

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON JUNE 08, 2021 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
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna Prather	County Clerk

Commissioner John Mooney was absent.

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

Chairman Steve Taylor added Hospital Authority and Fitzgerald BHC Planning & Zoning Board Appointments to the agenda.

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to approve the agenda with additional agenda items Hospital Authority and Fitzgerald BHC Planning & Zoning Board Appointments. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes that were held on May 04, 2021. Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

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

Public Hearing

Cherry Lane

County Manager Michael Dinnerman stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to establish whether or not Cherry Lane is a private road or a public road. Cherry Lane has been functioning as a private for years and maintained by the homeowner. The homeowner concreted the road and placed a mailbox at the end of it.

Jay Whitley represented the estate that maintained the road. He stated he looked on RDC arc view map and it showed Cherry Lane as a road. He was wanted to clarify that it was private and maintained by his father.

The Commissioners concluded it Cherry Lane is private.

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

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Department Head Reports:

Agricultural Extension Agent Holly Anderson announced Lauralee Williams as the new 4H Agent and Teresa Fuller was also hired as the Administrative Assistant. She also gave an update on activity regarding the Ag Agent and 4-H.

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report:

County Manager Michael Dinnerman reported:

- Everything is good.
- LOST is up 16.5%. We are tracking \$75,000 ahead of last year this time.
- SPLOST is up 16.77%. We are tracking \$84,000 ahead of last year this time.
- Our fund balance is strong. We are tracking 2.1 million more than last year.
- We are healthy; but I would like to caution everyone by saying expenditures and revenues are getting tighter and tighter.

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

2021 Health Insurance

County Manager Michael Dinnerman presented the Commissioners with a spreadsheet that was prepared by Benefits Consultant Group Representative Courtney Howell that included five different options for renewal. Mr. Dinnerman recommended option 4 or 5.

After further discussion, Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to approve Anthem Insurance option 4 that included a 1.81% increase from last year. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Ben Hill County and City of Fitzgerald 2021 Comprehensive Plan Resolution

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to adopt the Ben Hill County and City of Fitzgerald 2021 Comprehensive Plan Resolution. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Board of Commissioners 2nd Amendment Resolution

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to adopt the Board of Commissioners 2nd Amendment Resolution. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon made a motion to adopt the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

NACO 2021 Conference Voting Delegate

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to appoint Vice-Chair Hope Harmon as NACO 2021 Conference Voting Delegate. Commissioner Bennie Calloway seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

GDOT 5311 FY2022 Transit Operating Capital Contract

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the GDOT 5311 FY2022 Transit Operating Capital Contract and authorize the Chairman to execute the contract. Vice-Chairman Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Hospital Authority Board Nominee

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to submit Leah Foster name to the Hospital Authority Board. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Fitzgerald- BHC Planning & Zoning Commission Board Appointments

Commissioner Daniel Cowan made a motion to appoint Dennis Crook to the Fitzgerald-BHC Planning & Zoning Commission to replace George Vereen. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, Commissioner Bennie Calloway, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to appoint Jason Miller to the Fitzgerald-BHC Planning & Zoning Commission to replace Farise Taylor. Commissioner Daniel Cowan seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Commissioner Daniel Cowan, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Agenda Changes and/or add on:

Legislative Report: NONE

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session

Commissioner's Remarks:

Vice-Chair Hope Harmon stated the County is partnering with the City of Fitzgerald Tourism Department to show movies at the Blue and Gray Park this summer. This event will not cost the County anything.

Meeting adjourned

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk