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| Banks County Established 1858 Seal | **Banks County Board of Commissioners Work Session/Meeting** |
| Courthouse Annex Boardroom | 150 Hudson Ridge | Homer, GA 30547 |
| Tuesday, April 30, 2025 at 10:00 AM |
| **Minutes** |

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

Chairman Taylor Griffith called the worksession to order.

PRESENT
Chairman Charles Griffith
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell

Commissioner Chris Ausburn
Commissioner Keith Gardiner
Commissioner Bo Garrison was late to the meeting arriving at 10:04 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT

Finance Officer Randy Failyer

Human Resources Director Arlene Ivey

County Clerk Regina Gailey

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

Motion to approve the agenda.

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

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner,

Vote: 4:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

**3.** **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**a. FY2026 Budget**

1. **Court Appointed Attorney**
* Judge recommended $82,000
* Chairman Griffith asked who set the budget. He stated concerns that the Commissioners may have lost control of the budget since the transition.
* Court Reporter was cut to $1,000

**Commissioner Bo Garrison was late to the meeting arriving at 10:04 a.m.**

1. **District Attorney DA George Christian**

Atty Christian requested a state Assistant District Attorney. He stated it was requested last year but the District Attorney’s Council tabled the request

 **3. Wastewater Public Utilities Director Chad Wilbanks**

* + - Director Wilbanks stated they are currently at full staff aside from the new WWTP since it is not online yet. He said there was currently 4 employees including the Department Head Rebecca Stalvey.
		- He further stated he may know a way to reduce testing to $10,000 – currently researching
		- He said the pond cleanout is not likely this budget year
		- He said the Ford F250 that they had purchased was not sufficient since it is not 4x4 but only has 3,000 miles on it.
		- Chairman Griffith stated this would be considered at the May 13th Commissioners meeting.
		- Director Wilbanks stated the employee cost should be less than originally budgeted last year.
1. **Water Administration Public Utilities Director Chad Wilbanks**
2. **Water Plant Public Utilities Director Chad Wilbanks**
* Director Wilbanks stated he was working on overtime reduction across the board.
* Currently there was a 2-hour minimum on on-call
* He stated they are fully staffed
* He said they had switched companies for Tank Maintenance and that there should be a drop now that a schedule will apply
* Dam maintenance is needed every other year.
* He further stated that once flow corrections are made on the Inventory Purchased for Resale – Water – it should reduce
* Chairman Griffith stated Homer is the largest customer for water up to 5,000,000 gallons – averaging 3 to 4,000,000 gallons at $3.00/1,000 gallons
* Commissioner Ausburn stated there must be and increase in the rate to break even on all water sales
* Chairman Griffith stated he was working on a new contract.
* Commissioner Gardiner stated the need to keep searching for wells to supplement.
* Director Wilbanks said he was researching a couple of opportunities and will share soon but that it may require some additional work.
1. **Water Distribution Public Utilities Director Chad Wilbanks**
* Chairman Griffith stated he wanted to show the GEFA payment in the general fund budget in Wastewater
* Commissioner Ausburn stated the county should not be installing new taps when we can’t furnish water
* Director Wilbanks said it was getting close now.
* Chairman Griffith stated the legality of that should be checked.
* Director Wilbanks said that large users may be a problem and there was one area that may need a booster pump
* Commissioner Garrison asked what time frame there was on a well approval & in-system.
* Director Wilbanks stated there would be info needed such as build, casing, flow study & sampling. He said casing is a big issue.
* He also said there was opportunities to use wells in other ways such as industrial and non-potable water.

**4. Public Comment: None**

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

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.

 Chairman

County Clerk