

**NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
November 1, 2005
MINUTES**

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

Present: Chairman Varner, Commissioners' Mort Ewing, Ronnie Dimsdale, Ester Fleming, J.C Henderson, and Monty Laster, Administrative Assistant John Middleton, County Attorney Tommy Craig, and Acting Clerk Angie Shumate.

Chairman Varner welcomed all present and read the thought for the day. Commissioner Mort Ewing gave the invocation and the chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF BOC MINUTES OCTOBER 18, 2005

Motion: To approve the BOC minutes dated October 18, 2005 as written.

Proposed By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF BOC W/S MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2005

Motion: To approve BOC W/S minutes with changes

Proposed By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Seconded By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Connie Waller, Keep Covington/Newton Beautiful, introduced Lynn Cobb, Manager of Keep Georgia Beautiful Program under the Department of Community Affairs. Lynn presented the Board of Commissioners with the Environmental Improvement Award. This is the first time a Board of Commissioners has received this award.

The Board thanked Ms. Cobb for the award and a photo of Lynn and the Board was taken.

GRANT RESOLUTIONS

Administrative Assistant John Middleton addressed the board regarding the Grant to make County owned election sites ADA compliant. He stated that the grant was approved for the full amount of \$9,031.25 to make the repairs to Gum Creek, Almond and Mansfield Centers.

Motion: To approve the resolution

Proposed By: Commissioner Ester Fleming, District Three

Seconded By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

FUEL CONSERVATION UPDATE

Administrative Assistant John Middleton updated the status of the Fuel Conservation Program stating that the Public Safety and Public Works reduced their fuel usage by 2000 gallons and non-safety workers cut usage by 25%.

No Action Taken

NEWTON COUNTY LANDFILL

Scott Cole states that the contractor for the liner requests a price increase due to the effects of Hurricane Rita and also stated that anytime there is an act of God the contract can be terminated or increase of price due to interruption of production. The price increase will be in the amount of \$67,000.00. The concern was raised that the price increase may be due to the increase in the price of diesel fuel and it was questioned whether or not this price would change because of the fluctuation of diesel prices. The concerns were discussed.

Motion: To approve the changes in the contract with the request of the County Attorney to speak with Mr. Holmes to reflect that as the fuel prices decrease it should be shown in County's price.

Proposed By: Commissioner Ronnie Dimsdale, District Two

Seconded By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

TECHNOLOGY CHANGE ORDER FOR BID 06-08 HDPE LINER

Administrative Assistant John Middleton addressed the board regarding the change order for the construction of the HDPE Liner with the cost at \$48,929.

Motion: To approve the change on bid 06-08 in the amount not to exceed \$48,929.00

Proposed By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR CLEARY PEST CONTROL

Administrative Assistant John Middleton presented to the board information regarding the renewal of the Cleary Pest Control contract for one year at the current terms.

Motion: To renew the contract with Cleary Pest Control for one year at the current terms

Proposed By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Seconded By: Commissioner Ester Fleming, District Three

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF DURDEN'S LAWN CARE CONTRACT

Administrative Assistant John Middleton presented information regarding the renewal contract for Durden's Lawn Care. He stated that there would be an increase of eight percent in their fees. He also stated that Joe Waters, Building Maintenance Manager, feels that the contract should be renewed at the current fees for one year. It was questioned if detainees could be used for lawn care services

Motion: To renew Durden's Lawn Care Contract for one year and to look at future use of detainees
Proposed By: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four
Seconded By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One
Motion Carried Unanimously

REVENUE DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Chairman Varner praised The Tax Assessor Tommy Knight and his staff for their hard work.

No Action Taken

GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Commissioner Ewing addressed the board regarding the Georgia Perimeter College Memorandum of Understanding. He stated he had a couple of questions about the money for fixtures and furniture and the money for road improvements. Commissioner Ewing wanted to put emphasis to Georgia Perimeter College that the Chairman has input on the spending of the road improvement money. Also, he questioned whether the two million dollars for furniture and fixtures could be kept in an interest bearing account until it is needed.

Motion: To approve the Georgia Perimeter College Memorandum of Understanding with the two concerns Cleared up.

Proposed By: Commissioner Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

ALCOHOL LICENSE

Phillips 66
10055 Covington Bypass
Covington, Georgia
First Reading

No Action Taken

Covington CVS
10267 Hwy 36
Covington, Georgia
Final Reading

Motion: To approve the alcohol license

Proposed By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Seconded By: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chevron Food Mart
11230 C Hwy 36
Covington, Georgia
Final Reading

Motion: To approve the alcohol license

Proposed By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Seconded By: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF COUNTY CHECKS

Motion: To approve County Checks as read

Proposed By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Seconded By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Motion Carried Unanimously

CITIZEN COMMENTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: To move into Executive Session

Proposed By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner J.C. Henderson, District Four

Motion Carried Unanimously

BEGIN EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:05p.m.

Discussion of Land Acquisition and Personnel

Motion: To enter into Regular Meeting

Proposed By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner Ester Fleming, District Three

Motion Carried Unanimously

REGULAR MEETING 8:35p.m.

WORK PROPOSED FOR DOBBS ENVIRONMENTAL

Motion: To approve

Proposed By: Commissioner Mort Ewing, District One

Seconded By: Commissioner Monty Laster, District Five

Motion Carried Unanimously

Adjourned 8:38 p.m.