

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 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
John Mooney	Commissioner
Daniel Cowan	Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner Bennie Calloway was absent.

Call to Order

Chairman Steve Taylor called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

v

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting held on August 06, 2019. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to close the Regular Monthly Meeting and enter the Public Hearing with the right to return to the Regular Monthly Meeting. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Public Hearing

❖ Rodeo/Special Exception

County Manager Michael Dinnerman reported Heriberto Serrano applied for a Special Exception on 9.71 acres for a Rodeo. The property is located at 717 Lower Rebecca Road. The ad for the Public Hearing was placed in the legal organ in a timely manner, the Special Exception sign was placed on the property, certified letters were mailed to adjoining land owners, the Public Hearing was posted, and the Planning Board recommends approval.

Public Comments

Heriberto Serrano, 157 Van Demon, explained to the Commissioners his plan is to have a Rodeo once a month. The time of operation would be 1:00 pm until 12:00 am. The Commissioners asked Mr. Serrano questions regarding bathroom facilities, lighting, parking, and fencing.

Mr. Serrano answered he would be using porta potties for bathrooms, temporary lighting, fencing is already in place because the land has nine bulls on it, and enough parking for an estimated 1000 people.

Lynn Guined, 299 Easter Lily Road, stated she lives about a mile and a half away from 717 Lower Rebecca Road is very concerned with the sale of alcohol, traffic, parking, fencing, and the neighbor next door. Ms. Guined stated she live in the County for a reason; peace and quiet and she is not in favor of the Rodeo. She doesn't think they have enough information to decide because there is still a lot of unanswered questions.

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

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Department Head Reports:

Chief Finance Officer Darlow Maxwell reported:

- ❖ The journal entries have been received and posted in the balance sheet.
- ❖ The 2020 budget packets have been given to the Constitutional Officers and Department Heads to begin the budget.
- ❖ The accounting software is going to be moved from the server to cloud base.

4H Agent Geri Gelliland gave an update on activity regarding the Ag Agent and 4-H.

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report:

Mr. Dinnerman stated:

- ❖ He has been working with the auditors and he is pushing them to complete to complete the audit.
- ❖ He has looked at the preliminary number and they look good.
- ❖ Expenditures are 94%; therefore, we stayed in budget.
- ❖ We had a good 2018 and we will have a good 2019.

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:*Rodeo/Special Exception*

Commissioner John Mooney stated the Commissioners need to discuss code enforcement, permitting and licensing either tonight or during another meeting before deciding.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon stated she would like the neighbors to get the answers to all their questions and concerns before deciding.

County Manager Michael Dinnerman stated he would get a list of questions from the neighbors and the commissioners so that Mr. Serrano could answer them for clarity.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to table this agenda item and address it at the next meeting. Commissioner John Mooney seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner John Mooney, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

2020 Census Complete Count Committee Resolution

Commissioner John Mooney made a motion to approve the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee Resolution. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

USDA Resolution/Ratify

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to ratify the USDA Resolution. Commissioner John Mooney seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Department of Natural Resources County Landing Boat Ramp Lease Agreement

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement with the Department of Natural Resources for boat ramp construction at the County Landing. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Commissioner John Mooney all voting for the motion.

Surplus Resolution

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the Surplus Resolution. Commissioner John Mooney seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner John Mooney, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Commissioner Daniel Cowan all voting for the motion.

Agenda Changes and/or add on:**Legislative Report:**

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon reported on the Policy Committee Meeting she attended and the issues they are discussing.

Public Comments: NONE**Executive Session**

Commissioner's Remarks:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon stated she is partnering up with Tourism for a movie in the park event that will be held November 9th at the Blue & Gray Park.

Meeting adjourned

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk