

THE MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON JULY 21, 2021 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE  
BEN HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Those present for the meeting were as follow:

Steve Taylor	Chairman
Hope Harmon	Vice-Chair
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna R. Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner Bennie Calloway and Commissioner John Mooney was absent.

Chairman Steve Taylor called the meeting.

**ARP FUNDS**

County Manager Michael Dinnerman reported we received \$1,621,889.50 in American Rescue Plan Funds (ARP). In 12 months, we will receive the other half for a total of \$3,243,779.00. Mr. Dinnerman said his plan is to get as much of the funds as possible and work it back into the general fund. These funds have restricted use.

He recommended giving full-time employees \$1,000 and part-time employees \$500 in November to help them through the holidays. The estimated cost is \$100,000.

The Commissioners asked questions and discussed the recommendation.

**WAGES**

County Manager Michael Dinnerman noted the wage increase through out the nation. He stated according to the Salary Study prepared by Condrey and Associates, we are 10% behind the market. Mr. Dinnerman stated he believes we need to take care of our employees.

Mr. Dinnerman proposed using the ARP Funds to give the employees a 10% raise beginning January 2022 along with adjusting the Jailors and E911 Dispatchers salaries. He provided a chart that explained an increase and ow it will be funded for the next six (6) years. He also recommended using the chart, that was provided by Condrey and Associates, to keep salaries equitable.

The Commissioners asked questions and discussed the recommendation.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Steve Taylor, Chairman

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Donna R. Prather, County Clerk