

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 4, 2011  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Morgan, Commissioner's Mort Ewing, Lanier Sims, Nancy Schulz, J.C. Henderson, and Tim Fleming; Administrative Officer John Middleton, Attorney Tommy Craig, Attorney Andrea Gray & 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. Pastor Ronny Brannen from Prospect Methodist Church gave the invocation and Chairman Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance to our great flag.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**October 2-8 as 4-H Week**

Members of Newton County's 4-H Club appeared before the board to have their picture taken and was presented with a Proclamation declaring October 2 – 8 as 4-H week in Newton County.

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the Proclamation honoring Newton County's 4-H Program as read by the Chairman.  
Motion carried unanimously

**Chamber of Commerce: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Economic Development Update**

Hunter Hall, President of the Chamber of Commerce appeared before the board to give their 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Economic Development Update.

- Information made part of these minutes
- Job Fair set for October 18<sup>th</sup> @ DeKalb Tech
- Chamber would like for BOC to consider placing alcohol by the drink on November 2012 referendum (correspondence attached and made part of these minutes)
- Would like to see a work session scheduled to discuss development issues and time line for alcohol by the drink.
- Commissioner Schulz requested that a work session be scheduled to allow the Chamber an opportunity to present the Targeted Industry Study to the BOC.
- Chairman Morgan will review the calendar to set a work session date.
- Commissioner Ewing requested number of dollars we gain from other counties shopping in Newton County. Mr. Hall will provide Commissioner Ewing the information.
- BOC expressed appreciation to Mr. Hall.

**APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

**APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

Motion by Commissioner Schulz, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the BOC Work Session Minutes and the BOC Regular Meeting Minutes dated September 20, 2011 as printed in board book.

Motion carried unanimously

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT:**

**NEWTONCOUNTY/CITY OF COVINGTON – MAIN STREET**

Chairman Morgan advised the board that the committee met and it was determined that policy/procedures need to be reviewed by county attorney and report back to board.

Motion by Commissioner Fleming, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to table for 30 days (November 1, 2011) board meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

**APPOINTMENT – DISTRICT 4: ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Motion by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Sims to re-appoint Mrs. Carolyn Hardeman to the Newton County Zoning Board of Appeals. Term expires on December 31, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: REPLACEMENT OF (3) MAIL MACHINES**

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented this request to the board.

- Three (3) mail machines
- Departments: Tax Commissioner, Magistrate Court, Clerk of Court
- Savings yearly: \$2,708
- Request that BOC approve the Lease Agreement w/Pitney Bowes

Motion by Commissioner Fleming, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to approve the Lease Agreement with Pitney Bowes on three (3) Mail Machines with a yearly savings of \$2,708.00.

Motion carried unanimously

**JDA: RESOLUTION R100411 - REPLACEMENT LETTER OF CREDIT**

Attorney Andrea Gray appeared before the board to present this resolution.

- Provided presentation by Auditor Wayne Tamplin and Bill Johnston our remarketing agent. (attached to these minutes)
- \$5.6 million remaining on original bond (1999)
- Presently Letter of Credit is from Bank of America
- Present interest rate: 1.36%

- Bank of America experiencing Internal Issues and will not renew letter.
- J.P. Morgan Chase Bank offer for Letter of Credit @ an interest rate of 1.25%
- Went over new Letter of Credit and resolution with the board.
- Recommend board approve Letter of Credit with JPMorgan Chase Bank for 1.25%

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve Resolution R100411, Letter of Credit with JP Morgan Chase Bank for an interest rate of 1.25% as presented by Attorney Andrea Gray and printed in board book.

Motion carried unanimously

**ALCOVY RIVER LEVEL CONTROL WEIR REPAIR: AWARD BID NO. 12-03**

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented this request to the board.

- Jim Mathis (Infratec ) present to answer any questions
- Bid tabulation made part of these minutes
- Recommend low bidder Pinnacle International, Inc.
- Amount: \$52,443.00
- Correspondence from Infratec attached and made part of these minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to award the Alcovy River Level Control Weir Repair Bid No. 12-03 to the low bidder Pinnacle International, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$52,443.00.

Motion carried unanimously

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE: ACCEPTANCE OF CJCC GRANT FUNDS – \$9,032.00**

Sheriff Ezell Brown appeared before the board regarding the CJCC Grant.

- Funds will be used to offset overtime pay.
- Amount: \$9,032.00
- No local match

Motion by Commissioner Sims, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to accept, on behalf of the Sherriff's Office, the CJCC Grant Funds in the amount of \$9,032.00.

Motion carried unanimously

**JUVENILE COURT: ACCEPTANCE GRANT/PURCHASE OF SERVICES – \$7,500.00**

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented this to the board for approval.

- Amount: \$7,500.00
- No matching funds

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to

accept, on behalf of the Juvenile Court, the CJCJ Grant Funds in the amount of \$7,500.00.

Motion carried unanimously

### **PUBLIC WORKS: ROCKY PLAINS ROAD/MOORES ROAD RESURFACING – AWARD BID**

County Engineer Tom Garrett appeared before the board to present this road project.

- Resurfacing bid for Rocky Plains Road/Moores Road (from SR36 to SR 162)
- Project is approximately 4.1 miles of resurfacing.
- Received six bids for project
- Recommend board to award the contract to the low bidder.
- Pittman Construction - \$410,011.00
- Funding Source: SPLOST 2011

Motion by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to award the Rocky Plains Road/Moores Road (SR36 to SR162) Resurfacing Bid to the low bidder, Pittman Construction Company, for a not to exceed amount of \$410,011.00.

Motion carried unanimously

### **E911/COMMUNICATIONS: UPGRADE TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

E911 Director Mike Smith appeared before the board seeking approval to update the E911 Telephone System.

- Having increased issues with system as it has outlived expected life.
- Replacement parts are limited
- Upgrade of E911 System with mapping
- Lease/purchase
- Cost: \$319,933.75
- Monthly: \$5,905.98
- Monthly savings of \$1200 over current lease.
- Attorney Jenny Carter has reviewed documents

Motion by Commissioner Fleming, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve the Telephone System Upgrade with Mapping for the E911/Communications System with AT&T as presented; and for a not to exceed amount of \$319,933.75 with a monthly payment of \$5,905.98.

Motion carried unanimously

### **2011 SPLOST: PART B – FLEET REPLACEMENT**

Chairman Morgan noted this was discussed at prior work session.

- Provided board Option A & Option B to discuss and/or approve
- After a lengthy discussion Commissioner Fleming suggested an Option C be placed on the table for consideration as well. The board concurred.
- Information is made part of these minutes

Motion by Commissioner Sims to approve Option A regarding the 2011 SPLOST, Part B – Fleet Replacement in the amount of \$377,952.00.

**Note: Original motion died for a lack of a second.**

**Substitute Motion**

Motion by Commissioner Fleming, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to approve Option C as outlined and printed in the amount of \$335,033.00.

Motion carried with Commissioner Fleming, Schulz, Ewing voting in favor of motion and Commissioners Sims and Henderson voting in opposition to the motion.

**ALCOHOL LICENSE:**

Final Reading

Texaco Food Mart

3633 Salem Road

Covington, GA 30016

Owner: Ramandeep Singh Mokha (100%)

District Two

Motion by Commissioner Sims, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve the Alcohol License for Texaco Food Mart located at 3633 Salem Road, Covington, Georgia as requested.

Motion carried unanimously

**COUNTY CHECKS:**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the county checks read aloud by Chairman Morgan and listed in board packet.

Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Time: 8:20p.m.**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Fleming to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel.

Motion carried unanimously.

**REGULAR SESSION - Time: 9:15p.m.**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Henderson to enter into regular session.

Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Henderson the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jackie B. Smith, Clerk

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Kathryn G. Morgan, Chairman