

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 5, 2010**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Morgan, Commissioner's Mort Ewing, Earnest Simmons, Nancy Schulz, J.C. Henderson, and Tim Fleming. County Attorney Tommy Craig, Attorney Jenny Carter & Clerk Jackie Smith

**Newspaper:** Covington News-Gabe Khouli  
Newton Citizen- Crystal Tatum  
Citizens

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

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**KCNB Awards (State & National)**

**KCNB Winners of Trash to Treasure Art Contest**

- KCNB Director Connie Waller recognized members of the KCNB Board present at the meeting.
- Executive board member Leslie Latham thanked the board for their support and presented the state and national awards.
- National: KCNB received the First Place Affiliate Award for Keep America Beautiful.
- State: Newton County School System received the second place award for Keep Georgia Beautiful for their Waste Reduction & Recycling Program.
- State: Newton County received the SWANA award for our Recycling Program
- State: Mary Latham received the Student of the Year Award for Keep Georgia Beautiful and received a \$1000.00 scholarship.
- Local: Leslie Latham was recipient of the Woman of the Year Award for KCNB.
- Local: Pamela Maxwell was recipient of the Code Enforcement Officer of the Year for KCNB.
- Local: Winners of the Trash to Treasure Art Contest were present to receive their certificates and congratulations from the BOC.
- A tree will be planted to honor BOC on Arbor Day/Turner Lake Park.

**Water Resource Update**

Water Resource Director Karl Kelley appeared before giving an update and PowerPoint presentation.

- Lake Varner and City Pond is full.
- Handout is made part of these minutes.

### **APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED DECEMBER 15, 2009**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Simmons to approve the BOC Minutes dated December 15, 2009 as printed.

Motion carried unanimously

### **APPROVAL OF SUPPORT LETTER TO DENY PROPOSED ZONING OF DRAG STRIP WITHIN CITY LIMITS OF SOCIAL CIRCLE, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA (I-20/HWY. 278)**

Chairman Morgan addressed the board seeking support for a letter expressing board's concerns over proposed drag strip in eastern portion of Newton County.

- Commissioners Ewing and Fleming expressed their strong concerns regarding the proposed drag strip.
- Commissioner Ewing reminded the board that Newton County owns 37-1/2% of the Stanton Springs project and a drag strip could do a great deal of harm to the future of Stanton Springs.
- Commissioner Fleming noted his strong concerns for the people who have made that end of the county their home and the quality of life they now enjoy would be in danger. (noise, fumes, congestion, etc.)
- Chairman Morgan said she has personally spoken with Social Circle City Manager Doug White and Planning Chairman Adams regarding the county's strong opposition to the drag strip. She noted with board approval the letter would be hand delivered on Wednesday to Social Circle.

Motion made by Commissioner Fleming, and seconded by Commissioner Ewing to approve the letter of support to deny the proposed zoning of a drag strip within the City Limits of Social Circle, Newton County, Georgia (I-20/Hwy. 278) as presented with a copy of the letter being made part of these minutes.

Motion carried unanimously

### **AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT/NAPHCARE, INC. (SHERIFF'S OFFICE)**

Newton County Sheriff Ezell Brown, Captain Sammy Banks/Detention Administrator and Attorney James Griffin appeared before the board to present the amendment to the NAPHCARE contract.

- NAPHCARE has provided healthcare to the inmates for a number of years.
- Received excellent service
- Requesting extension of contract.
- Newton County is working to obtain accreditation status by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care for the Detention Center.
- NAPHCARE will assist Newton County in obtaining accreditation.
- Amended Contract made part of these minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve the Amendment to Contract between Newton County and NAPHCARE, INC. for the Newton County Detention Center as presented and made part of these minutes.

Motion carried unanimously

### **R010510 – PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

EMA Director Tray Polk & Attorney James Griffin appeared before the board to present the resolution.

- Newton County & cities formed a committee to develop Hazard Mitigation Plan to be presented for approval.
- Requirement by state.
- Must identify resources we have available to combat potential hazards.
- Must have Hazard Mitigation Plan to be eligible for state funds.
- Newborn and Covington have approved plan. Porterdale, Oxford and Mansfield will approve shortly.
- County has been working on plan since 2006.
- Public Meetings within county and cities have been held.
- We have already received \$13,000 + from the state and will receive another \$5,000 + after plan has been approved.
- Will revisit plan for approval in 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve Resolution R010510 Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented.

Resolution is attached and made part of these minutes.

Motion carried unanimously

### **FLOOD MITIGATION GRANT**

EMA Director Tray Polk and GIS Manager Lynn Parham appeared before the board requesting approval to apply for a Flood Mitigation Grant.

- Ms. Parham briefly went over information provided to board.
- Application for grant is due January 19<sup>th</sup> to GEMA
- Information regarding grant is made part of these minutes.

Motion made by Commissioner Schulz, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve the application to GEMA for Flood Mitigation Grant DR-1858 Substantial Damage Acquisition as presented and requested by EMA and GIS Departments.

Motion carried unanimously

### **APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to reappoint Tommy Craig as County Attorney for the year 2010.

Motion carried unanimously

### **APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY CLERK**

Motion made by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to reappoint Jackie Smith as County Clerk for the year 2010.

Motion carried unanimously

Attorney Craig and Clerk Smith expressed appreciation to the board for their support and for the honor of serving with them.

### **JUVENILE SERVICES: ACCEPTANCE OF DHS GRANT-\$36,562.50**

Administrative Officer John Middleton noted the following:

- Housekeeping measure
- Juvenile made request to apply for grant in August 2009
- No Matching funds needed
- In-kind service: \$12,187.50
- Grant is for promoting safe and stable families
- Provided by Department of Human Services.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to accept the DHS Grant in the amount of \$36,562.50 for Newton County Juvenile Services with no additional cost to Newton County.

Motion carried unanimously

### **FIX QUALIFICATION FEES FOR 2010 ELECTIONS**

Administrative Officer John Middleton presented fees to board for approval.

- Setting fees is requirement by state.

Motion made by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Ewing to fix the Qualification Fees for the 2010 Elections as follows:

Commission Districts Two & Four: \$ 569.54

BOE District One, Three & Five: \$ 216.00

Motion carried unanimously

### **TURNOUT GEAR NEEDED FOR FIREFIGHTERS**

Fire Chief Mike Satterfield appeared before the board to request approval of turnout gear.

- Immediate need to replace some of the gear.
- Gear not utilized will be placed in stock.
- Takes three months to receive the order from the company.
- Suits that are still usable will continue to be in service.
- Suits can be cleaned and safe to use again after certified for use.
- Gear is destroyed if not usable.
- Cost: \$13,333.00
- Bennett Fire Products are the sole source for Glove Turnout Gear

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve the purchase of Turnout Gear for Firefighters as presented by Chief Satterfield from Bennett Fire Products for a not to exceed amount of \$13,333.00.

Motion carried unanimously

**TASK ORDER #3 FOR TRANSPORTATION CONSULTANT  
MORELAND ALTABELLI ASSOCIATES – SR212 &  
OAK HILL ROAD**

County Engineer Kevin Walter appeared before the board to present this request.

- County will be recipient of stimulus funds
- Needed project
- Received many citizen complaints
- Many accidents at intersection
- Fatalities at intersection
- Short time frame – bid out in February
- MAAI has assured county they can meet the deadline.
- Design and construction management for construction of traffic signal and turn lanes at the Intersection of GA SR 212 & Oak Hill Road.
- Cost: \$114,509.00

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, seconded by Commissioner Ewing to approve Task Order #3 for Transportation Consultant Moreland Altobelli Associates for a not to exceed amount of \$114,509.00 for the SR212 & Oak Hill Road Project as presented by County Engineer Kevin Walter.

**ALCOHOL LICENSE**

Final Reading

Sabina Quick, Inc.

1032 Hwy. 142/Dixie Road

Covington, GA 30014

Owner: Habib Bijani (100% Owner)

District One

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Simmons to approve the alcohol license for the Sabina Quick, Inc., and located at 1032 Hwy. 142/Dixie Road, Covington, GA 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: 8:40 pm

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, seconded by Commissioner Henderson to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, litigation and personnel.

Motion carried unanimously

**REGULAR SESSION**

Time: 9:05 pm

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, seconded by Commissioner Henderson to enter into Regular Session.

Motion carried unanimously

With no further business, a motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Simmons the meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Jackie B. Smith, Clerk

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Kathryn G. Morgan, Chairman