

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on October 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex. Present were Chairman Milton Dalton, Vice Chairman Joe Barefoot, Commissioner Ernest Rogers and Commissioner Charles Turk. Commissioner Rickey Cain was absent.

1. Call to Order

Ch. Dalton called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to add Trail Grant, and Executive Session – Litigation and delete Franklin County Mutual Aid Agreement. Comm. Turk seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

3. Prayer

Ch. Dalton led a moment of silent prayer.

4. Pledge to the American Flag

Ch. Dalton led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. Approval of Invoices

Comm. Turk made a motion to approve the invoices. Vice Ch. Barefoot seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

6. Approval of Previous Minutes – 8/31, 9/14, 9/28

Comm. Turk made a motion to approve the 8/31 minutes now that they have been corrected. Vice Ch. Barefoot seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

Comm. Turk made a motion to approve the 9/14 minutes. Comm. Rogers seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to approve the 9/28 minutes. Comm. Turk seconded. Comm. Rogers abstained because he was not present at the 9/28 meeting. Three aye votes and the motion passed.

7. Trail Grant – Melinda Cochran

Ms. Cochran stated there was a Georgia Recreational Trails Program grant the County would have a good chance of getting. The grant is for a non-motorized trail and she feels Banks County is the perfect location for an equestrian trail. The trail could be on County property and possibly go under the by-pass to make a looped trail. Ms. Cochran stated the grant required a 20% match which could be done with in-kind services. This could include work from the horse associations, her time in writing the grant and designing the trail. Sammy Reece stated the area horse clubs would be willing to support this endeavor. The commissioners thought it was a good idea, but wanted information on how much it would cost to maintain the trail. Ms. Cochran stated MOU's could be established with the area horse club's for them to maintain the trail. She also stated the fees charged for riding the trails could be put in a separate fund for the trail in case of any costly maintenance after a storm. Ms. Cochran stated the grant deadline was November 30, 2010. Ch. Dalton stated the commissioners would do some research and make a decision in November.

8. Avita Community Partners – Joe Rutherford

Joe Rutherford, CEO of Avita Community Partners stated they served 280 citizens in Banks County and wanted to thank the commissioners for their \$14,000 contribution. He stated Avita covers thirteen counties and have nine facilities. He stated Banks County has a vacancy on the board and he would like to see it filled because it is very important in these economic times to have a representative from each County serving on the board.

9. Economic Development Position

Development Authority Chairman Jack Banks stated the Development Authority had made a motion to pay the salary for an economic development person for the first year. Ch. Banks stated the person would be a county employee. Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to empower the Development Authority to proceed in the process of hiring. Comm. Rogers seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

10. Outdoor Watering of Landscape Standards Resolution

Ch. Dalton stated this resolution had been passed down from the state. Comm. Rogers made a motion to approve the resolution. Comm. Turk seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed. *(Copy of resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2) 2010-17*

11. Windmill Farm Timber

Ch. Dalton stated there had been some discussion on having the timber on Windmill Farm cruised and select cut. Vice Ch. Barefoot asked if the timber was at a harvestable state and suggested to have the timber cruised and estimate the volume and put it on bid. Comm. Turk made a motion to use the forestry service to advise us and select and mark the timber that can be cut and the put it out to bid. Vice Ch. Barefoot seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed.

12. Boards and Authorities

a. Development Authority Member

Comm. Rogers made a motion to appoint Jonathan Bennett to the Development Authority. Ch. Dalton seconded. Four aye votes and the motion passed. This position is to replace Stan Stewart's unexpired term and will end on 2-28-2012.

13. Executive Session - Litigation

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to enter into executive session concerning litigation. Comm. Turk seconded. Four aye votes and the executive session began at 7:16 p.m.

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Comm. Turk seconded. Four aye votes and the executive session ended at 7:20 p.m. *(Copy of Executive Session Affidavit filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2)*

14. Adjournment

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Rogers seconded. Four aye votes and the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
