

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on March 22, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex. Present were Chairman Milton Dalton, Vice Chairman Charles Turk and Commissioners Danny Maxwell, Sammy Reece and Ernest Rogers.

**1. Call to Order**

Ch. Dalton called the meeting to order.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Ch. Dalton stated “10. Windmill Farm Timber Bid Agreement” and “11. Mainstreet Technologies Service Agreement – Clerk of Superior Court” needed to be added to the agenda. Commissioner Reece made a motion to amend the agenda. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and the agenda was approved as amended.

**3. Public Comment: NONE**

**4. Public Hearings to Consider Planning Commission Recommendations: NONE**

**5. Excessive Water Bill**

*Eric Grover*

Mr. Grover stated he wished to explain what happened to his water bill over a month ago. He stated he had received a phone call from Chris Dietrich stating the county had shut the water off because there had been a 500,000 usage reading. He stated it took him about two hours to find the leak. He fixed the leak which was near the house. He asked that the \$3,000 bill be reduced one time only to the average bill that he would have ordinarily used. He stated several counties in Georgia have one-time forgiveness policies. Comm. Rogers asked if the Public Utilities Director offered Mr. Grover a contract to pay the bill over 11 months. Mr. Grover said yes and that he appreciated that offer. Ch. Dalton stated there was not a provision in place to forgive water bills. Comm. Maxwell stated that would not be possible due to the fact that other excessive bills had not been forgiven within the past year. Mr. Grover stated it could be for excessive bills going forward. Comm. Reece stated if it is forgiven, the bill would revert to the taxpayers. Comm. Reece asked if it would help to extend the contract to 18 months. Mr. Grover stated he did not want to extend the contract.

**6. Town of Homer Mutual Aid Agreement**

Vice Ch. Turk stated this was the Homer coverage area agreement only – not the county coverage area agreement and that Homer is asking for mutual aid from the county. Comm. Maxwell made a motion to approve the agreement and to authorize the Chairman and the Fire Chief to sign the agreement. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of agreement filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2)*

**7. Senior Center Grant Local Share: \$8,450 – Legacy Link**

*Randy Failyer*

Mr. Failyer stated this was for the FY2012 budget and was a commitment of matching funds for the grant and the amount had remained the same for the past three years. Chairman Dalton made a motion to approve the commitment letter. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of commitment letter filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2)*

**8. Commercial Water Hydrant Meter Rental**

*Steve Reece*

Comm. Turk told of concerns with the \$30 per month rental fee from citizens that need the meter only a few days at a time. He stated that a more reasonable fee should be imposed. Comm. Rogers made a motion to approve \$2 per day or \$45 per month minimum with the price per 1,000 gallons remaining the same. The customer must specify prior to renting the meter if they are renting by the day or the month. Comm. Rogers stated this would be effective immediately. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and motion carried.

**9. Technology Administrator Resignation**

Ch. Dalton read a resignation letter from Technology Administrator Leonard Burris effective April 1, 2011. Comm. Rogers made a motion to accept the letter of resignation. Vice Ch. Turk seconded. All aye votes and motion carried. Personnel Officer Judy Greer asked if this position would be refilled and if so the hiring freeze would have to be lifted. Vice Ch. Turk stated the hiring freeze was still on and would remain. Comm. Rogers stated contracting would be an option if the part time personnel could not handle the problems that may arise.

**10. Windmill Farm Timber Bid Agreement**

Ms. Gailey stated the county attorney recommended adding the wording that Banks County will approve the terms of the final contract with the timber company. Comm. Rogers made a motion to approve the agreement with the recommendation added with Catlin Forestry Services, LLC. He also specified the motion would include the 8% commission above the bid amount being paid by the highest bidder and to authorization for the Chairman to sign the agreement. Vice Ch. Turk clarified that county would have right to reject any or all bids and then seconded the motion. All aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of agreement filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2)*

**11. Mainstreet Technologies Service Agreement – Clerk of Superior Court**

Tim Harper, Clerk of Superior Court stated the contract was for electronic scanning and indexing of records and he said the contract had been reviewed by the county attorney. He stated Mainstreet Technologies had said they did not have a problem with waiting until July 2011 for the first payment. They would go ahead and begin the work however. Comm. Maxwell stated to clarify the contract amount, \$11,792 for imaging and approximately \$41,000 for indexing with the total cost being approximately \$52,935. Comm. Rogers made a motion to approve the agreement with a specified time limit for completion to be attached and to authorize the Chairman to sign the document. Comm. Reece seconded. All aye votes and motion carried. *(Copy of agreement filed in Attachment to Minutes Book #9-2)*

**12. Adjournment**

With no more business, Comm. Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Maxwell seconded. All aye votes and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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Chairman

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County Clerk

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