

Present were, Chairman Banes, Commissioners Stan Edwards, Demond Mason, Alana Sanders, J.C. Henderson and Ronnie Cowan, Interim County Manager Jarvis Sims, Attorney Patrick Jaugstetter and Deputy Clerk Susan Nolley. Other administrative staff and the media staff were also present.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Banes
2. **Invocation:** Commissioner Henderson
3. **Pledge:** led by Commissioner Sanders
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:**

Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve adoption of the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cowan. Passed Vote 4-0
Commissioner Mason was not present when the vote was taken.

5. **Citizen Comments:** None

6. **Reports from Chairman Banes**

Chairman Banes opened the floor to Dr. Audrey Arona - CEO/District Health Director GNR Public Health.

Dr. Arona gave a PowerPoint presentation to include; Global Monkeypox Outbreak and Demographics of Georgia Monkeypox cases, vaccine availability, newest COVID-19 Booster, update on Poliovirus and the vaccine. *the PowerPoint attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. *Commissioner Mason entered @ 7:11 p.m.

Chairman Banes

Special acknowledgement to Stephon Castle, Newton County High School Rams Basketball Senior and Ms. Felecia Hodges and Liberty Middle School FCCLA.

Fuzz Run Saturday, September 10th-Proclamation to Elijah Goodwin

Affordable Homes Panel /Tri-County Collaboration Meeting

State of Community Luncheon/Bicentennial Time Capsule-August 29th

September 2nd -Kickoff for Jersey-T-shirt Day

7. **Reports from ICM Jarvis Sims** None to report

8. **Unfinished Business** Proposed Facilities Policy – Resolution R090622 (R060722)

This item was tabled on June 7, 2022.

Patrick said he has made an effort to address concerns from the board of the proposed Facilities Policy, stating that a limitation has been removed to where the policy will apply to all properties not just the county community centers.

The policy creates the application process to which every tenant will be required to complete and the board will be the deciding factor for approval of each applicant. The policy does limit the lease term to twelve months and will apply to any tenant other than a non-governmental tenant.

Chairman Banes asked if there were any questions from the board.

Commissioner Sanders questioned section 1a) in regards to solicitation, should that be an application process versus the county manager soliciting businesses.

Patrick said we could change solicit to advertise.
The correction in Section 1a) to change the word solicit to advertise.

Commissioner Sanders questioned how would they differentiate non-profits and for profits.
Patrick said that he wanted to make sure to create a policy that will apply to everyone.

Commissioner Sanders mentioned Section 2b) as it references community centers.

Patrick said there are some sections that apply specifically to the community centers and in Section 2b it is to limit the term of the lease.

Patrick said that wording could be changed to state any county property.

Commissioner Sanders suggested that the community centers be identified on the policy.

Patrick said that when we did mention it before there was some debate from the board to what a community center was or wasn't, and it seems to make better sense to state if the county owns it and we want to lease it then we have to follow a policy.

We want to have a policy that applies to all county property and that's one of the concerns raised, we wanted to make sure that we aren't treating the non-profit entities different than anyone else that is renting county property.

This policy will apply to anyone leasing county property period.

Commissioner Sanders said we just need to remove the word community center.

Patrick said the way to address it would be to change the wording in section 2b) from community center to any county property.

The correction to be made in section 2b. (change community center to county property).

Commissioner Sanders questioned if section 2c) referencing "deadline" applies to all who are currently occupying the facilities or just for incoming.

Patrick said his recommendation would be that it applies to all.

Commissioner Sanders suggested where it's states, financial stability, it should be outlined, stating what we are looking for.

Patrick said the board will make that decision based on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Sanders questioned if section VII should state; approval of the Board of Commissioners instead of consideration of the Board.

Patrick said it only applies to what the application form says and he wanted the County Manager to develop the application form, put it out, let applicants send it in and all applications will come to the board to approve who the ultimate tenant is.

Patrick said Paragraph 1.d. VII gives the County Manager some discretion to include or request information without having to come before the board to get that approved.

Commissioner Sanders questioned if all applications processed would be received no matter who the applicants are.

Patrick said yes, in Section 2b it calls for all applications to be transmitted to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Sanders asked why certain stipulations of the application do not apply to all applicants and expressed she feels that everyone should have the same standards.

Commissioner Henderson asked Patrick what are the non-profits that service the community going to do in order to continue to service their community.

Patrick stated if this policy is approved, he would expect that the non-profits that are utilizing county property would get with the county staff and submit their application as soon as possible.

Patrick said that he is not involved to how they would receive funding.

The county will process disbursements of the funds after completion of the audits.

Commissioner Henderson said the audits were not being done in a timely manner.

Commissioner Cowan said that he would like to make a motion to approve The Proposed Facilities Policy Resolution R090622 with the following changes:

Paragraph 1a) change the word solicit to advertise and to remove other entities.

Paragraph 2b) to state: Board of Commissioners may select from the applicant one or more applicants who will be authorized by county property. *remove word community center(s).
Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.

Chairman Banes asked if there was any more discussion.

Commissioner Edwards asked for an example of a for-profit using one of the county facilities.

Patrick said he is not aware of any and it would be the same way a non-profit would use one and ultimately the board will authorize approval of the lease agreements.

Chairman Banes called for the vote.
Motion carried unanimously. Vote 5-0.

9. Consent Agenda

- 9a) Minutes: Regular Meeting August 16, 2022
Minutes: Work Session 7:00 p.m. August 31, 2022
- 9b) Contract with Southeastern Psychological Associates to provide grant-funded treatment services to Resource Court participants in FY23.
Cost: No new cost/Funding Source: FY23 Alcovy Resource CJCC Grant/Budgeted: Yes
- 9c) Contract with Southeastern Psychological Associates to provide grant-funded treatment services to Resource Court participants in FY23.
Cost: No new Cost/Funding Source: FY23 Alcovy Resource CJCC Grant/Budgeted: Yes
- 9d) Newton County Sheriff's Office GEMA (Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security) funding to support the development of a collaborative Gang intelligence system. Funding will be fully reimbursed.
Cost: \$90,000.00/Funding Source: GEMA (Reimbursement Grant)/Budgeted/Match: N/A
- 9e) Board Appointment – (District 4) Appointment to Animal Services Board Dorothy Piedrahita

Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve Consent Agenda items 9a-9e approved as listed, seconded by Commissioner Mason and was passed unanimously.

- 10. Approval of Public Safety Radio System Change Order 6v9 for Covington-Newton County 911. The change is to add additional software to utilize enhanced data on the radios.
Cost: \$639,813.00/Funding Source: APX Subscribers/APX NEXT/XE-SPLOST-Enhanced

Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve the Public Safety Radio System Change Order 6v8 for E-911, seconded by Commissioner Henderson and was passed unanimously.

- 11. Approval of Sunbelt Builders, Inc. Design Build Amendment #1 for Turner Lake Restroom Renovations. Newton County Parks and Recreation (Project #RFP 22-20).
Cost: \$153,103.00/Funding Source: Capital Improvements/ Budgeted: Yes/ Match: No

Commissioner Henderson motioned to approve Sunbelt Builders, Inc. Design Build Amendment #1 Project #RFP22-20, seconded by Commissioner Mason and was passed unanimously.

- 12. Approval for Matrix Engineering Group, Inc. Proposal #082422-1 for Geotechnical Exploration-Task Order #13 Materials Testing for Newton County Springhill Neighborhood Park. Cost: \$12,950.00/Funding Source: SPLOST/Budgeted: Yes/Match: No

Commissioner Henderson motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mason and was passed unanimously.

13. Approval of Resolution R090622A to initiate Abandonment Proceedings (Fairfield Property)

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO DETERMINE THAT CERTAIN
COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY NO LONGER SERVES A SUBSTANTIAL
PUBLIC PURPOSE; TO INITIATE ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Commissioner Cowan motioned to approve Resolution R090622A to initiate Abandonment Proceedings (Fairfield Property), seconded by Commissioner Henderson and was passed unanimously.

14. Discussion of ARPA Funding -

ICM Sims provided a packet with items for the board to discuss.

Working Draft initiated in November 2021, Commission District ARPA allocations projects list and the current ARPA funds projects list.

Chairman Banes asked the ARPA subcommittee if they have met and decided on an amount they would like to give to the small businesses to submit to the board for approval, if not he would like for them meet quickly as possible to get that done.

Patrick said the board voted on the categories of the ARPA distributions and it would be sensible to revisit due to time lapse and reasonable to meet with the consultants prior to deciding on an amount.

Commissioner Edwards said it would be prudent that the ARPA subcommittee have a meeting to update the categories and update the sub-totals per category.

Chairman Banes reiterated that he would like to have a recommendation from the ARPA subcommittee to the board.

ICM Sims stated, his understanding is, the first task of the consultant would be to work on the boards allocations project lists to see if they are appropriate for distribution.

Commissioner Mason suggested to possibly consider combining the monies set aside for small businesses into one category oppose to it being divided.

Chairman Banes said we need a clean document that would take care of all that's been discussed tonight to come from the ARPA subcommittee and the consultant, to submit to board as soon as possible.

Chairman Banes told the board to submit their current projects listing to Jarvis for to present to the consultant and the discussion was concluded.

Chairman Banes used his privilege to remove *Citizen Request for Penalties and Interest Waiver from the agenda due to Ms. Carlotta Veal not attending.

16. **Citizen Comments**

Mr. Fred Johnson expressed concerns regarding realignment of Mote Road not been addressed and requested for the speed limit to be lowered on Highway 162 @ area of Good Hope Church and Springhill Church.

17. **Board Comments**

Commissioner Sanders expressed concerns regarding the grant writer position, sirens on the west side of Newton County, 911/EMS response time, Comprehensive Land Plan and economic development, Commissioners Retreat, Newton County Ladies Retreat October 1st.

Commissioner Henderson -Town Hall Meeting September 8th 7:00 p.m.
expressed concerns regarding community food banks.

Adjourn 8:28 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Banes called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Edwards motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Henderson.

Marcello Banes Chairman

ATTEST:

Susan G. Nolley Deputy Clerk