

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
1124 Clark Street
Covington, Georgia
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 6, 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 Pastor Stan Patterson, Church @ 213; and the Pledge of Allegiance to our great flag was led by Chief Conner.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Chairman Banes requested to remove items #9 & # 21 from the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Edwards, second by Commissioner Sims to adopt the March 6, 2018 agenda as stated.

Motion carried unanimously (4-0)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Banes recognized the Newton High School Lady Rams and invited Head Coach Johnson, Assistant Coach Ray, and the Lady Rams to the stage.

- Coach Johnson thanked the board for recognizing the team and shared this team was the first team since 1960 that made it to the State Championship
- Chairman Banes reminded the audience that the Lady Rams earned this spot by coming back from a 20-point deficit to win the game to place them in the finals
- Chairman Banes invited everyone to cheer them on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 6 o'clock as they compete for the State Championship.

Commissioner J.C. Henderson entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manger Kerr briefed the Commissioners on the following activities included in his handout:

- The new roof has been completed on the existing animal shelter
- Finance has submitted the 2017 audit for review to GFOA for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Award
- Great American Clean-up is scheduled for 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 Sims, second by Commissioner Schulz to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

PUBLIC HEARING

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF O-030618A – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT REGULATIONS REGARDING SECTION 32-104 OF THE NEWTON COUNTY CODE CONCERNING MASSAGE AND SPA ESTABLISHMENTS.

Motion made by Commissioner Schulz to table O-030618A until a time the Sheriff had an opportunity to review the Ordinance, second by Commissioner Sims.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

PUBLIC HEARING

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF O-030618B – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT REGULATIONS REGARDING SECTION 32-105 OF THE NEWTON COUNTY CODE CONCERNING REGULATIONS OF THE SALE OF NON-TRADITIONAL TOBACCO PARAPHERNALIA AND USE OF E-CIGARETTES.

Motion made by Commissioner Schulz to table O-030618B until a time the Sheriff had an opportunity to review the Ordinance, second by Commissioner Sims.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

PUBLIC HEARING

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF O-030618C – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT REGULATIONS REGARDING SECTION 32-106 OF THE NEWTON COUNTY CODE CONCERNING PROHIBITION OF THE SALE, MANUFACTURE, USE, DELIVERY, PURCHASE, POSSESSION OR DISTRIBUTION OF UNREGULATED MARIJUANA SUBSTITUTES.

Motion made by Commissioner Schulz to table O-030618B until a time the Sheriff had an opportunity to review the Ordinance, second by Commissioner Sims.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF R030618D – TO REPEAL THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM AND ADOPT A CONSOLIDATED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Motion made by Commissioner Cowan to approve R030618D adopting the new employee handbook and repeal the civil service system, second by Commissioner Sims.
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF PORTERDALE REGARDING SPLOST 2017 FOR THE YELLOW RIVER PARK.

- County Manager Kerr briefed the Board that new information had come to light and requested time to further investigate before the Board made a final decision on the allocation of the SPLOST funds.

Motion made by Commissioner Sims to table the Intergovernmental Agreement until the new information could be considered, second by Commissioner Edwards.
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

**DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND BUTTS COUNTY;
DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND HENRY COUNTY;
DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND MORGAN COUNTY;
DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND ROCKDALE COUNTY;
DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF SOCIAL CIRCLE; and
DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND WALTON COUNTY**

- County Attorney Martin stated the 6 Mutual Aid Agreements could be heard together at one time.
- County Attorney Martin shared these were standard agreements that will come up yearly.

Motion made by Commissioner Edwards to approve all six Mutual Aid Agreements, second by Commissioner Sims.
Motion carried unanimously (5-0)

Alcohol License

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

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

Citizen Comments

- Sarah Dauby addressed the BOC regarding the Massage & Spa Ordinance. She expressed concerns over trafficking and encouraged the Board to consider who the real victim is.
- Gladstone Nicholson stated the meeting at the Newton County Career Academy was well attended and thanked Commissioner Schulz and Sherriff Brown for attending to hear the concerns of the community.

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Edwards: None
- Commissioner Sims: None
- Commissioner Schulz extended a thank you to the Mr. Nicholson and the Newton Cares Group for an energizing Saturday morning meeting and thanked Sherriff Brown for participating in the meeting on “Crime & Grime”
- Commissioner Henderson noted the upcoming job fair at Nelson Heights from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, March 9, 2018.
- Commissioner Cowan: None

Executive Session

None

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Schulz and 2nd by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Judy T. Johnson, Deputy County Clerk

Marcello Banes, Chairman