

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 7, 2004
MINUTES**

Newton County Historic Courthouse
Covington, Georgia
Chairman Aaron Varner Presiding

Present: Chairman Aaron Varner, Commissioners' Mort Ewing, Ronnie Dimsdale, Ester Fleming, Jr., J.C. Henderson, and Monty Laster; County Attorney Tommy Craig and Clerk Jackie Smith. Executive Assistant John Middleton was in the hospital and unable to attend the meeting.

Also Present: Will Whitehorn, Covington News
Crystal Tatum, Newton Citizen
Large group of citizens

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Chairman Varner read the thought for the day and extended a welcome to all present. He then offered the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to our great nation.

APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES JULY 6, 2004

Motion: To approve Work Session Minutes as written.
Proposed by: Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two
Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One
Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES AUGUST 17, 2004

Motion: To approve Work Session Minutes as written.
Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four
Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five
Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES AUGUST 17, 2004

Motion: To approve BOC Session Minutes as written.
Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One
Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five
Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES AUGUST 31, 2004

Motion: To approve Work Session Minutes as written.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

Motion: To approve Work Session Minutes as written.

Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

RESOLUTION R090704 – COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FFY2005

Chairman Varner told the board this was a housekeeping item that is required by the Georgia Department of Human Resources to receive grant money.

Motion: To approve Resolution R090704 – Community Service Block Grant Program FFY2005.

Proposed by: Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R090704, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

RESOLUTION R090704A – SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Chairman Varner told the board this is another housekeeping item that is required for the Short Term Work Program Update for the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Motion: To approve Resolution R090704a – Short Term Work Program Update for the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution is contained in file number R090704a, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

DFACS APPOINTMENT – DISTRICT FOUR

Commissioner Henderson presented Jackie Ross' name for reappointment to the DFACS Board. He commented that Ms. Ross has done an excellent job serving the past several months and was appreciative of her willingness to serve.

Motion: To reappoint Jackie Ross to serve on the Newton County DFACS Board representing District Four for a five-year term. Her term will expire on June 30, 2007.

Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Motion Carried Unanimously

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY & NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Chairman Varner told the board this is a yearly agreement between Newton County and the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the county. This is a unit of the U.S. Department of Agricultural.

Motion: To approve the Cooperative Agreement between Newton County & the Natural Resources Conservation Service as presented.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

IMPACT FEE CIE PLAN

Mr. Bill Ross, Jr. (Ross & Associates) and Mr. Tim Preece. The CIE Plan was presented to the commissioners prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Ross discussed an exemption policy for the CIE and recommended to keep that in the CIE, as well as, Libraries, Jail/Sheriff's Office, Parks & Recreation, and Road Improvements. By keeping everything listed it will avoid a possible 60-day amendment review.

The board clarified the following:

- Figures can be adjusted up or down within the 60-day review period.
- Adoption tonight allows board time over the next 60 days to work firm numbers.
- Allows for adding or deleting exemption policy.
- Fees are set by the "demand for service".
- Market area drives the process.
- Impact Fees are "fair share" of cost of service.
- Approval tonight to begin process...not to approve Impact Fees.
- CIE Plan does not commit board to adoption of Impact Fees.
- CIE must be sent to begin process.
- CIE is a list of projected needs for county.

- Board approval/denial for Impact Fees will take place at the regularly scheduled meeting of BOC November 16th.
- SPLOST another avenue for funding.
- Wants balanced program – possible Impact Fee/SPLOST combination
- Mechanism for collection is through Building Permits.
- Get cities on board as quickly as possible.
- Send CIE to Northeast Georgia Regional Development Center for review/approval and they will send to Department of Community Affairs.
- Would like to see a \$300.00 trip fee
- Leaning towards road projects and jail projects.

Attached Information:

Impact Fee Methodology Report/Capital Improvements Element Worksheets

Motion: To approve the \$300.00 Trip Fee for Impact Fee CIE Plan.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion: To approve the Transmittal Resolution Capital Improvements Element Newton County, Georgia to the Northeast Georgia Regional Development Center and State for review, as per the requirements of the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Motion Carried Unanimously

Note: The original resolution was sent to the Northeast Georgia RDC and a copy of said resolution is contained in file number R090704b, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

COUNTY CHECKS:

Motion: To approve the checks as read.

Proposed by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

ALCOHOL LICENSE

FIRST READING

OSCAR CASTRO

ROCKY PLAINS GROCERY STORE

2310 HIGHWAY 212

COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30016
OWNER: OSCAR CASTRO (100%)
DISTRICT ONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: 8:10 P.M.

Motion: To enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing threatened/pending litigation, personnel and land acquisition.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 9:25 P.M.

Motion: To enter into Regular Session.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

CONDEMNATIONS

Motion: To approve Resolution R090704c, d, e, f Condemnation Proceedings as presented by County Attorney. (William H. Veal & Barbara J. Veal), (Charles T. Galloway, Jr.), (Lanelle Coggin Carter n/k/a Lanelle Coggin Bledsoe), and (James R. Golden & Beverly T. Golden).

Proposed by: Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

ADJOURN

Time: 9:30 P.M.

Motion: To adjourn.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie B. Smith, Clerk