

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on November 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex.

Members Present

Chairman Jimmy Hooper
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell
Commissioner David Duckett
Commissioner Charles Turk
Commerce Sammy Reece

Staff Present

County Attorney Randall Frost
County Clerk Regina Gailey
Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker
Finance Officer Randy Failyer
Public Utilities Director Steve Reece

Media Present

Mainstreet News – Angie Gary
Access North Georgia – Rob Moore

1. Call to Order

Ch. Hooper called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ch. Hooper stated the agenda needed to be amended to add 12. Amended Farm Bureau Lease Agreement, 13. Public Transit Operating Contract and 14. Executive Session – Personnel & Land Acquisition.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

3. Moment of Reflection

Ch. Hooper stated we live in a world of uncertainty. He said we have gone from certain to uncertainty in his lifetime and where is it going to stop, he didn't know.

4. Pledge to the American Flag

Ch. Hooper led the Pledge to the American Flag.

5. Approval of Invoices

Motion to approve the invoices: Danny Maxwell

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

6. Approval of Minutes – 10/10, 10/13, 10/24, 10/25

Motion to approve the minutes: Sammy Reece

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

7. Planning Commission Recommendation:

a. CU-17-02 – Scott Ledford – A conditional use application to build a recycling center on Industrial Park Blvd.

Ch. Hooper closed the meeting and County Attorney Randall Frost opened the public hearing. Attorney Frost stated this was a conditional use application to build a recycling center on Industrial Park Blvd. Zoning Officer Paul Ruark stated the Planning Commission had recommended approval of the application.

Scott Ledford – 180 Industrial Park Blvd

Mr. Ledford stated that the property bordered the spray field and the fire department. He stated the recycling center would be for construction and demolition debris. Ch. Hooper stated he was concerned with the noise and smell that the business would generate. Mr. Ledford stated all operations would be indoors and O.S.H.A. required the center to have a beeper for backing up and he would install an aroma mister to control any smell that would occur during the hot and humid months. Comm. Turk stated he was concerned with the trucks backing up in the road in order to keep the road open for the public safety vehicles. Mr. Ledford stated the trucks would be pulling through. Mr. Ledford also stated the primary stream of waste would be construction and debris but there would also be some municipal solid waste. Mr. Ledford stated that the facility would have to be cleaned weekly but the equipment has to be cleaned daily. Ch. Turk asked what the hours of operation were going to be. Mr. Ledford said at times they could probably run 24 hrs a day but in the beginning they would start intake at 4 a.m. until 3 p.m. and then start cleaning and shutting down at 4 p.m. Public Utilities Director Steve Reece asked about the waste that would be dumped into the spray field ponds. Mr. Ledford stated the leech would be less than what comes from Waste Management.

Attorney Frost closed the public hearing and Ch. Hooper opened the meeting.

Motion to approve the conditional use application: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of Conditional Use Resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

8. Taxes

Sidney Dodd

Sidney Dodd stated he wanted to make sure that the tax dollars of Banks County were being spent wisely and not misused. He asked why a job was not bid out to County Bid Policy. Mr. Dodd stated there was a bid out for the water and wastewater generator additions. He stated the problem he saw was that Carter and Sloope Engineers had allowed JK Duren Company to put in the equipment for the SCADA System which was about an \$80,000 job and this wasn't bid out. Mr. Dodd stated that was not County policy. He also ask why bidders on this project where asked to bond a company that they don't have any control over.

9. Banks County Youth Hunt

Thomas Dalton with the Nails Creek Baptist Church Outdoor Men's Ministry in conjunction with GA DNR asked if they could hold the Youth Hunt on November 24 and November 25 at Windmill Farms.

Motion to approve the Youth Hunt: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

10. Public Utilities

a. GEFA Loan for Replacement of 900 Water Meters - \$309,500 Steve Reece

Public Utilities Director Steve Reece stated the GEFA Loan was an 80/20 match and would replace 900 residential and commercial meters. The total cost of the project would be \$309,000 with the County portion being \$247,000. Finance Officer Randy Failyer stated since this would not be a Tier 2 2017 SPLOST project it would be best to pay it out of Capital Funds and reimburse the Capital Account with 2017 SPLOST funds when available.

Motion to apply for the GEFA Loan to replace the meters to be paid from the Capital Fund to be paid back by the 2017 SPLOST when the SPLOST funds are available: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

b. Water Rate Increase

Steve Reece

Mr. Reece stated he would like to increase the residential rate by .25 per thousand gallons.

Motion to increase the base rate amount of water and sewage by \$1 and increase the water and sewage usage by .25 per thousand gallons effective January 1, 2018: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

c. Generator Purchase & Installation Bid Award

Steve Reece

Mr. Reece stated the low bid was received from Griffin Brothers in the amount of \$320,290.20.

Motion to award the low bid in the amount of \$320,920.20 to Griffin Brothers Inc.: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

11. Contracts & Agreements:

a. Piedmont Judicial Circuit Indigent Defense Contract

Mr. Failyer stated it was an annual contract in the amount of \$120,507 that had already been budgeted for.

Motion to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of contract filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

b. Gracepoint Fire Station Ground Lease

Motion to approve the Gracepoint Fire Station ground lease for a 40 year term: Charles Turk
Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of lease filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

12. Farm Bureau Lease Agreement

Comm. Reece stated the Senior Center had rented the back part of the Banks County Farm Bureau building for approximately 9 months. The insurance carrier said this couldn't be done without an increase in premium. Attorney Frost added an amendment to the lease agreement stating the County would add the landlord to the policy of insurance as an additional insured. County Clerk Regina Gailey stated the wording was pending approval from the County insurance carrier.

Motion to approve the amendment pending approval of the wording: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Danny Maxwell

Abstain: Sammy Reece

Vote: 4:0

Four aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of agreement filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

13. GDOT Transit Operating and Capital Assistance Contract

Mr. Failyer stated this was an agreement involving federal and state grant funds for a portion of operating and capital expenses for the transit program.

Motion to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign: Sammy Reece

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

(Copy of contract filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

14. Executive Session: Personnel & Land Acquisition

Motion to enter into executive session: Jimmy Hooper

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session began at 7:16 p.m.

Motion to close the executive session: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session ended at 7:26 p.m.

(Copy of affidavit filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-9)

Chief Tax Appraiser Resignation

Motion to accept the resignation of Guy Rogers: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Jimmy Hooper

Second: David Duckett

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
