

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 4, 2008  
MINUTES

**Present:** Chairman Aaron Varner, Commissioners Mort Ewing, Earnest Simmons, Ester Fleming, Jr., J.C. Henderson, and Monty Laster, Administrative Officer John Middleton, Attorney Jenny Carter, Attorney Scott Cole and County Clerk Jackie Smith

**Newspaper:** Covington News – Rachel Oswald  
Newton Citizen - Crystal Tatum  
Small group of citizens

Chairman Varner called the meeting to order, extended a welcome and read the thought for the day. Commissioner J.C. Henderson gave the invocation and Chairman Varner led the Pledge of Allegiance to our great Flag.

**APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

**Motion:** To approve the Commission Minutes dated February 19, 2008 as printed.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

**Motion Carried**

**N.C. FIRE SERVICE 2007 END OF YEAR REPORT**

Fire Chief Mike Satterfield appeared before the board and gave an overview of their 2007 End of the Year Report. A copy of the report is attached and made part of these minutes.

After discussion and questions by the board were answered, one by one members expressed their deepest appreciation and gratitude to the chief for his leadership and professionalism that he brought to the Fire Services of Newton County. Appreciation was expressed for the number of recent graduates; to working so well with the EMT's. The board noted that an outstanding job is being done and they wanted to let the chief and staff know how much they appreciate them.

**R030408 – SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY UPDATE**

Administrative Officer John Middleton addressed the board and noted the following:

- HB489 enacted in 1997
- Amended once since 1997 in October of 2006
- Housekeeping measure required by the Department of Community Affairs
- Notes are made part of these minutes

**Motion:** To approve Resolution R030408, Service Delivery Strategy Updated as presented by Mr. Middleton and required by the Department of Community Affairs.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

**Second by:** Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

**Motion Carried**

## **DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY**

**Motion:** To approve as Surplus Property a 1992 Ford Bronco (Recreation Department) and sold on GovDeals.com.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

**Motion Carried**

## **BID #08-12, BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON HIGHTOWER ROAD OVER GUM CREEK**

Chairman Varner addressed the board and noted the following for their consideration and approval.

- Previously awarded the bid to Hitson Construction Company
- Required company by GDOT prequalified.
- Hitson was disqualified because they were not GDOT prequalified.
- Next lowest bidder is Cline Service Corporation
- Recommendation is to award bid to the next lowest bidder.
- Cost: \$937,755.00

**Motion:** To approve Bid #08-12, Bridge Replacement on Hightower Road over Gum Creek and award the bid to Cline Service Corporation for a not to exceed cost of \$937,755.00 and to be funded through SPLOST.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three

**Second by:** Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

**Motion Carried**

## **COUNTY CHECKS**

**Motion:** To approve the county checks as printed and read by the chairman.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

**Motion Carried**

## **ALCOHOL LICENSE**

### **First Reading**

Elks Club Chevron - Mahamooda Lakhani (100% Owner)

10946 Hwy 278 East

Covington, GA 30014

District One

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Time: 8:05 p.m.

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

**Motion Carried**

**REGULAR SESSION**

Time: 8:40 p.m.

**Motion:** To enter into Regular Session.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

**Motion Carried**

**CONDEMNATION RESOLUTIONS R030408a, b, c, d, e, f, g**

**Motion:** To approve Resolutions R030408a, b, c, d, e, f, g for condemnation.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

**Second by:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

**Motion Carried**

**ADJOURN**

Time: 8:45 p.m.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

**Proposed by:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Second by:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk