

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
November 1, 2011**

Present: Chairman Kathy Morgan, Commissioner's Mort Ewing, Lanier Sims, Nancy Schulz, J.C. Henderson, and Tim Fleming; Administrative Officer John Middleton, Attorney Jenny Carter & Clerk Jackie Smith

Newspaper: Covington News-Gabe Khouli
Newton Citizen – Crystal Tatum
Small group of citizens

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order, extended a welcome, and read the thought for the day Rev. Ronny Brannen, Prospect UMC gave the invocation and Chairman Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance to our great flag.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Substantial Service Demonstration Update

Chairman Morgan gave the board a brief update.

- 1990 – WLX867 Broadband
- Anyone who uses this permit pays BOC a fee
- Penalty if less than 80 hours is provided for educational purposes
- Troy University user
- Working with NCSS
- Worked with Attorney Carter and we are in compliance.
- Will review again in 2 years

4-H Awards

- 2 National Association 4-H Awards
Terri Kimble – Feature Article Award
- Promotional Package Award: Terri Kimble & Mary Lathem (4-H) Teri Haler/
Josephine Kelly/Main Street) Jay Sandow (Covington News)
- KCNB- Dr. Leslie Lathem
- Photo taken with BOC

Square Crow Contest Award

- First Place: Mary Horton's 5th Grade Class 4-H Club @ Heard Mixon
- Second Place: Connie Brinkles 5th Grade Class 4-H Club @ Flint Hill Elementary
- Third Place: Oak Hill Elementary
- Photo was taken with BOC

GA Wildlife Federation 5-Star Award

- Newton County/KCNB/Cheryl Delk/Debbie Bell, Ted Wynne/Master Gardeners
- Received 5-Star Restoration Award for the East End Project
- Commend Boy Scouts/Eagle Scouts for all their work on the project.

Chamber Of Commerce Report On 2011 Asian Trip

Roger Harrison, Senior Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce/Office of Economic Development appeared before the board to give a brief update on his trip to Asia.

- Noted tremendously successful trip
- Information is made part of these minutes
- Expressed appreciation to BOC for their support.

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED OCTOBER 18, 2011

Motion by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Ewing to approve the BOC Minutes dated October 18, 2011 as printed in board book.

Motion carried unanimously

JUVENILE: EXPANSION OF EVENING REPORTING CENTER

Juvenile Judge Sherri Roberts appeared before the board regarding this expansion.

- Building formerly occupied by Kids Net
- Location: 2186 Elm Street Covington, GA
- Will serve as evening reporting center
- Presently utilizes trailer behind building
- Spoke with Mr. Frank Berry and they were very supportive with transition of building.
- NC Juvenile Court ERC Expansion Project information is made part of these minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Schulz, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the expansion of the Newton County Juvenile Reporting Center as requested by Judge Roberts and printed on pages 17-19 in board packet.

Motion carried unanimously

RECYCLING CENTERS: CONTRACT RENEWAL

Chairman Morgan addressed the board and noted the following:

- Commissioner Henderson provided a letter from Mr. Junior Hilliard and a copy of the Durden Landscape Renewal to the board.
- Mr. Levi Maddox presented the board a letter of interest to bid on contract

Administrative Officer John Middleton noted the county attorney's office had reviewed the renewal and noted the following:

- Contract rule option granted for 3 years.
- Exercised 2 years of contract
- This is final year of contract.

Board discussion regarding the contract being placed out for bid/RFP or to continue with Mr. Hilliard.

Commissioners Sims and Schulz noted they felt it would be prudent to bid out the contract, especially since the last time it was bid was 2001.

Commissioner Ewing noted that board always has the option to rebid any contract.

Commissioner Henderson noted that Mr. Hilliard had served the county in the good times and the bad times and previously took a 10% cut. He said he would like to award the contract to Mr. Hilliard with the following changes:

1. 90 day written notice if BOC decides not to continue with the 5-year contract.
2. 60 day severance penalty if contract is cancelled any time other than yearly renewal.
3. Add provisions for uncontrollable circumstances, which could include additional minimum wage increase, changes or additions in current laws that effect employer responsibilities, etc.
4. Reference format of Durden Lawn Care Contract
5. Approve for 5 years with yearly renewal by BOC

The county attorney's office will draw up the contract and bring back to board for review at the November 15th meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the Recycle Center Management Contract with L.D. Hilliard, Jr. with the changes outlined by Commissioner Henderson, as well as BOC reviewing contract drawn up by county attorney's office at BOC meeting on November 15, 2011.

Substitute Motion

Motion by Commissioner Schulz, and seconded by Commissioner Sims that we extend Mr. Hilliard's contract while we rebid the Recycling Center Contract or put out as an RFP.

Motion failed 3 to 2 with Commissioners' Ewing, Henderson, and Fleming voting in opposition to the motion.

Mr. Henderson's motion was approved 3 to 2 with Commissioner Sims and Schulz voting in opposition to the motion.

INSURANCE: RISK MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented this contract to the board for action.

- Work Session held on October 24, 2011
- Received two proposals: One Beacon & ACCG
- Gave a brief summary of work session findings
- Need more time for further study
- Recommendation is to continue with Smith Insurance Agency/One Beacon for a not to exceed cost of \$516,747.
- Bid process should begin in May 2012 to evaluate each type of coverage to make sure the county is receiving an accurate comparison & correct coverage for each valuation and type of insurance.

- Information is made part of these minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to approve the Risk Management Contract with One Beacon/Smith Insurance Agency for \$516,747 as outlined by Mr. Middleton and printed on pages 47-48 in board book.

Motion carried unanimously

COUNTY CHECKS:

Motion by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the county checks as read aloud by Chairman Morgan and printed in the board book.

Motion carried unanimously

With no further business, a motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Sims the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk

Kathryn G. Morgan, Chairman