a grant with USDA to purchase 18 new computers. If the grant is approved, the Sheriff Department would get those 18 computers and the newly purchased computers would be given to other departments because the grant will not allow for pre-purchasing and reimbursement.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to purchase 30 computers at an estimated cost of \$1,000 per computer from SPLOST funds for the Sheriff Department. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Vice-Chair Hope Harmon all voting for the motion.

Agenda Changes and/or add on:

Legislative Report:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon reported she attended the ACCG Annual Conference in Savannah. Governor Brian Kemp was present and signed several bills. The ACCG Policy Committee will meet in Thomasville for the southern counties. The Probate Judge and Magistrate Judge positions being changed to non-partisan bill has been approved; but not signed as of yet.

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session

Commissioner's Remarks:

Commissioner Bennie Calloway stated last year this time he was talking with county employee Michael Goodman regarding not been able to get parts on behalf of the county due to nonpayment to vendors. Mr. Calloway stated we have come a long ways.

Chairman Steve Taylor stated the Legislative luncheon meeting will be held May 8, 2019 at 1:00 pm at Irwin EMC with the Secretary of State.

Meeting adjourned

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk