

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on March 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex.

Members Present

Chairman Jimmy Hooper
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell
Commissioner David Duckett
Commissioner Charles Turk
Commissioner Sammy Reece

Staff Present

County Clerk Jenni Gailey
Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker
Finance Officer Randy Failyer
County Attorney Randall Frost

Media Present

Mainstreet News – Angela Gary
Access North Georgia - Rob Moore

1. Call to Order

Ch. Hooper called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Charles Turk
Second: Danny Maxwell
Vote: 5:0
All aye votes and the motion passed.

3. Moment of Reflection

Ch. Hooper stated he was 66 years old and grew up on the Mill Hill in Commerce and learned many things. One thing we need to ask ourselves every day, have I done my best?

4. Pledge to the American Flag

Ch. Hooper led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. Approval of Invoices

Motion to approve the invoices: David Duckett
Second: Sammy Reece
Vote: 5:0
All aye votes and the motion passed.

6. Approval of Previous Minutes – 2/14

Motion to approve the minutes: Charles Turk
Second: David Duckett
Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the minutes were approved.

7. Planning Commission Recommendations: NONE

8. Recognitions:

a. State FFA Competition Achievements

Ch. Hooper stated the Banks County High School Ag Mechanics Team visited Ft. Valley, Georgia for a mechanical competition. The Commissioners presented the team members with a certificate. Turner Carlan placed 13th, Logan Ferguson placed 5th, Ethan Cobb placed 3rd and Catherine Boyer placed 1st.

9. Public Comment:

a. Soapstone Road Bridge

Knute Carnes – 232 Carnes Circle, Baldwin – Mr. Carnes stated that he had been approved by Fieldale Farms to build six chicken houses but the bridge was not suitable for access to the farm. He stated the bridge needed upgraded or either the County Road Soapstone Road needs to be maintained on the other end where it is passable.

Comm. Duckett stated to bring the bridge up to 40 ton load capacity it would cost around \$95,000 to \$250,000. Mr. Carnes stated he was just asking for the opportunity to expand his farm on a County maintained road. He stated the bridge would not last forever and at some point it will have to be improved so why not do it now.

Ch. Hooper stated he needed more information from a bridge inspection and a dollar amount in which it would cost to upgrade the bridge before he could make a decision.

10. Fire/EMS Budget Amendment Request: Protective Clothing

Chief Steve Nichols

Steve Nichols Fire Chief stated the department was in need of bunker and protective gear for the firefighters because numerous sets are aged and worn out. He stated he had received bids ranging from \$1,625 to \$1,930 per set. Chief Nichols stated Bennett's came in at \$1,920 and was compatible with the current gear. Comm. Turk stated he thought it was a good idea to keep equipment standard.

Motion to purchase the bunker gear in the amount of \$27,500 from the 2012 SPLOST Fund: Charles Turk
Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

11. E911/EMA:

a. Hazard Mitigation Plan Submittal

Deidra Moore

Deidra Moore E911/EMA Director stated that the Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and the resolution needed to be approved so it could be submitted.

Motion to approve the resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign: Sammy Reece

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

b. Southern Software Maintenance Contracts

Ms. Moore stated it was time to renew the maintenance contract with Southern Software that is used with the CAD System. She stated there was a slight increase this year. The amount total amount for the yearly maintenance is \$44,458.

Motion to approve the annual maintenance contract for Southern Software in the amount of \$44,458:

Danny Maxwell

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of contracts filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-8)

12. Roads:

a. Wrights Mill Road Bridge Replacement

Erin Decker

Erin Decker Assistant County Clerk stated the GDOT had issued a letter stating they would pay for the engineering, construction and half of the rights-of-way purchase to upgrade Wrights Mill Road Bridge to a two lane bridge. She stated she just needed the Commissioners agreement to proceed with the project through GDOT.

Motion to proceed with bridge replacement: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

b. John Morris Rd/Gowder Rd Improvements Work Order Ratification

KCI Technologies, Inc.

Ch. Hooper stated he had already signed an agreement in the amount of \$6,500 for drawing plans for John Morris and Gowder Rd and the agreement needs to be ratified.

Motion to ratify the agreement with KCI Technologies in the amount of \$6,500: Jimmy Morrison

Second: Sammy Reece

Charles Turk abstained.

Vote: 4:0

Four aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of agreement filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-8)

13. National Donate Life Month Proclamation – April 2017

Ch. Hooper stated this was National Donate Life Month and encouraged people to be an organ donor.

14. Executive Session: Personnel & Land Acquisition

Motion to enter into executive session concerning personnel and land acquisition: Charles Turk

Second: Jimmy Hooper

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session began at 7:00 p.m.

(Copy of affidavit filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-8)

Motion to close the executive session: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session ended at 7:27 p.m.

Nails Creek Fire Dept.

Motion to grant .8 acres of property at the Nails Creek Fire Dept. to the original owners for a driveway and they will incur all legal cost: Sammy Reece

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
