

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON **November 4th, AT 6:00 PM** IN THE
BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSISONER MEETING ROOM LOCATED
AT 321 DEWEY MCGLARMRY ROAD.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Hal Wiley	Chairman
Hope Harmon	Vice-Chair
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Bennie Calloway	Commissioner
Hampton Raulerson	County Manager
Deanna Griffin	Acting County Clerk

Call to Order

Chairman Hal Wiley called the meeting to order

Commissioner Bennie Calloway gave the invocation.

Commissioner John Mooney entered the meeting

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the agenda. 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.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes that was held on October 7th, 2025. Vice-Chair Hope seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting for the motion.

Constitutional Officer: None

Department Head Reports: None

County Board Reports: None

County Manager's Report: None

Annexation Request/ Notification: None

Alcohol Application: None

Appointments: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Probation Service Agreement/Magistrate Court

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Judicial Alternatives of Georgia Probation Services Agreement with Ben Hill County consent with Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting on the motion.

Probation Service Agreement/Probate Court

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the Judicial Alternatives of Georgia Probation Services Agreement with Ben Hill County consent with Probate Court of Ben Hill County. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting on the motion.

IGA Between Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners and Fitzgerald Ben Hil County Regional Solid Waste Authority

Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the IGA Between Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners and Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Regional Solid Waste Authority 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 on the motion.

MOU Between Ben Hill County and Fire House Subs Public Safety Foundation

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the MOU Between Ben Hill County and Fire House Subs Public Safety Foundation. 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 on the motion.

Yancey Quote for Motor Grader

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the quote from Yancey for a 2025 Motor Grader model 140-C93 for the Road Department. 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 on the motion.

Resolution Declaring County Property as Surplus and Authorizing The Disposal of Said Property

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Resolution Declaring County Property as Surplus and 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 on the motion.

Quit Claim Deed Between Ben Hill County and Ben Hill-Irwin Joint Development Authority

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Quit Claim Deed Between Ben Hill County and Ben Hill Irwin Development Authority to transfer a small amount of land for driveway at Wiregrass Technical College for a driving range. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner John Mooney, and Chairman Hal Wiley all voting on the motion.

Legislative Report:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon reported as follows from ACCG:

- Be on the lookout for Election Changes next year
- Not trusting the QR Codes
- 911 upgrades, the State will help pay if we are pushed for upgrades

Public Comments:

Robbie Ash 267 Nora Morris Road, Fitzgerald Georgia, asked the Board by a personal petition to deny any application for a permit to place another Tower on the site where one was recently demolished on his property. The agreement is solely between me and the Tower Company; I have lived with Tower for 30 years. I offered to help the Tower Company to find another suitable location. Robbie Ash thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to speak and to trust in their good judgment.

Larry Carelock 1319 River Road, Fitzgerald Georgia, wants to know what is going on about the chickens, owners need more information. Just concerned for people that own chickens in the County, they use them for eggs and meat. I am here to see what are y'all going to do with the chicken situation in the County of Ben Hill. I don't live in the City, do I need to change my resident, do I need to change my zoning, I live ten miles out in the Country.

Ashley Praine 4008 Danube Circle Valdosta Georgia, Community Partnership Coordinator for Behavioral Health we are your local Community Service Board, we provide services for Mental Health, Substance Use and Intellectual Development Disability for those in the Community with limited income. Right now, we have outpatient clinics in Lyons, Cook and Tift County. So, many of our members of your Community that we serve it's hard for them to get to those locations. So, we are very excited to let you know we have a mobile clinic. The mobile clinic will be coming here; we are just looking for location to park during the day. We will provide free hygiene products, therapy sessions and nursing assessments.

Executive Session: NONE

Commissioner's Remarks:

Vice-Chair discussed the mobile clinic

Chairman Hal Wiley spoke that the Commissioner have been speaking with Mr. Ash about the Tower and they are on top of the situation.

Chairman Wiley spoke that we started getting questions about having chickens in the residential area of the County. This does not affect general farming zone areas. The City has an ordinance that allows City residents to have chickens, the County did not. So, when Jake the Zoning Director seen we were getting a lot of inquiries about this, Jake suggested allowing County residents to have chickens. This was a proactive move not reactive. The Planning and Zoning Board agreed to make it equal, to adopt the same thing as the City. This is a proactive move so that it would be fair for everyone.

Meeting adjourned.

_____ Hal Wiley, Chairman

_____ Deanna Griffin, Acting County Clerk