

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON APRIL 04, 2023 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
John Mooney	Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna R. 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, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes that was held on March 07, 2023. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to suspend the Regular Monthly Meeting to enter a Public Hearing to discuss a Special Event Permit and a Special Exception. Commissioner Daniel Cowan second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Public Hearing

Special Event Permit Application/Hal Wiley

County Manager Michael Dinnerman stated Hal Wiley host an annual rodeo at Paulk Park for the community and donate all the proceeds to local law enforcement. Mr. Wiley changed the original date of the rodeo because of complaints that it was on Mother's Day weekend. In the process of changing the date, the promoter wanted more money. Mr. Wiley decided to go back to his original plan; but Paulk Park was rented out to someone else.

The Special Event Permit request is so Mr. Wiley can host the rodeo on his farm located at

221 Gettysburg Road. Mr. Dinnerman stated everything is in place for this event to be held on Mr. Wiley farm.

There were no public comments.

Special Exception/James Ussery

Building & Zoning Administrator Jacob Hughes stated that James Ussery would like to open a gun smith business on his grandmother's property located at 150 Lulaville Road. This property is zoned general farming. All the adjacent property owners have been contacted and the request was posted on the property..

There were no public comments.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to close the Public Hearing to return to the Regular Monthly Meeting. Commissioner John Mooney second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Appointments: NONE

Constitutional Officer:

Tax Commissioner Barry Foster gave an update on the property sale. He sold 21 out of 29 properties. The first Tuesday in May is the mobile sale. Also, they finally have the new printers and computers installed.

Department Head Reports: NONE

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report:

County Manager Michael Dinnerman reported:

- He met with Ameripro Ambulance Service regarding concerns they are not fully staffed. They discussed pay and control at the local level.
- He is given them an opportunity to fix the issues.
- They are continuing to work on Ed Ward Road. They are working with Georgia Power to get an encroachment easement.
- He is also getting an estimate to move one of the poles and the time it will take to move it instead of changing the road plans.

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

Tax Levy Resolution

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Tax Levy Resolution which provides for the levy and collection of an annual ad valorem tax to provide funds for the payment of the principal of and interest on \$1,990,000 in aggregate principal amount of the Ben Hill School District general obligation bonds, series 2023. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Special Permit Application Fee Waiver/Hal Wiley

County Manager asked the Commissioners to waive the \$25 application fee and \$100 special event fee because Mr. Wiley donate all the proceeds to local law enforcement and approve the application.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to waive the \$25 application fee and \$100 special event fee and approve the special event application. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Special Exception/James Ussery

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Special Exception on property located on 150 Lulaville Road for a gun smith shop. Commissioner John Mooney second the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

2023 CDBG Engineer Scoring/Hofstadter & Associates

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon motion to choose Hofstader & Associates as 2023 CDBG Project Engineer. Commissioner John Mooney seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

2023 CDBG Potential Conflict of Interest Discussion

The County Commission discussed applying for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant funding for proposed street paving, flood, and drainage improvements on Sturgeon Creek Road, Plantation Road, and a portion of Flint Road.

It was noted in the discussion that none of the Commissioners resides in the target area where improvements are scheduled to take place and there are no conflict of interest.

2023 CDBG Application Submittal Resolution

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon motion to approve the Resolution to submit an application to obtain FY 2023 CDBG Funds for street paving, flood, and drainage improvements on Sturgeon Creek Road, Plantation Road, and a portion of Flint Road. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Agenda Changes and/or add on:

Legislative Report: NONE

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session/Legal

Commissioner's Remarks: NONE

Meeting adjourned.

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk