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| Banks County Established 1858 Seal | **Banks County Board of Commissioners Meeting** |
| Courthouse Annex Boardroom | 150 Hudson Ridge | Homer, GA 30547 |
| Tuesday, April 08, 2025 at 6:30 PM |
| **Minutes** |

**1.** **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Griffith called the meeting to order.

PRESENT
Chairman Taylor Griffith
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell
Commissioner Chris Ausburn
Commissioner Keith Gardiner
Commissioner Bo Garrison

STAFF

County Clerk Regina Gailey

Deputy County Clerk Erin Decker

County Attorney Karen Pachuta

Planning/Zoning Director Kerri Fincannon

Battalion Chief Scottie Mathis

Recreation Director Kat Roberts

**2.** **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Griffith stated the agenda needed to be amended to add the following items:

* 11M. Technology: Courthouse Server
* 11N. Code Enforcement: Hiring Position

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**3.** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. 3/11/2025 Work Session/Meeting Minutes

b. 3/11/2025 Meeting Minutes

c. 3/19/2025 Called Meeting Minutes

d. 3/25/2025 Work Session Minutes

e. 3/28/2025 Public Hearing/Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.
Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, 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 Chairman Maxwell led the Pledge to the American Flag.

**5.** **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Griffith reported on the following:

* HB581 Set an estimated millage rate that would be on the assessment notices instead of an estimated dollar amount.
* Public Utilities Director had identified some areas of our water system that could be improved.
* Grant Mill Road project was being looked at by our engineers.
* Budget time was coming up, so come join the meeting.
* Recreation Department was getting quotes on HVAC repairs.
* NRCS would be having a meeting on May 1, 2025.

**6.** **SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:**

**a. Proclamation:  April National Donate Life Month - LifeLink Kyla Harris**

Nancy with Life Link of Georgia stated she was an advocate of donating life and was also a recipient of a liver transplant.  She stated that April was National Donate Life Month in Georgia and asked the Commissioners to proclaim the month of April as National Donate Life Month in Banks County.

Motion to proclaim April as Donate Life Month in Banks County.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

***(Copy of Proclamation filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2)***

**b. Proclamation:  April National Safe Digging Month - Lonnie Robinson**

Two City of Commerce employees came before the Commissioners and wanted to advocate safe digging practices. They stated whether you were digging to put up a bird feeder or digging a trench 800 ft long it’s just better to call 811. It was a free service to locate any utilities and helped keep everyone safe.

Chairman Griffith read the proclamation.

Motion to proclaim April as Safe Digging Month in Banks County and allow the Chairman to sign the proclamation.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

***(Copy of Proclamation filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2)***

**7.** **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**a. Hotel/Motel Tax:  A RESOLUTION BY THE BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MODIFYING THE BANKS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 78, ARTICLE IV, TITLED “HOTEL-MOTEL EXCISE TAX”**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Karen Pachuta stated this resolution followed state law.  She stated the current ordinance hadn't been updated since 2002 and State Law had changed some since then.  She stated the ordinance included definitions and requirements from State Law. She continued to state that it also had some flexibility as to how the County wanted to collect and report the hotel/motel tax.

No one spoke in favor or opposition of the ordinance.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Garrison stated just because we were looking at raising the rate, did the new resolution set that rate in stone or could we still change it.

Atty. Pachuta stated currently we weren't changing the rate, but we were at the max rate the Board could do without having General Assembly approval.

Motion to approve the resolution for hotel/motel tax.

Motion made by Commissioner Ausburn, Seconded by Commissioner Garrison.
Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, 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 11-2) 2025-12***

**b. Planning Commission:  CU-25-03 An application has been submitted by Andy Nguyen for a Conditional Use on the property identified as B43 047A, a 36.72-acre parcel located at 237 Skeeter Drive to reduce the setbacks on an existing poultry farm.**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated CU-25-03 was an application that had been submitted by Andy Nguyen for a Conditional Use on the property identified as B43 047A, a 36.72-acre parcel located at 237 Skeeter Drive to reduce the setbacks on an existing poultry farm.

Ms. Fincannon stated the Planning Commission voted to approve with the condition of maintaining Skeeter Drive to the second residence.

***Andy Nguyen - 237 Skeeter Drive, Maysville*** - Stated the setback was requested to be reduced from 400 ft. to 200 ft. in order to build two new poultry houses next to their two existing poultry houses.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Chairman Griffith stated after a discussion with the County Attorney he wasn't sure we could make maintaining the road a condition because of it being private property.

Motion to approve the application CU-25-03.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

***(Copy of PC Resolution filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2)***

**c. Planning Commission:  CU-25-04 An application has been submitted by Julia Ammons for a Conditional Use on the property identified as B07E 014, a 7.19-acre parcel located at 801 Garrison Road to operate a home occupation in an accessory structure. The proposed business is a pottery studio for up to 5 students.**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated CU-25-04 was an application that had been submitted by Julia Ammons for a Conditional Use on the property identified as B07E 014, a 7.19-acre parcel located at 801 Garrison Road to operate a home occupation in an accessory structure. The proposed business was a pottery studio for up to 5 students.

Ms. Fincannon stated the Planning Commission voted to approve with the condition of no more than 5 students.

***Julia Ammons – 801 Garrison Road, Lula, GA*** – Stated she would not be selling retail pottery and this was just for lessons only.

Chairman Griffith asked if Ms. Ammons had an intentions for signage and she stated not at the time and the classes would be by appointment only.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Motion to approve CU-25-04 with the condition of up to 5 students.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

***(Copy of PC Resolution filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2)***

**d. Subdivisions:  Class I Plats to be Signed in Office**

Motion to open public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated this was an ordinance to amend Chapter 74, Entitled "Subdivisions", Entitled "Application, Platting Jurisdiction and Enforcement,", Section 74-98, Entitled 'Review of Final Plat."

1. Chapter 74, Chapter 74, Entitled "Subdivisions.", Article II, Entitled "Application, Platting Jurisdiction and Enforcement.", Section 74-98, Entitled "Review of Final Plat." is hereby amended by deleting Sections 74-98 B and C and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

b) Minor Subdivisions and Class I Subdivisions may be reviewed in office and approved without a public hearing. Class II and Class Ill Subdivisions must be approved by the Planning Commission and endorsed by the Planning Official in public session. Class IV Subdivisions must be approved by the Board of Commissioners through the public hearing process with a recommendation from the Planning commission and endorsed by the planning official.
c) No Class II, Class lll, or Class IV final plat shall be acted upon by the Planning Commission except in public session. Such sessions or hearings must be held at least monthly and are generally held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The Planning Official is not empowered to approve or disapprove a final plat request for a Class II, Class Ill, or Class IV subdivision. The Planning and Zoning Department will attempt to send not less than seven days before the public hearing a notice of the date and time of the hearing by regular mail to the person designated in the letter requesting final plat review. The Planning and Zoning Department will attempt to contact by telephone the person designated in the letter requesting final plat approval to remind the person of the date and time of the hearing. However, it is the responsibility of the person requesting final plat review to know the date and time of the hearing and to be present at the hearing or have a representative at the hearing.

Ms. Fincannon further stated this was basically taking this off the Planning Commission and having an in-office review of the plat for approval.  The Planning Commission voted yes 5:0 to approve.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Motion to approve the recommendation to amend the code to allow the Planning Office to sign the Class I Subdivision Plat.

Motion made by Commissioner Ausburn, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.
Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, 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 11-2) 2025-13***

**e. Planning Commission: Changing Director’s Recommendation to Director’s Report**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Ms. Fincannon stated this was a recommendation of the zoning officer to change the Planning Director recommendation to a Planning Director report.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Motion to change the Director's recommendation to the Director's report.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, Seconded by Commissioner Garrison.
Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, 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 11-2) 2025-14***

**f. Zoning: Recommend Divide Industrial Zone into M-1, Industrial and M-2, Light Industrial**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated a recommendation to amend Appendix A- Zoning, Article X- M1, Industrial District by separating Industrial zoning into two sections: Article X- M1, Industrial and Article X(B)- M2, Light Industrial. She stated basically they took over half of the uses listed in M-1 Industrial District and created a Light Industrial District so we could keep the manufacturing businesses separate from things like trade shops, dry cleaning business, etc. separate. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the resolution.

No one spoke in favor or opposition of the amendment.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Ausburn asked what was the purpose of the change.

Ms. Fincannon went over the Light Industrial uses and the Conditional Uses for the section.

Commissioner Ausburn stated his concern was a Data Center.

Chairman Griffith stated he would like to leave Manufacturing in M-1.

The Commissioners stated they would like to look at the code change more.

Motion to table the code amendment until May 13, 2025.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**g. Zoning: Recommend Moving Landfill Requirements into a New Article**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated this would be moving the definition to its own Article Entitled “LandFill”.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Chairman Griffith stated this was a cleanup of the code.

Motion to move "Landfill" to its own Article in the Code entitled "Landfill".

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

Vote: 4:1

Majority vote and the motion passed.

***(Copy of Resolution filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2) 2025-15***

**h. Planning Commission:  C-3, Warehouses**

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Ms. Fincannon stated currently there were no permitted or conditional uses listed in the section so technically we could not rezone to C-3.

She stated the following uses would be added:

Permitted uses:

Warehouses, Wholesale Establishments, Distribution Centers, Mini Storage Facilities

Conditional Uses:

Truck Terminals

She further stated the Planning Commission voted yes for approval.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Chairman Griffith stated C-3 had been added for a while. This was just adding uses that were never there.

Chairman Griffith also stated that ministorage was already in C-2.

Motion to accept the Planning Commission recommendation for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.
Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, 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 11-2) 2025-16***

**8.** **PREVIOUS BUSINESS ACTION:**

**9.** **CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS:**

**a. Managed Print Services RFP**

Chairman Griffith stated there was only one proposal. He further stated that based on the models and age of the printers they did not feel that a managed print solution would be feasible or cost effective at this time and would look at this again in the future.

Motion to reject all bids that were received in response to the Managed Print Services RFP.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**10.** **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:**

**a. Resolution to Rescind Support of a Convention Center**

Chairman Griffith stated as we update our hotel motel tax resolution and prepare plans on the use of our hotel motel tax receipts for the promotion of tourism in Banks County, he felt like the Board should revisit its 2016 resolution that expresses support for the construction of a convention center by the Chamber/CVB.  At the time the resolution was approved there were no county funds of any type allocated toward the conference center and as we begin our budget process for the next fiscal year, he would like it noted that the County had never committed any funds to the project and did not intend to allocate funds to a convention center in the upcoming budget year.  He continued to state a formal resolution was not required.

Motion for the Board to withdraw its support of the construction of a convention center until such a time that it was demonstrated to be financially viable and a benefit to the citizens of Banks County.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**11.** **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**a. Finance:  Purchasing Policies**

Ch Griffith stated this was an update to our current purchasing policy and he went over some of the changes which included the following:

* + Spending Limits
	+ Purchase Order Amounts
	+ Local Vendor Preference

Commissioner Gardiner asked when would this become effective? Atty Pachuta stated it could start immediately.

Commissioners discussed when to make the policy effective.

Motion to approve the updated purchasing policy to become effective immediately.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

***(Copy of Policy filed in Attachment to Minute Book 11-2)***

**b. Recreation:  Infield Batter Box Renovation - Katherine Roberts**

Kat Roberts stated that Batter Box Renovations was to build the batter’s box up.  She stated the staff installed them.

Chairman Griffith stated this was talked about at a work session. The invoice total was $14,605.  The clay bricks were $3,080 and the Turface and installation was $11,525.

Motion to pay the invoice from the 2022 SPLOST in the amount of $11,525.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**c. Recreation:  Basketball Goals - Katherine Roberts**

Chairman Griffith stated that Kat had a few quotes for basketball goals that included installation.  She stated she had looked at another website and found goals for $6,000 but her only concern was what do you get from a website compared what you get from a company that could install the goals.

Commissioner Garrison stated he had someone that used to work with different schools coming to look at the goals and would give us a price.

Commissioner Ausburn stated he did want to get something that lasted but we wanted to get the most for our money.

No action was taken.

**d. Public Utilities:  Neptune T-10 Water Meter ProCoders**

Chairman Griffith stated this was talked about at the work session. This was for 60 - ¾” water meters and 16 - 1" water meters.  These were for current workorders and to replace the stock. The invoice was for $29,100 and would be paid for from 2022 SPLOST

Motion to approve the payment of the meter invoice in the amount of $29,100 to be paid for from the 2022 SPLOST.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**e. Public Utilities:  Toccoa Pump Station Invoice**

Chairman Griffith stated the invoice was $58,285.58 for the installation of the Toccoa Pump Station and had previously been discussed at the work session.

Motion to approve the purchase for $58,285.58 to be paid for from the 2022 SPLOST.

Commissioner Garrison stated that with the new purchasing policy this would not happen again.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**f. Public Utilities: Franklin County Water Connection Upgrade**

Chairman Griffith stated the equipment needed to be upgraded. He stated they were getting prices on equipment that would fit in the current vault.

Commissioner Garrison stated this would stop any current backflow issues at that site.

No action was taken.

**g. Fire/EMS:  Brush Truck - Chief Steve Nichols**

Mr. Mathis stated the brush truck needed to be replaced at Banks Crossing. The motor was out and the truck belonged to the GA Forestry Service.  He stated at the previous work session the Commissioners wanted them to get some quotes on replacing the chassis of the brush truck.

He stated they received 4 quotes and Hayes Chevrolet was the lowest. He stated the quote was for a Chevrolet 2500 2 door 4x4 truck with skid plates under it. The quote was in the amount of $45,537.10 and would be paid for from the 2022 SPLOST.

Motion to purchase the truck from Hayes Chevrolet in the amount of $45,537.10.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**h. Fire/EMS:  Blood Products - Chief Steve Nichols**

Mr. Mathis was asking to purchase a cooler to go on Captain’s truck so they could carry blood.  This would be a service they have never provided to the citizens of Banks County. He further stated this would be one time purchase for the cooler and the blood would be at no cost to the County as long as they are transported to NEGA Medical Center. The cost of the cooler would be $12,261.90.

Motion to approve the purchase of a Blood Cooler out of 2022 SPLOST in the amount of $12,261.90.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**i. Environmental Services: Truck Purchase**

Chairman Griffith stated this had been discussed previously at the work session.  He stated we received several quotes for a 4x4, 4 Door Truck.

The quotes were as follows:

$39,642.00 Jefferson Ford

$37,791.20 Hayes Chevrolet

$40,318.00 Athens Ford

$40,543.00 Akins Ford

Motion to purchase the 2025 Colorado from Hayes Chevrolet in the amount of $37,791.20 to be paid for from the 2022 SPLOST.

Commissioner Ausburn stated he wanted to come up with a way to establish a vehicle assessment criteria policy. He stated this would determine if a new vehicle was really needed.

Commissioner discussed keeping the old truck at the Annex for a spare.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**j. Roads & Bridges: KCI Technologies - Additional Funds**

Chairman Griffith stated that KCI had requested additional engineering fees. Chairman Griffith stated he had previously talked about changing the way we operate with engineering services of all types. He stated instead of having pre-allocated funds that were billed hourly, we would have a system where when we had a specific task we would just be billed for the hours for that task. CommissionerAusburn stated there might need to be an exclusion for emergencies. Chairman Griffith stated that would fall under the emergency purchases in the purchasing policy. He further stated that if they were going to bill by the hour it would be unnecessary to approve upfront because we didn't do that with any other department.

No action was taken.

**k. Roads & Bridges:  Skid Steer Bid**

Chairman Griffith stated all the bids came in on March 19.  The low bid was for $71,000 for a New Holland and he felt that the disqualifying factor was the distance they would have to go to have the equipment serviced was too far. The Bobcat T76 was the equipment that the road dept preferred.

Motion to purchase the Bobcat T76 from Bobcat of Atlanta to be paid from 2023 TSPLOST in the amount of $76,139.10

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**l. Technology: Migration to Microsoft 365 Business Basic with Archiving**

Chairman Griffith stated the current email system would be obsolete in 2026.  The new system would be more secure and do all the archiving for record retention purposes.

He stated the cost for the new email system would be $1,377.12 per month for all employees' emails and would come from the technology line of the budget.

Motion to approve the migration of Microsoft Office 365 Business Basics for email with a monthly fee of $1,377.12 to be paid from the technology budget line item.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**m. Technology: Courthouse Server**

Chairman Griffith stated the courthouse server needed to be upgraded and the cost would be $3,367.

Motion to approve the Courthouse server upgrade.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**n. Code Enforcement: Hiring Position**

Chairman Griffith stated there needed to be a formal vote to hire the Code Enforcement Officer.

Motion to hire Logan Galloway for the Code Enforcement Officer position.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**12.** **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**13.** **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No executive session.

**14.** **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

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

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

 Chairman

Deputy County Clerk