

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on February 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex. Present were Chairman Milton Dalton, Vice Chairman Charles Turk, Commissioner Danny Maxwell, Commissioner Sammy Reece and Commissioner Ernest Rogers.

1. Call to Order

Ch. Dalton called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Comm. Maxwell made a motion to delete Item 13a – Firehouse Software Information. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

Comm. Reece made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

3. Prayer

Ch. Dalton led a moment of silent prayer.

4. Pledge to the American Flag

Ch. Dalton led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. Approval of Invoices

Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to approve the invoices. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

6. Approval of Previous Minutes – 1/20, 1/27

Comm. Maxwell made a motion to approve the previous months minutes. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

7. Planning Commission Recommendations:

a. V-10-08 – Frankie E. Wood – a variance for the redesigning of property lines to allow two building lots on Welborn Road.

Ch. Dalton closed the commissioner's meeting and opened the public hearing. Zoning Officer Keith Covington stated the property was located at 1175 Welborn Road, Gillsville, Georgia on tax map and parcel B18-007 and B18-008. Officer Covington stated the existing zoning is ARR and the proposed zoning is ARR. The purpose of the variance is to create two buildable lots. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Frankie Wood spoke in favor of the variance stating she was just straightening out some lines on the plat to make two buildable lots. Comm. Reece made a motion to approve the variance. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

8. Public Comment:

a. Animal Problems

No one present

b. Excessive Water Bill Judy Freels

Judy Freels stated she had a water leak that made her bill over \$1,300 and she didn't have the money to pay it. Ms. Freels stated she shouldn't have to pay the bill because

as soon as she was notified she had a leak, a plumber came out to fix the problem. She feels she shouldn't be responsible for the bill because she didn't use the water. Comm. Reece stated once the water passes through the meter, the County is not responsible. Comm. Rogers stated it was against the law to write off water bills. Ms. Freels agreed to a one year contract to pay off her water bill and if it wasn't paid off in a year they would extend it for six more months.

9. Windmill Farm Timber Catlin Forestry Service

Jack Catlin with Catlin Forestry Service stated he has been a registered forester for thirty-two years and had multi-use training. Mr. Catlin recommended cutting the timber in three blocks. He stated Block A was estimated at \$175,000 and he cruised it for clear cutting mainly because southern pine beetles had gotten into some of the pines. He stated he had not estimated Block B & C and had some concerns with Block C being close to the Boy Scout lodge, walking trail and horse arena. Commissioners stated they wanted to bid out three areas. Mr. Catlin stated he would keep the Commissioners up to date on the progress of the project.

10. EMA/911

a. Debris Management Pre-Qualification Deidra Moore

EMA/911 Director Deidra Moore stated she had put out request for qualifications to contractors for the Debris Management Plan. The contractors will just be pre-qualified in the plan. The names of the vendors are Ferd Bros. in North Carolina, TFR in Texas, DTS in South Carolina and DRC in Alabama. Comm. Rogers made a motion to pre-approve the contractors. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

b. Tornado Siren RFP Deidra Moore

Ms. Moore stated the tornado siren needs to be replaced at the 911 center. The grant would be for \$32,282 and the match would be \$8,070. Comm. Rogers stated to go ahead and start the bid process and the Commissioners would check to see if the funds could come from contingency. Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to begin the bid process. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

11. Recreation Department Joe Gailey

Non-Resident Gym Fee

Recreation Director Joe Gailey stated he wanted to start charging \$5 per person for non Banks County residents using the gym. Comm. Rogers made a motion to charge \$5 per person for non Banks County residents. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and motion passed.

Vice Ch. Turk made a motion for the \$5 gym fee for non Banks County residents start February 14, 2011. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

Recreation Booster Club

Mr. Gailey stated he wanted to start a booster club. He said the funds from the booster club would be used for things such as background checks, football shoulder pads reconditioning and coaches training. He stated the money would come in from yearly dues, sponsorship banners, bar-b-que plate sale, picture rebates, etc. Mr. Gailey stated the County would be responsible for the funds. Comm. Maxwell made a motion to start a booster club for the recreation department. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

12. Contracts & Agreements:

a. Town of Homer Animal Control Agreement Tabled: 10/12/2010

Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to bring the item off the table. Comm. Reece seconded. Comm. Rogers stated with the economy the way it is now the County can't enforce animal control for Homer. Vice Ch. Turk stated the Homer ordinance is more stringent than the County's ordinance. Comm. Rogers made a motion to deny the agreement with the Town of Homer on animal control. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

b. Water Treatment Plant Electrical Repair Steve Reece

Electrical Repair

Steve Reece, Utilities Director stated the total price for the water plant electrical repair would be \$19,900. This repair would replace all the wires with new wires and conduit. Comm. Rogers made a motion to continue with the water treatment plant electrical repair. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

Preparing for Electrical Repair

Mr. Reece stated that Higgins Construction had submitted a bill for thirty-six hours of work preparing for the electrical repair and for a saw blade for a total price of \$1,117. Mr. Reece stated the profit margin has been removed from the price. Comm. Rogers made a motion to deny the pay request. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

Concrete

Mr. Reece stated the concrete has been credited \$15/yd. for a total for \$3,885. Comm. Rogers stated he was not satisfied with the credit but we need to get this project behind us. Comm. Rogers made a motion to accept the credit. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

Vent

Mr. Reece stated Rindt-McDuff had quoted a stainless steel vent when a Schedule 80 PVC Vent is all that is needed. The total price will be \$948.75. Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to approve the change in the vent. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and motion passed.

c. Banks County Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Ratification

Jenni Gailey County Clerk stated this is an update to the retirement plan because of changes in federal laws for retirement plans. Comm. Reece made a motion to ratify the Banks County Defined Benefit Retirement Plan since the Chairman had pre-signed the amendment due to IRS deadlines. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed. *(Copy of plan filed in Attachment to Minute Book #9-2)*

d. Georgia Mountains Regional Commission – Hazard Mitigation Grant Deidra Moore

Ms. Moore stated there is a new form for the grant and the Chairman needs authorization to sign new form. Comm. Reece made a motion to give the chairman

permission to sign. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.
(Copy of grant agreement filed in Attachment to Minute Book #9-2)

13. Fire/EMS

a. Firehouse Software Installation – Deleted

b. Ladder Truck Surplus

Jim Fuller

Chief Fuller stated the 1971 Ward LaFrance Ladder Truck Vin #80493 could no longer be recertified because the ladder couldn't be replaced and no dealer carried parts to repair the truck. Chief Fuller stated he was in the process of finding a ladder truck. Chief Fuller is asking the commissioners to surplus the truck because it serves no purpose. Comm. Maxwell stated since the truck served no public purpose it should be surplus. Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to surplus the 1971 Ward LaFrance Ladder Truck Vin# 80493 because it served no public purpose. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

14. Sheriff Department Computer Server Replacement Charles Chapman

Sheriff Charles Chapman stated the main server at the jail had crashed. He said they are now up and running but things are very slow. He received quotes for two smaller servers in case one went down he would still be able to do everyday business. The price of the servers is \$7,632. Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to purchase the servers out of contingency. Comm. Reece seconded. Comm. Rogers abstained. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

15. Boards & Authorities:

a. Joint Development Authority – 4 year term Milton Dalton

Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to reappoint Milton Dalton to the Joint Development Authority for a four year term to expire 12/31/2014. Comm. Maxwell seconded. Ch. Dalton abstained. Four aye votes and motion passed. Ch. Dalton abstained.

b. Development Authority Scott Ledford

Comm. Reece made a motion to reappoint Scott Ledford to the Development Authority for a four year term to expire 2/28/2015. This term was originally a six year term but became a four year term in February 2008. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and motion passed.

c. Development Authority Jimmy Morrison

Vice Ch. Turk made a motion to reappoint Jimmy Morrison to the Development Authority for a four year term to expire 2/2/2015. This term was originally a six year term but became a four year term in February 2008. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and motion passed.

d. Development Authority Gram Hodgkins

Ch. Dalton stated that Mr. Hodgkins did not wish to serve any longer on the Development Authority and the Commissioners have received applications from Hank Parker and Keith Segars. Comm. Rogers made a motion to appoint Hank Parker to the Development Authority for a four year term to expire 2/28/2015. This term was

originally a six year term but became a four year term in February 2008. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and the motion passed.

16. Adjournment

Comm. Reece made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
