

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 6, 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 Tommy Craig 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 Mort Ewing gave the invocation and Chairman Varner led the Pledge of Allegiance to our great Flag.

**APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED APRIL 1, 2008 (Tabled from April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting)**

Motion: To approve the April 1, 2008 minutes with duly noted corrections.  
Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One  
Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five  
Motion Carried

**TREADWELL, TAMPLIN & COMPANY - N.C. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT YE JUNE 30, 2007**

Wayne Tamplin addressed the board reading from the audit book presented and previously reviewed by the board. Mr. Tamplin was very complimentary to the board for their fiscal responsibility to Newton County citizens and the good job they have done in the past and continue to do. His recommendation was to continue doing the same.

Motion: To approve the Newton County Annual Financial Report For Year Ending June 30, 2007 as presented by Auditor Wayne Tamplin of Treadwell, Tamplin & Company. Copy of Audit is made part of these minutes.  
Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One  
Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four  
Motion Carried

## **GIS - COUNTY ENTERPRISE LICENSE AGREEMENT**

GIS Manager Lynn Parham appeared before the board to present this request.

- Goal to increase amount of data accessible to employees.
- Allows us to enter into a set maintenance fee
- Partners: Newton County, City of Covington, & NCW&SA
- FY2009 budget
- 3 Year Agreement
- County's portion is \$20,000 per year
- Updated v version of GIS software
- Flexible deployments to desktops, servers, & mobile devices
- Deliver valuable technology throughout.
- Lower cost per unit for licensed software
- Substantially reduced administrative & procurement expenses
- Maintenance on all ESRI software deployed under this agreement
- Complete flexibility to deploy software produces when and where needed.

Questions

Organization? Newton County with City of Covington & NCW&SA being partners.

Motion: To approve the GIS – County Enterprise License Agreement with ERSI as presented by GIS Manager Lynn Parham with Newton County's portion being \$20,000 per year for the next three years.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried

## **SEWER SERVICE DELIVERY AREA-ALMON RD/NORTH OF I-20**

Commissioner Ester Fleming addressed the board regarding this request.

- 2006 NCW&SA brought this to the attention of the board.
- I have been opposed to service delivery area north of I-20.
- Have discussed at length with W&SA and various others the gravity flow problem.
- This is part of the Almon Development Node and feels it should be addressed.

Attorney Tommy Craig

- Noted HB489
- Make sure changes are reflected.
- Doesn't think it can be finalized tonight without first following the steps regarding HB489.
- Board can indicate its intentions tonight.

After discussion Commissioner Fleming duly made the following motion.

Motion: To approve and adopt the proposed Service Delivery Area outlined in green with a copy of the larger map being made part of these minutes and with the understanding that all requirements are met according to HB 489 Service Delivery Strategy as noted by County Attorney Tommy Craig.

Proposed by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three  
Second by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five  
Motion Carried with Commissioner Simmons voting in opposition to the motion.

### **USGS – JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT – ALCOVY RIVER**

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

- Monitoring of the Alcovy River
- Extends current agreement
- Housekeeping matter

Motion: To approve the USGS – Joint Funding Agreement as presented by Mr. Middleton for a not to exceed amount of \$13,600.00.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five  
Second by: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four  
Motion Carried

### **AMENDMENT TO NEWTON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE – DIVISION 525: SIGNS**

Planning Director Marian Eisenberg presented this amendment to the board and noted the following:

- This amendment will bring the county in compliance with the state regarding political signs.

Motion: To approve the Amendment to the Newton County Zoning Ordinance Division 525: Signs as outlined by Director Marian Eisenberg and to bring Newton County into compliance with state law.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One  
Second by: Commissioner Ester Fleming, Jr., District Three  
Motion Carried

### **TO#13 – TRANSPORTATION CONSULTANT J.B. TRIMBLE – DESIGN OF REPLACEMENT BRIDGE FOR OAK HILL ROAD OVER SNAPPING SHOALS CREEK**

Chairman Varner presented this request to the board and noted the following:

- Been looking at this bridge for quite some time.
- Bridge is in need of replacement.
- Oak Hill Road Bridge is in danger of being closed to traffic for several months if the bridge is downgraded as unsafe by the DOT.
- Presently shored up with “Crutch Bent Wooden Piles.”
- Met with state people and our engineers.
- Recommendation is to approve Task Order for JB Trimble.
- Cost: \$197,042.04

Commissioner Ewing

- Hopes it will not take 12 months to complete project.
- Encourage Chairman Varner & Kevin Walter to talk with JB Trimble to get this done on a faster time line.

Motion: To approve Task Order #13 for J.B. Trimble – Design of Replacement Bridge for Oak Hill Road over Snapping Shoals Creek for a not to exceed cost of \$197,042.04.

Proposed by: Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried

### **ALCOHOL LICENSE:**

#### **Final Reading**

BP-Salem Road

3501 Salem Road

Covington, Georgia 30014

Owner: Maqbool Ahmed

Motion: To approve the Alcohol License request for BP-Station located at 3501 Salem Road, Covington, Georgia in the second district.

Proposed by: Commissioner Earnest Simmons, District Two

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

Motion Carried

### **COUNTY CHECKS:**

Motion: To approve the county checks as written and read aloud by the chairman.

Proposed by: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Second by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried

### **ADJOURN**

**Time: 7:53 p.m.**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Proposed by: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

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

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

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Jackie Smith, County Clerk