



BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Courthouse Annex Boardroom | 150 Hudson Ridge | Homer, GA 30547

Tuesday, August 08, 2023 at 6:30 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ch. Turk called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Chairman Charles Turk

Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell

Commissioner Chris Ausburn

Commissioner Keith Gardiner

Commissioner Bo Garrison

STAFF

County Clerk Regina Gailey

Chief Finance Officer Randy Failyer

Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker

Human Resources Director Arlene Ivey

Tax Commissioner Becky Carlan

Boad of Elections Chairman Linda Garrison

County Attorney Randall Frost

Chief Deputy Shawn Wilson

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ch. Turk stated the agenda needed to be amended as followed:

- Delete 7. Public Hearings. and replace with 7. Board of Elections
- Add 12. Executive Session - Personnel
- Change Adjournment to 13.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. **7/11/2023 Minutes**

b. **7/25/2023 Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, Seconded by Commissioner Gardiner.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

4. PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:

Ch. Turk led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ch. Turk reported on the following:

* E911 received 341 Fire/EMS calls and 2,822 Sheriff's Office calls.

6. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

a. Finance & Budgeting: FY2023 Budget Amendment - Randy Failyer

Mr. Failyer stated that the resolution was neither increasing or decreasing the FY2023 budget but was just adjusting the departments in order to get ready for the FY2023 audit.

Motion made by Chairman Turk, Seconded by Commissioner Garrison.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of resolution filed in attachment to Minute Book 11-1) 2023-08

b. 2023 Millage Rate - Becky Carlan

Ms. Carlan stated that the digest was up 20% and if the Commissioners took a rollback for the millage it would be the lowest millage rate since 1996. She further stated the proposed county millage rate including the roll back would be 6.354 mills.

Ch. Turk stated the State of Georgia requires assessments and all counties have to be 38% - 42% of the assessed value.

Ch. Turk thanked all the department heads and elected officials for keeping their cost down with their budgets.

Comm. Garrison stated he appreciated everyone's hard work and hopefully the Commissioners had been able to give a little tax relief to the citizens of Banks County.

Comm. Gardiner stated the County portion of the tax bill would only be approximately 31% and the remaining portion was the School System.

Motion to approve the 2023 Millage Rate of 6.354 mills.

Motion made by Chairman Turk, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of resolution filed in attachment to Minute Book 11-1) 2023-09

7. BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ms. Garrison stated that the Board of Elections had been notified by their Elections Supervisor that she would be retiring at the end of 2023. She further stated the Elections Board had advertised for the position and had received two applications in which they held interviews during an executive session. She stated one applicant was a no-show and the other applicant which they have chosen to hire was Kelsey Barnes

which will begin the position on September 1, 2023. Ms. Garrison stated Ms. Barnes was the elections coordinator for Jackson County and was well qualified for the position.

8. PREVIOUS BUSINESS ACTION:

- a. **Tabled 6/27/2023: Z-23-04 - Bryan & Tawana Wood - An application has been submitted to rezone a 5-acre portion of the property identified as B51 025C, a 15.35-acre lot located at the intersection of Hwy 441 and McCoy Bridge Rd., from ARR to C2 to be used for a wholesale establishment with a special use for a storage yard for railway components.**

Ch. Turk asked for a motion to untable the item and there was no motion.

9. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS:

- a. **Development Authority Funds Agreement - Randy Failyer**

Mr. Failyer stated the funds agreement that the County had with the Development Authority that began back in 2012 and had been continually renewed over the years but at this time there seemed to be adequate funding available for the Authority and they no longer needed financial assistance.

Mr. Failyer further stated he was asking the Commissioners to allow the Chairman to sign a letter to terminate the funding beginning calendar year 2023 with the understanding that the funds could be needed in the future.

Comm. Ausburn stated the Development Authority was delinquent on filing the Annual Authority Registration and Financials report and therefore wasn't in compliance so they were not eligible at the time for State funding.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

10. MISCELLANEOUS:

- a. **Sheriff's Department: Tag Readers - Shawn Wilson**

Chief Deputy Wilson stated he was the Sheriff's Office were requesting tag reader cameras. The cameras would help solve crimes any give the officers the ability to search through a database of license plates of vehicles that travel through the area of the cameras.

Mr. Wilson stated he was asking for the cameras to be put at the major ingress/egress of the county. The cost of the camera system would be \$47,000 the first year and \$40,000 per year after that.

The Commissioners stated they would have to research and consider the item at a later time.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Motion to enter into executive session concerning personnel at 7:00 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrison, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Motion to close the executive session at 7:43 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Ausburn, Seconded by Commissioner Maxwell.
Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner,
Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of affidavit filed in attachment to Minute Book 11-1)

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Ausburn, Seconded by Commissioner Gardiner.

Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner,
Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk