

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON JULY 05, 2022 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
Michael Dinnerman	County Manager
Donna R. Prather	Acting County Clerk

Commissioner Daniel Cowan and Commissioner John Mooney were absent.

Call to Order

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

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Steve Taylor removed Henry Searcy dba Fitzgerald Lounge & Bar RLF Loan agenda item from the agenda until further notice.

Approval of the Agenda/Agenda Changes

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Acceptance of Prior Minutes

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting minutes that was held on June 02, 2022. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes that was held on June 07, 2022. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon seconded the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Constitutional Officer: NONE

Department Head Reports: NONE

County Board Reports: NONE

County Manager's Report:

County Manager Michael Dinnerman reported:

- Purchased a 2019 van for 4-H. Their old van kept breaking down. The van was purchased from the Fitzgerald Ford with the understanding when the new fleet of vans arrive, they will trade the 2019 for a new one.

- Ag Extension Agent Holly Hickey sent a thank you note for the van purchase.
- A Special Called Meeting is scheduled for July 28th to adopt the 2022 millage rate.
- Ben Hill Transit transitioned to South Georgia Regional Commission on July 1st. The same phone number can be used to schedule services. RMS is working diligently with South Georgia Regional Commission to make the transition smooth.
- Anyone 60 years old and older can ride the transit free of charge.

Annexation Request: NONE

Rezoning Application: NONE

Alcohol Application: NONE

Appointments: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

Proposed Millage Rate

Chief Appraiser Joyce Merritt explained how the rollback was calculated. She stated this year proposed millage rate is 15.840.

Commissioner Bennie Calloway made a motion to advertise, proceed with the proposed rollback millage rate of 15.840, and to set the Special Called Meeting date to adopt the proposed millage rate for July 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Vice-Chair Hope Harmon second the motion; which passed with Commissioner Bennie Calloway, Vice-Chair Hope Harmon, and Chairman Steve Taylor all voting for the motion.

Broadband Ordinance

Chairman Steve Taylor stated the Southern Regional Commission is asking the Commissioners to adopt a Broadband Ordinance to be a ready community for service that will allow us to apply for Broadband funding when it becomes available.

Chairman Taylor stated the County Attorney will review the Ordinance before any action is taken.

ACCG Board of Managers Resolution

County Manager Michael Dinnerman informed the Commissioners of a decision made by ACCG Board of Managers to add ACCG annual membership dues with NACO dues for the purpose that each County remain a NACO member.

Agenda Changes and/or add on: NONE

Legislative Report: NONE

Public Comments: NONE

Executive Session

Commissioner's Remarks:

Chairman Taylor informed the Commissioners of the July 22nd Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the new Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy to be held at 10:00 a.m. The Commissioners will receive an invitation.

County Manager Michael Dinnerman stated we was awarded a \$2.4 million grant from EDA for Edward Road and Perry House Road. We are waiting on a letter to proceed. A zoom EDA Kickoff meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, July 7th, at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned

_____ Steve Taylor, Chairman

_____ Donna R. Prather, County Clerk