

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on February 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex.

**Members Present**

Chairman Charles Turk  
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell  
Commissioner Bo Garrison  
Commissioner Sammy Reece  
Commissioner Keith Gardiner

**Staff Present**

County Clerk Jenni Gailey  
Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker  
Human Resources Director Arlene Ivey  
Finance Officer Randy Failyer  
Code Enforcement Officer Paul Ruark  
Public Utilities Director Horace Gee  
Fire Chief Steve Nichols  
EMA/911 Director Deidra Moore

**Media Present**

Rob Moore, Access North Georgia

**1. Call to Order**

Ch. Turk called the meeting to order.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Ch. Turk stated the following item needed to be added to the agenda:

14e. CR279/Waterplant Road

Motion to approve the agenda as amended: Sammy Reece

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

**3. Chairman's Report**

Ch. Turk reported on the following:

- EMA/911 received 4500 total calls including 309 Fire/EMS calls, 3934 Sheriff Office calls and 257 other agency calls.
- 17 permits were issued by the Planning/Zoning department.
- Moccasin Gap waterline was almost complete and would help the water connectivity of the entire water system.
- Hwy. 59 Roundabout was in the beginning stages of construction.
- RFP was out for the Multi-purpose Fields at the Recreation department.
- Sewer and water lines would be put out to bid soon.

**4. Pledge to the American Flag**

Comm. Gardiner led the Pledge to the American Flag.

## **5. Approval of Invoices**

Motion to approve the invoices: Danny Maxwell

Second: Bo Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **6. Approval of Previous Minutes – 1/12/2021**

Motion to approve the minutes: Keith Gardiner

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **7. Planning Commission Recommendations: NONE**

## **8. Public Comment: NONE**

## **9. Officer Designation for Sales Tax Information**

Regina Gailey County Clerk stated the Georgia Department of Revenue required that before the County could request sales tax information, the County had to designate an officer to get the information because it was sensitive documents that was not public information. Ms. Gailey further stated she recommended Randy Failyer Chief Finance Officer to be the designee and also asked for permission for the Chairman to sign the resolution.

Motion to designate Randy Failyer as the Officer for the Sales Tax Information and authorize the Chairman to sign the resolution: Danny Maxwell

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

*(Copy of Resolution filed in Attachment to Minute Book 10-3) 2021-02*

## **10. EMA/911**

### **a. Interpretation Services Agreement for 911**

Deidra Moore EMA/911 Director stated it was time to renew the interpretation services agreement. She stated the current company, Language Lines had become problematic with invoicing and billing. Ms. Moore also stated she had spoken with other directors throughout the state and they were very pleased with the provider Telelanguage. Ms. Moore asked the Commissioners to approve the agreement with Telelanguage and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.

Motion to select Telelanguage as the interpretation service provider and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement: Sammy Reece

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 4:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

*(Copy of Agreement filed in Attachment to Minute Book 10-3)*

### **b. DR4338 Grant & Match Scope Change – Annex Transfer Switch**

Ms. Moore stated this was a change in scope to a grant that was originally for the jail but was going to be asked to be changed to a transfer switch for the Annex building. Ms. Moore stated

she needed authorization to change the scope of the grant and for the Chairman to sign the change of scope.

Motion to approve the change in scope and authorize the Chairman to sign: Bo Garrison

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **11. Fire/EMS**

### **a. VFA Grant & Match – Skid Unit Slide & Hose for Rescue 4**

Fire Chief Steve Nichols stated the Forestry Service had a grant in the amount of \$5,000 that could be used for a Skid Unit Slide & Hose for Rescue 4. The equipment would cost \$13,135 so the County would pay the remainder which would be \$8,135.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the grant and pay from the 2017 SPLOST: Charles Turk

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **12. Public Utilities**

### **a. McCoy Bridge Rd Waterline from River to Marshburn Road**

Horace Gee Public Utilities Director stated that a private contractor wanted to partner with the County to install 3,000 ft. of 8" waterline with 3 hydrants from the river on McCoy Bridge Road to Marshburn Road. The County would provide the material at a cost of \$45,836 and the private contractor would provide the installation including a directional bore under the river.

Motion to approve the material purchase and partnership with contractor for installation:

Danny Maxwell

Second: Bo Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

### **b. Truck Purchase**

Mr. Gee stated that about 2 weeks ago the F250 truck that the water distribution department used broke down. The repair would cost around \$3,500 - \$4,000 but that would not be a long term guaranteed fix for a truck that had 484,000 miles. Mr. Gee received six quotes and Jefferson Motor Company was the lowest price for a 2020 F250 Super Cab Diesel truck for \$31,500.

Motion to approve the purchase of a 2020 F250 in the amount of \$31,500 from the 2017 SPLOST fund: Charles Turk

Second: Keith Gardiner

Abstain: Sammy Reece

Vote: 4:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **13. Alcohol Package License: Diamond Exxon**

Code Enforcement Officer Paul Ruark stated that Homer Exxon had changed names. The new owner had paid all alcohol package license fees and passed the background check.

Motion to approve the license: Sammy Reece

Second: Keith Gardiner

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

#### **14. Roads & Bridges**

##### **a. Road rename due to Steven B. Tanger extension**

Ch. Turk stated that Steven B. Tanger Blvd. would be rerouted due to the additional section of Steven B. Tanger Blvd. that would leave a section of road between Pizza Hut and Racetrac up to Sonic with no name. He recommended the following three names: Tanger Cut, Tanger Spur and Tanger Way.

Motion to name the road Tanger Way: Sammy Reece

Second: Bo Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

##### **b. Tractor Repair**

Ch. Turk stated that the road department had a repair that needed to be made to a tractor that was used with the side arm cutter. He stated the tractor needed a clutch pack and the parts and labor for the repair would be about \$20,000 but a new tractor would cost \$70,000 - \$80,000.

Motion to repair the tractor and use funds from 2018 Road & Bridge SPLOST: Keith Gardiner

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

##### **c. Speed Limit/Speed Detection Device Use Authorization**

Ch. Turk stated this was a resolution to allow the State Patrol and Sheriff's Office to use speed detection devices on various roads within the County.

Motion to approve the resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign: Keith Gardiner

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

*(Copy of Resolution filed in Attachment to Minute Book 10-3) 2021-03*

##### **d. Bid 220-907 Hebron Rd, Hawkins Rd, Borders Rd & Trout Lane**

Ch. Turk stated the roads for resurfacing were bid out in September 2020 but we were waiting until we had the money in the Road & Bridge SPLOST before the contract was approved.

Motion to approve the bid and contract for Stratton & Sons construction in the amount of \$971,309.40 to begin April 1, 2021 and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract: Danny Maxwell

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

*(Copy of Contract filed in Attachment to Minute Book 10-3)*

##### **e. CR279/Waterplant Road – Paving repair at entrance**

Ch. Turk stated the entrance and drainage pipe were damaged and the pipe was now below the level of East Ridgeway Road causing damage to the road. The cost of the repair was estimated to be around \$16,000 which included 422 ft. of 18 ft. wide asphalt paving and pipe replacement.

Motion to get a firm price to repair the entrance and pay from the 2017 SPLOST: Sammy Reece

Second: Keith Gardiner

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **15. Boards & Authorities**

### **a. Board of Elections**

Vice Ch. Maxwell stated he would like to table the item until he had time to talk to Andra Phagan about the reappointment of Carol Ayers.

Motion to table the item until the February 23, 2021 Commissioners meeting: Danny Maxwell

Second: Bo Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

### **b. Board of Elections**

Ch. Turk stated that Linda Lewallen had resigned from the Board of Elections. He stated the three chooses for replacement were Ann Moon, Wanda Eubanks and Sharon Pruitt.

Motion to submit Ann Moon to the judge for consideration for the Board of Elections member replacement: Keith Gardiner

Second: Charles Turk

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **16. Executive Session: Possible Litigation/Disposal, Personnel & Land Acquisition**

Motion to enter into executive session for possible litigation/disposal, personnel and land acquisition:

Bo Garrison

Second: Keith Gardiner

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session began at 7:01 p.m.

Motion to come out of executive session: Danny Maxwell

Second: Sammy Reece

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the executive session ended at 8:16 p.m.

*(Copy of Affidavit filed in Attachment to Minute Book 10-3)*

Motion to continue the Covid-19 pay with 80 hours maximum until April 13, 2021: Charles Turk

Second: Keith Gardiner

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the motion passed.

## **17. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Sammy Reece

Second: Danny Maxwell

Vote: 5:0

All aye votes and the meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

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Chairman

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Assistant County Clerk

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