

1. Agenda

Documents:

[MARCH 20, 2018 AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. Minutes

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**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**1124 Clark Street**  
**Covington, Georgia**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Agenda**  
**March 20, 2018**

Thought for the day...

" We leave our handprints on everything we touch. Long after the print fades, the impression they made lasts forever." ~ Samantha Storsberg

7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Chairman Marcello Banes
2. Invocation: Dr. David Moody, Baptist Tabernacle
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Agenda Adoption
5. Citizen Comments
  
6. Chairman's Report:
- 1-25 6a. County Manager's Report:
  
7. Old Business: None
  
8. Consent Agenda
- 26-28 8a. County Clerk: WS Minutes dated February 13, 2018
  
- 29-32 8b. County Clerk: BOC Minutes dated March 6, 2018
  
- 33 8c. Juvenile Court-Drug Court/Judge Roberts: Request for approval of agreement for services with "CHANCE" for treatment & supervision services in connection with Juvenile Drug Treatment Court in the amount of \$4,495 to be funded by CJCC grant A18-8-034
  
- 34 8d. Juvenile Court/Judge Roberts: Request permission to apply for Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) grant funds to implement a Juvenile Mental Health Treatment Court in the amount of \$200,000 maximum grant fund with maximum match of \$22,222 to be satisfied by use of employees.
  
- 35 8e. Sheriff's office/Brandy Burch: Request approval to apply for FY19 Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (HEAT), Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) Grant in the amount of \$213,959.61 with no matching funds.
  
- 36 & SP 9. Finance Department: Monthly Financial Report – February 2018

- 37-38      10.    GIS Department/Tim Lawrence & Development Services/Zach Montgomery (partnering): Request approval of budget amendments to move funds into appropriate accounts to replace existing vehicles (budgeted) with 2 new vehicles at a total cost of \$46,500 (GIS Dept. cost of \$22,500 and Dev. Services cost of \$24,000).
- 39            11.    DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF R032018– A RESOLUTION OF THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING E. PAT CAMPBELL, JR. TO TRAP COYOTES ON CERTAIN COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED ON LOWER RIVER ROAD
- SP            12.    Discussion/Consideration of the proposed Resolution regarding Newton County Recreation Commission

**7:30 PM ZONINGS – None**

- 40-46            f13.    STREETLIGHT PETITION  
 Autumn Ridge Subdivision  
 Resolution R032018a  
 A RESOLUTION PROVIDED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREETLIGHTS AND THE ASSESSMENT OF THE ANNUAL COSTS OF MAINTANING AND OPERATING SAID LIGHTS AGAINST PROPERTY SERVED BY THOSE LIGHTS.
14.    ALCOHOL LICENSE  
Final Reading  
 Newton Market  
 1032 Hwy. 142  
 Covington, GA  
 District One
- Final Reading  
 Stop N Shop  
 2156 Hwy. 81 N.  
 Oxford, GA 30054  
 District Five
15.    Citizen Comments
16.    Commissioner Comments
17.    Executive Session
18.    Adjourn

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**1124 Clark Street**  
**Covington, Georgia**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**March 20, 2018**

Present: Chairman Marcello Banes, Commissioners' Stan Edwards, Lanier Sims, Nancy Schulz, J.C. Henderson, Ronnie Cowan, County Attorney Megan Martin, County Manager Lloyd Kerr and Deputy Clerk Judy T. Johnson.

Large group of citizens, the Covington News, and the Newton Citizen

Chairman Banes called the meeting to order, extended a welcome, and read the thought for the day. The invocation was given by Sheriff Ezell Brown; and the Pledge of Allegiance to our great flag was led by Commissioner Sims.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

Motion by Commissioner Edwards, second by Commissioner Schulz to adopt the March 20, 2018 agenda.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Banes invited the public to Newton County's 1<sup>st</sup> Family Fun Day on April 14, 2018 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Legion Field in Covington.

- Chairman Banes introduced Megan Martin, County Attorney, to present an updated financial report on attorney fees.
- Mrs. Martin gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding attorney fees. The presentation is attached and made part of these minutes.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

County Manger Kerr briefed the Commissioners on the following activities:

- Development Services residential and commercial building permit recap
- Newton County Fire Services completed an active fire training
- Great American Clean-up is scheduled for this upcoming Saturday, March 24, 2018

**Consent Agenda**

**Community Partnership: Requesting Newton County to continue to serve as the Fiscal Agent for 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)**

**County Clerk: BOC WS dated January 16, 2018**

**County Clerk: BOC Minutes dated January 16, 2018**

**County Clerk: ES Minutes dated January 16, 2018**

**County Clerk: WS Minutes dated February 20, 2018**

**County Clerk: BOC Minutes dated February 20, 2018**

**County Clerk: BOC ES dated February 20, 2018 @ 7:18 pm**

**County Clerk: BOC ES dated February 20, 2018 @ 9:42 pm**

**County Clerk: SCM dated February 27, 2018**  
**Superior Court: Permission to apply for CJCC FY19 Grant Funds**  
**Superior Court (Resource Court): Permission to apply for SAMHSA Grant Funds**  
**Superior Court (Veterans Court): Permission to apply for CJCC FY19 Grant Funds**  
**Sheriff's Office: Permission to apply for FY17 SCAAP Grant (no matching funds)**  
**Sheriff's Office: Permission to apply for FY18 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) (no matching funds)**  
**Juvenile Court: Permission to apply for Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) grant funds for Family Treatment Court**

Motion made by Commissioner Schulz, second by Commissioner Sims to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

### **Finance Department: Monthly Financial Report – February 2018**

Finance Director, Nicole Cross, went over the financial report with the Board of Commissioners that included projected slides visible for the audience to follow along.

**GIS Department/Tim Lawrence & Development Services/Zach Montgomery (partnering): Request approval of budget amendments to move funds into appropriate accounts to replace existing vehicles (budgeted) with 2 new vehicles at a total cost of \$46,500 (GIS Dept. cost of \$22,500 and Dev. Services cost of \$24,000).**

- County Manager Kerr explained the budget amendment request and asked for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Cowan to approve the budget amendment, second by Commissioner Sims.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

### **DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF R032018– A RESOLUTION OF THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING E. PAT CAMPBELL, JR. TO TRAP COYOTES ON CERTAIN COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED ON LOWER RIVER ROAD**

- County Manager Kerr explained Mr. Campbell had a current resolution with the county to trapped coyotes on Newton County property and this was to amend the boundary to include a portion on an adjoining property.

Motion made by Commissioner Edwards to approve R032018, second by Commissioner Sims.

- Commissioner Schulz raised the question if the agreement covered any injury that may occur
- Discussion among the Commissioners to include a Waiver of Liability and bring it back to the next Board meeting on April 3, 2018.

Commission Edwards made a substitute motion to table R032018 until April 3, 2018, second by Commissioner Sims.  
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

**Discussion/Consideration of the proposed Resolution, R032018b, regarding Newton County Recreation Commission**

- Chairman Banes removed himself as Chair and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Cowan, Vice Chairman.
- Vice Chairman Cowan informed the audience Mr. Josh McKelvey had submitted a letter of resignation from the Recreation Board so it would not be necessary to vote on Chairman Banes' decision to remove Mr. McKelvey from that Board.
- Vice Chairman Cowan discussed R032018b, a resolution to re-establish the Recreation Commission by cleaning up and enhancing the former document where language was unclear.
- Vice Chairman Cowan explained the intent of the document was basically the same, but the new language would provide clear direction to the Recreation Board with the goal of preserving and protecting the relationship between the City of Covington and Newton County.
- Vice Chairman Cowan noted that under the new policy, the terms of service for the Recreation Board members would begin with a clean start as of March 30, 2018 with only members appointed to begin serving in January 2018 remaining on the Board; and all other terms would go back through an appointment process by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.
- Vice Chairman Cowan turned the meeting back over to Chairman Banes.
- Commissioner Henderson stated he was not part of putting the resolution together.
- Commissioner Sims confirmed the number of members would be nine (9) and not seven (7). Attorney Martin concurred nine (9) was the correct membership number.

Motion made by Commissioner Sims to approve R032018b, second by Commissioner Schulz.

Motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Henderson voting in opposition.

**STREETLIGHT PETITION  
Autumn Ridge Subdivision  
Resolution R032018a**

**A RESOLUTION PROVIDED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREETLIGHTS AND THE ASSESSMENT OF THE ANNUAL COSTS OF MAINTANING AND OPERATING SAID LIGHTS AGAINST PROPERTY SERVED BY THOSE LIGHTS.**

- Commissioner Sims stated he owned property within the subdivision and therefore would recuse himself from the vote.

Motion made by Commissioner Edwards to approve R032018a, second by Commissioner Schulz.

Motion carried (4-1-0) with Commissioner Sims abstaining.

## **Alcohol License**

### **First Reading** **Newton Market** **1032 Hwy. 142** **Covington, GA** **District One**

Motion made by Commissioner Edwards to approve, second by Commissioner Sims.  
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

### **First Reading** **Stop N Shop** **2156 Hwy. 81 N.** **Oxford, GA 30054** **District Five**

Motion made by Commissioner Cowan to approve, second by Commissioner Henderson.  
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

## **Citizen Comments**

- Terry Jackson addressed the BOC regarding the handicap signage to help citizens when visiting the historic courthouse.
- Alisha Brown stated that the county needed more development to bring in more companies not more homes.
- Thelma Starr Nolley asked when the job as Director of the Recreation Board would be opened.
- Archie Shepherd expressed concerns over the resolution for the Recreation Board and asked who are the members placed on the Board since January.
- Crystal Albright stated she would like to see more funds in the FY19 budget go to the Sheriff's department as she lives in west Newton and desires to see more focus on our safety. She also asked if the county had a slogan to help promote the county.
- Sarah Dauby asked the Board to get in touch with our local representatives to have groceries exempt from SPLOST taxing.
- Gladstone Nicholson stated the meetings were going well, we do need a slogan, and expressed his thoughts on needing additional resources to assist the Sheriff's Department as well as Fire Services and all life safety positions.
- Howard Griggs asked that we put our differences aside and work together.

## **Commissioner Comments**

- Commissioner Edwards: None
- Commissioner Sims informed the public that would not be seeking public office this term to spend more time with his aging parents and growing family. He also stated would be resigning from the SWA at the end of the county fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>) to allow the Board to appoint another member to "get their feet wet during my last 6 months of service".
- Commissioner Schulz: None

- Commissioner Henderson stated “when history repeats itself, you can say J.C. didn’t tell you”.
- Commissioner Cowan: None

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjourn**

Motion by Commissioner Edwards and second by Commissioner Sims to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

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Judy T. Johnson, Deputy County Clerk

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Marcello Banes, Chairman



**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**Newton County Historic Courthouse**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

Present: Chairman Marcello Banes, Commissioner's Stan Edwards, Lanier Sims, Nancy Schulz, and Ronnie Cowan, Attorney Megan Martin, County Manager Lloyd Kerr, and Clerk Jackie Smith

Commissioner Henderson entered the meeting late.

Covington News, Newton Citizen and a small group of citizens

Chairman Banes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and extended a welcome to all in attendance. Commissioner Edwards gave the invocation and Commissioner Schulz led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Purpose: To discuss possible TSPLOST

Chairman Banes recognized County Attorney Megan Martin

- Overview of what a TSPLOST is.
- Covers transportation projects
- Provided PowerPoint presentation
- Board will compile a "general list" of projects.
- Board would like to see TSPLOST referendum on November ballot
- Board authorized the county manager and county attorney to meet with the cities regarding intergovernmental agreements.
- Projects: Large road improvements (Commissioner Sims)  
Projects: Paving and maintaining some roads in District 5 (Commissioner Cowan)  
Projects: Limit to projects where we see the most bang for the buck. (Commissioner Schulz) – widening Brown Bridge Road, 15,000 cars per day.  
Projects: Suggest no more than five (5).  
Projects: District One would be in favor if it is to improve roads in District One (Commissioner Edwards) Will meet with constituents and report back to board.
- Discussed public transit....how do we pay for maintenance and operation.
- Newton Tomorrow: Maurice Carter spoke to the board and shared ways to move forward with TSPLOST. Made some suggestions: 1. don't try to do all at once. 2. User centered. 3. Need: elderly (doctor, grocery store, drug store, etc.) 4. Find the real value in public transportation. 5. Focus on needs of the community.
- Attorney Martin mentioned a federal program... "Dial A-Ride" and Cherokee County has a program called CATS. Both are very successful programs.
- Chairman Banes expressed appreciation to Mr. Carter for his information and comments.
- Commissioner Sims suggested looking into a private partnership with businesses.
- Chairman Banes polled the board in support of moving forward.
  1. Legal documents
  2. Meeting with citizens regarding IGA
  3. Creation of a TSPLOST committee (similar to SPLOST committee)
  4. Placing referendum on November ballot.
- Poll: Commissioner's Edwards, Sims, Schulz, & Cowan supports moving forward.

- Commission Henderson: abstained from the poll.
- Attachments:  
PowerPoint Presentation  
Potential TSPLOST Collections (Lloyd Kerr)  
ACCG Information Document on Single County TSPLOST  
Sample Intergovernmental Agreement (Walker County)  
Sample Project List

With no further business, a motion by Commissioner Edwards, second by Commissioner Sims, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk

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Marcello Banes, Chairman