



BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CALLED MEETING

Courthouse Annex Boardroom | 150 Hudson Ridge | Homer, GA 30547
Friday, February 28, 2025 at 10:00 AM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ch. Griffith called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Chairman Taylor Griffith
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell
Commissioner Chris Ausburn
Commissioner Keith Gardiner
Commissioner Bo Garrison

STAFF

Deputy County Clerk Erin Decker
Water Treatment Plant Operator Andrew Strickland

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

a. Public Utilities: Water Capacity

Water Plant Operator Andrew Strickland stated Banks County had been producing approximately 22,000,000 gallons per month. He further stated Banks County had approximately 26,000,000 gallons per month going out. He stated below 185 was mostly on Franklin County. He also stated Banks County has 3.825 million gallons in storage. He stated in the summer - tanks drop.

Commissioner Gardiner asked what the tap limit was currently.

Mr. Strickland stated they were close to the limit until another source is found. He stated the current limit is approximately 4,000 taps.

Commissioner Ausburn asked if the problem just started.

Mr. Strickland stated it has been coming approximately 5 years.

Commissioner Gardiner stated an offsite reservoir could be an option if permits are acquired. He stated additional capacity from another reservoir may be an option.

Mr. Strickland stated a new filter would have to be installed and the plant expanded. He stated they had been turned down a few years ago for additional 100,000 gallons per day withdrawal.

Commissioner Ausburn stated the efforts to work with Toccoa was still under way and would be a viable option but will take a lot of time. He stated Banks County needs to explore every option and stated the need to pump the brakes.

Commissioner Gardiner stated Homer was working to improve their wells.

Mr. Strickland stated Homer averaged 4.6 million gallons per month but they had been off 2 to 3 years.

Commissioner Ausburn stated the goal was not scare the citizens but to communicate that they are trying to get ahead of a potential problem.

Motion to approve an emergency 30-day moratorium on R-2, M-1 and PUD zoning applications to expire March 30, 2025. This will be in the form of a resolution. This would allow time to further review the capacity data discussed.

Motion made by Chairman Griffith, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the enacting resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrison, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed. *(Copy of resolution filed in Attachment to Minutes 11-2)2025-06*

b. Public Utilities: Public Utilities Director

Motion to hire Chad Wilbanks as Public Utilities Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Vice Chairman Maxwell.

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Gardiner, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.

Voting Yea: Chairman Griffith, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner,
Commissioner Garrison

Vote: 5:0

All yea votes and the motion passed.

Chairman

County Clerk