



BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

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

Tuesday, September 12, 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

Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker

Human Resources Director Arlene Ivey

Public Utilities Director Horace Gee

County Attorney Randall Frost

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

6. Proclamation: National Voter Registration Day

7. Public Hearings

8. Public Comment

9. Contracts & Agreements

10. Miscellaneous

11. Executive Session - Litigation, Personnel

12. Adjournment

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. 8/1/2023 Minutes

b. 8/8/2023 Minutes

c. 8/10/2023 Minutes

d. 8/22/2023 Minutes

e. 8/24/2023 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:

Vice Ch. Maxwell led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ch. Turk stated that E911 received 343 Fire/EMS calls and 3,014 Sheriff's Office calls.

6. NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION PROCLAMATION

Ch. Turk stated that he had received a proclamation from voter registration. County Clerk Regina Gailey read the proclamation proclaiming that September 19, 2023 was National Voter Registration Day.

Motion to accept the proclamation.

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 motion passed.

(Copy of Proclamation filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-1)

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Ch. Turk stated both public hearings had been withdrawn.

- a. **Z-22-03** An application has been submitted by the County to reverse a zoning decision from 2022, a decision to rezone a 2-acre parcel identified as B46 044, located at 1431 W Ridgeway Rd., from ARR (Agricultural, Rural, Residential) to C2 (Commercial) to be used for a mini-storage facility. The property shall be rezoned to its former designation- ARR.
- b. **Z-98-25** An application has been submitted by the County to reverse a zoning decision from 1999, a decision to rezone an 18-acre portion of the property identified as parcel B48 025, from ARR (Agricultural, Rural, Residential) to C2 (Commercial) to be used for a flea market. The property shall be rezoned to its former designation- ARR.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

a. Grant Mill Road a county road all the way through to Yonah Homer Road: Derrick Williams

Derek Williams – Grant Mill Road – Stated he was asking for the County to open and maintain the part of Grant Mill Road that goes through the Wildlife Management Area. He stated currently Grant Mill Road only had one way out and when the railroad was doing maintenance and had the crossing blocked you could not get in or out of the road and this was a major issue with response times when there was an emergency.

The Commissioners stated they had talked to the GA DNR and would see what could be done about opening the road.

b. Water line/Tap Installation: Michael Haxton

Not present

9. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS:

a. Public Utilities: Wastewater Treatment Facility Contract - Wilcorp, Inc. - Horace Gee

Mr. Gee stated at a previous meeting Wilcorp, Inc. was awarded the bid for the Waterwater Treatment Facility and this was the contract in the amount of \$10,873,933.00.

Motion to approve the contract for Wilcorp, Inc., in the amount of \$10,873,933.00

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.

(Copy of Contract filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-1)

b. Roads & Bridges: Roads Management Software Agreement - GIS Workshop, LLC - "gWORKS"

Ch. Turk stated the Attorney Frost had looked over the agreement and more information was needed.

10. MISCELLANEOUS:

a. Personnel: Code Enforcement Officer

Ch. Turk stated Dale Cash had been hired as a P.O.S.T. Code Enforcement Officer and he was P.O.S.T. Certified and he was glad to have him on board.

b. Personnel: Assistant Road Superintendent

Motion to lift hiring freeze.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrison, 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.

Motion to override employee handbook and authorize the Commissioners to interview the Assistant Road Superintendent position in the absence of the department head.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, 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.

c. Public Transportation: GDOT FY2024 Grant Application

Ch. Turk stated this was the yearly contract that funded the transit system.

Motion to approve the grant application.

Motion made by Chairman Turk, 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.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL AND LITIGATION

Motion to enter into executive session concerning litigation and personnel at 6:53 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrison, 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.

Motion to adjourn the executive session at 7:58 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.

(Copy of Affidavit filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-1)

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, 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.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk