

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON **September 2nd, 2025, AT 6:00 PM** IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING ROOM LOCATED
AT 321 DEWEY MCGLARMRY ROAD.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Hal Wiley	Chairman
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
John Mooney	Commissioner
Hampton Raulerson	County Manager
Pamela D. Turner	County Clerk

Call to Order

Chairman Hal Wiley called the meeting to order

Chairman Hal Wiley gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Chairman Hal, all voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes that was held on August 5th, 2025, and Special Called Meeting minutes held on August 14th, 2025. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Vice- Chair Hope Harmon enters the meeting.

Constitutional Officer: None

Department Head Reports:

County Board Reports:

Connie Graham -Legacy Behavioral Health Community Service Board reports as follows:

- There is a presence of Mental Health issues within our community.
- Many residents struggle to access timely, affordable, and culturally competent mental health care.
- Services are frequently fragmented, making it difficult for individuals and families to navigate the system.
- Mental Health touches every facet of our lives from relationships, school performance, workforce, public safety and overall quality of life.

- Early prevention is critical. Schools are on the frontlines, and teachers and staff need support to identify and respond to students' needs.
- By establishing a Mental Health Collaborative Ben Hill County can lead the way in fostering a healthier, stronger, and more resilient community.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway enters the meeting.

County Manager's Report:

County Manager Hampton Raulerson reported the following:

- Joshlyn Road dumpsite improvements should be finished middle of next week, we have expanded out, and there will be a drive through to keep the traffic off roadway.
- E911 completed some upgrades to increase its redundancy and resilience during inclement weather.
- Installed transfer switch, which fixed the issued not being powered by the generator at the Jail.
- Installed a Starlink system, should all the land line and fibers fail we have a backup to keep the communication going.

Annexation Request/ Notification: NONE

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

Emergency Shelter Intergovernmental Agreement

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Ben Hill County Board Of Commissioners and Ben Hill County School District. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion, which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Resolution Authorizing The Filing of An Application with Department of Transportation

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing The Filing of An Application with Department of Transportation. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion, which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Bennie Calloway and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Ratify Encroachment Agreement

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Encroachment Agreement with Southern Natural Gas Company for Ed Ward Road. 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 Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Resolution Declaring County Property As Surplus & Authorizing The Disposal of Said Property
Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Resolution Declaring County Property as Surplus & Authorizing The Disposal of Said Property. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion, which passed with, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner John Mooney Commissioner Bennie Calloway and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Legislative Report:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon reports as follows:

- Gave out information to the Commissioners about the Library summer activities.
- Hampton and I went to ACCG Policy meeting in Moultrie and in Eatonton, everyone across the State seems to be having issues with the Community Service Board, not providing the level of service for the amount of money they are getting.
- One of the priorities is to go to DBHDD to urge them to look at the way you are providing services.
- We talk about EMS, making sure we are getting the funding that we need.
- Truck weight limit is another big thing, they want to increase the truck weight limit on the interstate, next they would want to increase the weight on County roads.
- NextGen911 is also a big topic, trying to get funding for it, right now the Metro Counties have it.

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session: NONE

**Commissioner's Remarks:
Meeting adjourned.**

_____ Hal Wiley, Chairman

_____ Pamela D. Turner, County Clerk