

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on April 8, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Banks County Courthouse with Chairman Gene Hart and Commissioner Rickey Cain present. Commissioner Joe Barefoot was absent. County Attorney Randall Frost, Personnel Officer Judy Greer, Finance Officer Randy Failyer and Administrative Officer Angela Sheppard were also present.

### **1. Call to Order**

Chairman Gene Hart called the meeting to order.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Comm. Cain made a motion to amend the agenda to add the following items:

8. Executive Session: Personnel

10e. Courthouse Annex Contract Change Order #002 - Turner Construction

21. Beer/Wine Package Store License – Dilip I. Patel/Lewallen’s Grocery

Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

### **3. Moment of Silence**

Ch. Hart asked for a moment of silence.

### **4. Pledge to the American Flag**

Ch. Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **5. Consent Agenda:**

*a. Approval of Invoices*

*b. Approval of Minutes – 3/5, 3/11, 3/25*

Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

### **6. Public Comment:**

NONE

### **7. Public Hearing to Consider Abandonment of CR176/English Rd**

Ch. Hart opened the public hearing and stated the road was only .14 miles long and ran between the new 441 bypass and the old Highway 441. A letter had been sent to the property owners notifying them of the potential abandonment of the road. Judith Hill and Mary Hill Towns, sole landowners of the property along the portion being considered for abandonment, stated the road was used occasionally but not needed and asked that it be abandoned due to garbage being dumped along the road. Those speaking in opposition of the abandonment were Kenneth Yarber, Eula Mae Mintz and Richard Yarber. Ch. Hart closed the public hearing. Comm. Cain made a motion to postpone this item until the April 22, 2008 meeting. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

### **8. Executive Session: Personnel**

Comm. Cain made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel at 6:45 p.m. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. Comm. Cain made a motion to come out of executive session and reconvene the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of affidavit filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9)*

### **9. Senior Magistrate Judge Training Expenses - \$300**

Ch. Hart stated Senior Magistrate Judge Henry Banks requested an addition \$300 for travel expenses for the annual training in Savannah. Ch. Hart also stated he felt this should be the last year this is authorized. Comm. Cain made a motion to postpone this item until the April 22, 2008 meeting. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

### **10. Contracts:**

#### **a. Personal Property Verification Program Contract**

*Traylor Business Services, Inc.*

Chief Tax Appraiser Kevin Whitman stated this contract is renewable yearly beginning November 23, 2007 and would allow the continuance of the audit for this year with no changes. Comm. Cain made a

motion to allow the Chairman to sign the contract. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of contract filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9)*

**b. Software Master Contract – Phase II**

*Bi-Tek, LLC*

Mr. Whitman stated this involved the upgrade of the current appraisal software. He said they are currently in Phase I of the upgrade. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve Phase II of the contract. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of contract filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9)*

**c. Software Master Contract – Phase III**

*Bi-Tek, LLC*

Mr. Whitman stated this is the final phase to include up to 10 days of training at \$750/day. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve Phase III of the contract. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of contract filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9)*

**d. PR000-S010-00(854) Gravel Contract - \$32,480**

*DOT*

Ch. Hart stated the total amount approved by DOT for the annual gravel contract was \$32,480 for various roads throughout the county. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the contract. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**e. Courthouse Annex Contract Change Order #002 - \$5,921** *Turner Construction*

Ch. Hart stated this was for an I-Beam that was omitted during the design process. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the change order. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**11. Development Authority Member Replacement – Terrance Dale**

*3 year term – postponed 2/26/08*

Ch. Hart asked that this item remain postponed until the April 22, 2008 meeting to allow the commissioners time to review the applications received. Comm. Cain made a motion to postpone the item. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**12. Solid Waste Short Term Work Program Transmittal Resolution**

Administrative Officer Angela Sheppard stated the county had been working with Mactec Engineering concerning the Comprehensive Plan as well as the Solid Waste Short Term Work Program as required by the state. She stated it had been completed and public hearings held. She further stated the plan was ready to be transmitted to the GMRDC for review and a resolution was necessary in order to do this. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the resolution. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9) 2008-07*

**13. PR000-S009-00(690) Bridge Repair Bid Award**

Ch. Hart stated that the DOT had identified bridges in Banks County that needed repair on Duncan Rd, Soapstone Rd, Wilson Bridge Rd and Harden Bridge Rd and had offered \$20,676 as participation funds for the project. He said bids had been received from the following companies:

Cornett Bridge	\$107,426.12
Sunbelt Structures	\$ 95,781.16
Tanner Contractors, Inc	\$161,802.10

Ch. Hart stated approximately \$51,000 was budgeted this year for bridge repair and the remaining funds could be paid from other areas unspent in the budget. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve Sunbelt Structures as low bidder for \$95,781.16. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**14. Water & Sewer Rate Study Proposal**

**15. Water & Sewer Ordinance Proposal**

Ch. Hart stated Rindt McDuff had originally began work on the rate study but since then other options had been discovered. Ms. Sheppard stated she had received quotes from Rindt McDuff & Associates for the study and from Cybergov Consultants, LLC as well as the Georgia Rural Water Association. She said the GRWA would do the study at no charge but travel expenses would have to be reimbursed. She stated it would take approximately two days to complete the study. She also stated they would also prepare the ordinance. She asked that the ordinance be reviewed by Rindt McDuff & Associates before it is approved since they are the engineering firm that the county is working with currently. The deadline for the

completion of the study as required by GEFA is June 30, 2008. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve Georgia Rural Water Association for the study. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**16. Uchee Lodge Lease – Boy Scouts – Expiration 12/31/2008**

*Tabled: 12/11/2007*

Comm. Cain made a motion to remove this item from the table. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the lease pending the county attorney approval. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of lease filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9)*

**17. Victim’s Assistance Funds Disbursements**

*Postponed 3/11/2008*

Ch. Hart stated this had been postponed previously and was a request for 35% of the 5% funds collected through fines and forfeitures by the Superior Court. He also stated a citizens served report had been received from each agency. The certified agencies requesting the disbursements were as follows:

The Tree House (child advocacy center)	35%
Peace Place (domestic violence shelter and services)	35%
CASA (court appointed special advocates for children)	15%
PRCC (piedmont rape crisis center)	15%

Ch. Hart made a motion to approve the disbursements from the Victim’s Assistance Fund as listed. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**18. Employee Salary & Benefits**

Ch. Hart stated a salary cap needed to be set for employee salary increases for FY2009. Personnel Officer Judy Greer presented a spreadsheet with salary increase dollar amounts listed from 2% up to 4%. She also stated the cost of employee group insurance had increased for the year and recommended increasing the county contribution from \$350/month to \$400/month for each employee. Ch. Hart recommended a minimum of 3% for the salary cap. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve 3.5% for the salary cap and \$400/month for the group insurance for each employee. Ch. Hart seconded. Ch. Hart stated this would be for the FY2009 budget year. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**19. Recreation Center Front Lawn Modification**

*Postponed: 3/25/2008*

Ch. Hart stated when driving up Thompson Street from the bypass, the roof of the Recreation Center is about all that is visible and suggested sloping the bank in front to make it more visible and to provide a place for the new LED sign already approved. He stated he had received a quote from Big Creek Investments in the amount of \$8,000 for the grading. He stated he would seek at least one more quote. Comm. Barefoot made a motion to postpone this item until the April 22, 2008 meeting. Comm. Cain seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**20. Surplus Property**

Ch. Hart stated several vehicles had been surplus and stated an auction would be held on April 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. He also presented a list of office furniture from the Magistrate Court and other offices, 53 corral panels and also stated there was some old computer equipment and E911 consoles stored in the old jail that needed to be surplus. Comm. Cain made a motion to surplus the items for the auction to be held. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**21. Beer/Wine Package License – Dilip I. Patel/Lewallen’s Grocery**

Ch. Hart stated the package store was being leased to Mr. Patel and he planned to reopen the store. Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the license. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and motion carried.

**22. National County Government Week**

Ch. Hart stated this week had been declared National County Government Week. Cake and punch was provided to the citizens in observance.

**23. Adjournment**

With no further business, Comm. Cain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ch. Hart seconded. Two aye votes and meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk

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