

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 5, 2005  
MINUTES**

Newton County Historic Courthouse  
1124 Clark Street  
Covington, Georgia  
Presiding: Chairman Aaron Varner

Present: Chairman Varner, Commissioners' Mort Ewing, Ronnie Dimsdale, J.C. Henderson, and Monty Laster; Administrative Assistant John Middleton, County Attorney Tommy Craig, and Clerk Jackie Smith. Note: Commissioner Fleming was not present due to his mother being in the hospital gravely ill.

Chairman Varner extended a welcome to all present and read the thought for the day. Commissioner J.C. Henderson gave the invocation and the chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF BOC P/H MINUTES JUNE 21, 2005**

**Motion:** To approve the BOC Public Hearing Minutes dated June 21, 2005 as printed.  
**Proposed By:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One  
**Second By:** Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES JUNE 21, 2005**

**Motion:** To table the BOC Minutes dated June 21, 2005 to clarify an issue regarding the number of lots allowed for Zoning REZ05-010 (Reuben Morgan).  
**Proposed By:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One  
**Second By:** Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**PRESENTATION TO MARY ALLISON LATHEM**

Mary Allison Lathem appeared before the board and read her Award Winning Poem for the State of Georgia Rivers of Words contest. Mary Allison was the first place winner throughout the state.

The board applauded her beautiful poem and presented her with a framed certificate of congratulations and several county mementoes. There was a group photo taken for Mary Allison's scrapbook.

## **FAITH VILLAGE & GARDENS PRESENTATION**

Executive Director Cindy Julian appeared before the board to give a presentation about Faith Village & Gardens. A copy of her presentation is made part of these minutes.

She told the board of her dream of helping people who are less fortunate with a better way of life. She hopes to receive financial funding through grants and donations.

In the future she would be seeking assistance in acquiring a zoning for property, possible signage and any funding available.

The board commended her on her vision of this beautiful village and how admirable it was of her to take on such an endeavor.

There was no official action taken.

## **R070505 GO BONDS SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

Jamie Wilson of Merchant Capital appeared before the board to present this resolution. He noted the following:

- Appeared before board at last meeting regarding the sale of the bonds.
- 95% of the bonds were sold that day.
- 100% of bonds are now sold.
- Provided an information sheet with comparable Tax-Exempt Issue Pricing (made part of these minutes)
- Rate: 3.1% subject to final closing on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Wilson for all of his assistance with this project.

**Motion:** To approve Resolution R070505 General Obligation Bonds Supplemental Resolution Ratifying The Execution And Delivery Of Bond Purchase Agreement as presented.

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Note:** The original resolution is contained in file number R070505, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

**R070505A RESOLUTION APPOINTING HEARING OFFICER FOR A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF REVENUE CERTIFICATES BY THE NEWTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

**Motion:** To approve Resolution R070505a appointing Mr. Jim Weadick as Hearing Officer for a Public Hearing concerning the proposed issuance of Revenue Certificates by the Newton County Hospital Authority.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Note:** The original resolution is contained in file number R070505a, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

**R070505B RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING, APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE NEWTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**Motion:** To table action on a resolution authorizing, approving and providing for the execution and delivery of a contract between the Newton County Hospital Authority and Newton County, Georgia until another meeting. Date of meeting to be determined.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN NEWTON COUNTY AND NEWTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

**Motion:** To table approval of contract between Newton County and Newton County Hospital Authority to another meeting. Date of meeting to be determined.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**R070505C CSBG GRANT PROGRAM FY2006**

Administrative Assistant John Middleton addressed the board regarding the CSBG Grant. He noted the following:

- Housekeeping measure required by state.
- Grant money is for Senior Services and Department of Family and Children Assistance.
- Assist low-income citizens with county services.

- Grant: \$102,111.10 for FY2006

**Motion:** To approve Resolution R070505c CSBG Grant FY2006 in the amount of \$102,111.10.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Note:** The original resolution is contained in file number R070505c, incorporated herein by reference and expressly made a part of these minutes.

### **APPOINTMENT TO DFACS BOARD – DISTRICT TWO**

Commissioner Dimsdale expressed appreciation to the awesome job that Mrs. Emogene Williams has done while serving on the Department of Family and Children Services for over ten years.

He noted that when the district lines were redrawn that Mrs. Williams was no longer in the second district. He was very grateful that Mrs. Patsy Autry was willing to serve on this board and feels that she, too, will do a wonderful job. Mrs. Autry's term will expire on June 30, 2010

**Motion:** To appoint Mrs. Patsy Autry of 4800 Salem Road, Covington, Georgia to serve on the Newton County Department of Family and Children Assistance Board representing the second district. Term will expire on June 30, 2010.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

**Second By:** Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### **APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD – DISTRICT THREE**

**Motion:** To table the district three appointment until the commission meeting scheduled for July 19, 2005.

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### **APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD – DISTRICT FOUR**

**Motion:** To table the district four appointment until the commission meeting scheduled for July 19, 2005.

**Proposed By:** Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## **APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD – DISTRICT FIVE**

Commissioner Laster was delighted to reappoint Jeanne Smith to serve a third term on the Library Board. Ms. Smith has done an excellent job and looks forward to continuing her service to the citizens of Newton County.

**Motion:** To reappoint Jeanne Smith to serve her third three year term on the Newton County Library Board representing the fifth district. Term will expire on June 30, 2008.

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

**Second By:** Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## **FIRE LOCK BOXES @ LOCAL FACILITIES**

Chief Rebie Johnson appeared before the board to discuss the proposed Fire Lock Box at local facilities. He noted the following:

- Commercial buildings
- Buildings that has a sprinkler system
- Prevents fire department from damaging doors and windows.
- This will not include single family dwellings
- This will include apartment buildings/complexes.
- Would save money on repairs by keeping us from knocking the door down.

Attorney Tommy Craig stated before the board acted on this request he felt we would need to have a public hearing to receive citizen comments.

Commissioner Ewing

- Questioned if the City of Covington uses this system? Yes and Rockdale County too.
- In the City of Covington is it a requirement or optional? Requirement.
- Would it be feasible for this to be optional? Yes

Chief Johnson will get copies of the ordinance from other cities and counties for review by the county attorney.

**No Action Taken**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT W/WALTON COUNTY  
REGARDING MUTUAL AID ASSISTANT FOR FIRE  
DEPARTMENT SERVICES**

**Motion:** To table until July 19<sup>th</sup> BOC Meeting at which time Attorney Scott Cole will apprise the board of proposed agreement.

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**COUNTY CHECKS:**

**Motion:** To approve the county checks as read.

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**STREETLIGHTS: All in District One**

**WINDBROOK SUBDIVISION**

**FINCHER ROAD**

**HANLEY MILL SUBDIVISION**

**HIGHWAY 212**

**RIVER BIRCH SUBDIVISION**

**HIGHWAY 162**

**Motion:** To approve the streetlights as requested.

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Time: 8:00 p.m.**

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

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Time: 8:20 p.m.**

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

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

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jackie B. Smith  
County Clerk