

Newton County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Agenda Summary  
October 5, 2021  
Historic Courthouse  
Covington, GA 30014

In attendance, Chairman Banes, Commissioners: Edwards, Mason, Sanders, Henderson, Cowan, County Manager Lloyd Kerr, Attorney Patrick Jaugstetter, Deputy Clerk Susan Nolley.

7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order- Chairman Banes
2. Invocation-Commissioner Mason
3. Pledge
4. Agenda Adoption-**Approved \*to add item #15 Bicentennial Committee**  
**Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve, Commissioner Mason seconded.**  
**Vote 5-0**
5. Citizen Comments-**None**
6. Reports from Chairman  
Newton County 4-H Extension Office-Charlene Scott  
~~Bicentennial Birthday Bash Firework Display-Bicentennial Committee~~
7. Reports from County Manager  
Recognition of Ashley Best for Professional Equine Publication  
**Recognition of Maynard Kerrick for Professional Lifetime Achievement Award**
8. Unfinished Business-**None**
9. Consent Agenda Items  
**Consent Agenda items 9a-9h Approved**  
**Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve, Commissioner Mason seconded.**  
**Vote 5-0**
  - a) Regular Meeting Minutes May 4, 2021 **Approved**
  - b) Work Session Minutes September 14, 2021 **Approved**
  - c) Work Session Minutes September 21, 2021 **Approved**
  - d) Regular Meeting Minutes September 21, 2021 **Approved**
  - e) Newton County Sheriff's Office seeks permission to accept the FY 2021 State Homeland Security Award in the amount of \$19,036.00  
Funding Source: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security  
Budgeted: N/A  
Match: N/A **Approved**
  - f) Newton County Sheriff's Office seeks permission to apply for the FY 2020 Naloxone Grant. This grant will allow Narcan to individuals who have overdosed on drugs.  
Deadline requirement: October 8, 2021  
Funding Source: Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

Budgeted: N/A

Match: N/A **Approved**

- g) Newton County District Attorney's Office request for renewal of Victim of Crimes Act (VOCA) Grant to cover the existing Victim Advocate positions held by Cindy Hooper, Gabriela Arredondo and Leslie Smith.

Deadline requirement: October 15, 2021

Cost: \$199,078.54

Funding Source: District Attorney's General Fund

Budgeted: Yes **Approved**

Match: Federal Funds \$75,974.00 Cash Match \$18,993.00 (waived)

- h) Newton County District Attorney's Office request for renewal of Victim of Crimes Act (VOCA) Grant Funding for the Victim Compensation Advocate held by Ellen Bales.

Deadline requirement: October 18, 2021

Cost: \$69,494.74 Total salary and benefits for the position

Funding Source: District Attorney's General Fund

Match: Federal Funds \$43,500.00 Cash Match \$10,875.00 (Waived)

Budgeted: Yes **Approved**

#### Regular Agenda Board Discussion/Consideration

10. Parks and Recreation/Purchasing requesting approval of contract for Bliss Products & Services for playground @ Fairview Park.

Cost: \$99,981.33

Funding Source: SPLOST

Budgeted: Yes

Match: N/A

**Commissioner Sanders motioned to approve, Commissioner Henderson seconded. Vote 5-0**

11. GIS Department requests approval of GeoComm, Inc. Professional Service Agreement for consulting support on a Next-Gen 911 data readiness project.

Cost: \$222,413.00

Funding Source: Newton County and Municipalities

Budgeted: Yes

Match: N/A

**Commissioner Henderson motioned to approve, Commissioner Mason seconded. Vote 5-0**

12. Discussion/Consideration SPLOST Committee **Tabled**

**Commissioner Henderson motioned to table until BOC meeting 10/19/2021**

**Commissioner Sanders seconded. Vote 5-0**

13. Discussion/Consideration In-House Attorney Counteroffer **Failed**

**Commissioner Henderson read a motion regarding legal services for Newton County and made a motion for the Board to approve, Commissioner Sanders seconded.**

Commissioner Cowan made a substitute motion to approve the original counter-offer as submitted, Commissioner Edwards second.

Vote 2-3. Commissioners: Mason, Henderson and Sanders opposed.

Commissioner Henderson made a motion to withdraw his original motion, Commissioner Sanders seconded.

Vote 4-1. Commissioner Cowan opposed.

14. Approval to adopt Resolution #10052021

A RESOLUTION BY THE NEWTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, RECOGNIZING E-911 TELECOMMUNICATORS OF COVINGTON E-911 CENTER AS FIRST RESPONDERS AND PART OF THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY FRAMEWORK

Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve, Commissioner Sanders seconded.

Vote 5-0

15. Bicentennial Committee-Birthday Bash Firework Display Proposal for the Bicentennial celebration.

Commissioner Henderson motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mason and Edwards

Vote 5-0

Zonings/Public Hearings @ 7:30 P.M.

(1) Case# REZ21-000007

Applicant-Newton County Board of Commissioners

Location: Hwy 11 & I-20

Map/Parcel # 112-017

District: 1(One)

FLUM: DN (Development Node)

Zoning: AR (Agricultural Residential) & CH (Highway Commercial)

Acreage: 46.12

On September 28, 2021 the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval with staff conditions. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Edwards motioned to approve with staff conditions and recommendations, Commissioner Mason seconded.

Vote 4-1. Commissioner Henderson abstained (uncertain)

15a.Citizen Comments-None

16. Board Comments

Commissioner Henderson

17. Executive Session if Needed-None

18. Adjourn

8:31

Commissioner Sanders motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Mason seconded.

Vote 5-0