

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 1, 2009
MINUTES**

Present: Chairman Kathy Morgan, Commissioners Mort Ewing, Earnest Simmons, Nancy Schulz, J.C. Henderson, and Tim Fleming. Attorney Jenny Carter, Attorney James Griffin, Administrative Officer/CFO John Middleton & Clerk Jackie Smith

Also Present: 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. Reverend Ronny Brannen, Prospect UMC gave the invocation and Chairman Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Morgan addressed the board stating she would like to amend the agenda to add the Pay-tell Contract Extension and the GDOT request regarding ingress and egress at the Denny Dobbs Park.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Officer/CFO John Middleton provided the board an update on the Emergency Management Performance Grant.

- Grant covers part of Director Tray Polk's salary

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES DATED AUGUST 18, 2009

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Simmons to approve the BOC Meeting Minutes dated August 18, 2009 as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE: ACCEPTANCE OF FY09 EDWARD BYRNE

MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT -\$38,007 Sheriff Brown appeared before the board regarding this grant acceptance. He also introduced Ms. Apryle Jones, Office of Professional Standards at the Sheriff's Office who will appear before the board representing the Sheriff when he is unable to attend the meeting.

- CFDA Number: 16.738
- Grant Announcement: 2009-H0977-GA-DJ
- Award Number: 2009-DJ-BX-038
- Grant will be used to purchase 42 Tasers, supplies for Tasers, i.e., cartridges, power magazines, training cartridges and holsters.
- No matching funds required
- You can re-apply each year for this grant.

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to accept, on behalf of the Newton County Sheriff's Office, the FY09 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$38,007.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT: ACCEPTANCE OF ABSTINENCE-UNTIL MARRIAGE EDUCATION GRANT - \$55,000

Administrative Officer/CFO John Middleton noted this was a housekeeping item to accept the grant on behalf of the Juvenile Court. Earlier Judge Roberts appeared before the board requesting approval to apply for this grant.

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, and seconded by Commissioner Ewing to accept, on behalf of the Newton County Juvenile Court, the Governor's Abstinence Until-Marriage Education Grant in the amount of \$55,000.00 with no matching funds coming from Newton County.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT: CITY OF COVINGTON & N.C. FOR USE OF CABLE TELEVISION BROADCAST FACILITIES

After a lengthy discussion the board requested the following concerns and questions to be addressed at which time the Agreement will come back before the board for action.

- Clear definition of what would be considered reimbursable expenses.
- Possibility of county sharing in revenue.
- Oversight of advertising during time county programs is run with right of refusal.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to Table the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Covington for use of Cable Television Broadcast Facilities until which time questions have been researched and answered. Afterwards Agreement will be presented to commission for consideration.

Motion carried unanimously.

NSP UPDATE

Senior Planner Scott Sirotkin appeared before the board to give an update on the NSP Program in Newton County.

- Copy of presentation is made part of these minutes
- Received four responses to RFQ. Requesting approval/acceptance of four companies's who are all qualified.
Adrienne Wise/Covington
Alexander Appraising, LLC/Covington
Moreland Altobelli Associates, Inc./Norcross
Peachtree Appraisal, Inc/Conyers

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to accept Adrienne Wise, Alexander Appraising, MAAI, & Peachtree Appraisal for second appraisal list regarding the NSP program.

Motion carried unanimously.

PAY-TELL CONTRACT EXTENSION

Sheriff Brown and Attorney James Griffin presented this request.

- Attorney Griffin provided the board with a copy of the Inmate Telephone Agreement Addendum Number 2 for their review.
- Very complex system
- Pay-Tell has provided service since 2001 with an extension in 2005
- Sent out RFP's this summer regarding service.
- Prudent for board to extend current contract for 60 days to allow Sheriff & staff to review proposals.
- Requesting board approval to extend contact with Pay-Tell for an additional 60 days.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewing, and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to approve, on behalf of Sheriff Brown, the Inmate Telephone Agreement Addendum Number 2 as requested with expiration date being October 27, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously.

RIGHT-OF-WAY DEED/GDOT/DENNY DOBBS PARK

Attorney James Griffin appeared before the board and presented this request.

- R-O-W Deed attached and made part of these minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Simmons, and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve request regarding Right-of-way and authorize Chairman Morgan to execute the Right-of-Way Deed for Land Lot 20 of the 10th District, Newton County, Georgia, being all of that property total 1,034 square feet at the intersection of State Highway 212 and Richards Chapel Road as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY CHECKS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

Note: Chairman Morgan read aloud the Alcohol License request for the first reading.

First Reading

Liberty Food Mart

1058 Hwy. 142 East

Covington, Georgia 30014

Owner: Maleek Vairni (100%)

District One

AMEND AGENDA TO DISCUSS UNPAID ATTORNEY FEES

Motion made by Commissioner Henderson, and seconded by Commissioner Simmons to amend the agenda to discuss unpaid attorney fees.

Motion carried with Commissioner Ewing and Schulz voting in opposition to the motion.

There was a discussion about an unpaid invoice from the County Attorney's Office for work on the Nelson Heights Community Center 501c3 application. The board chose to table the issue until the September 15th meeting for further discussion.

Motion made by Commissioner Fleming and seconded by Commissioner Schulz to table the issue for the unpaid invoice regarding the Nelson Heights Community Center until the September 15th meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

On a motion by Commissioner Simmons, and a second by Commissioner Fleming the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie B. Smith, County Clerk

Kathryn G. Morgan, Chairman