

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
1124 Clark Street
Covington, Georgia 30014
Agenda
June 07, 2016

Thought for the day...

"Life is like a prism. What you see depends on how you turn the glass"

Jonathan Kellerman

Present: Commissioners John Douglas, Lanier Sims, Nancy Schulz, Levie Maddox
(Commissioner Schulz as Vice-Chair)

Lisa Conner, for Clerk Jackie Smith

Larry Ramsey, Jarrard & Davis

Absent: Chairman Wm. Keith Ellis and Commissioner J.C. Henderson

Call to Order: Commissioner Nancy Schulz at 7:00 pm

Invocation: Commissioner John Douglas

Pledge of Allegiance: Cpt. Sammy Banks

Book

General Administration:

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to approve: Commissioner Douglas

Second: Commissioner Maddox

Carried 4/0

A.

2. **Old Business:**

2a. Discussion/Approval of Recycling Center contract with Hilliard Services for a change order of \$54,000 (Tabled from the BOC Meeting on May 31, 2016)

Presented by Lloyd Kerr: Hilliard has provided services at the Recycle Centers. The contract has not been revised since 2013. Since that time there has been a change in the number of hours and number of employees due to holidays and increased activity. The hourly rate is what is stated in the contract. The Solid Waste Authority recommended approval of this change order in the amount of \$54,000

Motion to approve: Commissioner Douglas

Second: Commissioner Sims

Carried 4/0

2b. Fire Services: Discussion/Approval to purchase from Capital Fire Account 76 SCBA's and all necessary accessories for replacement of firefighter's respiratory protection equipment. \$599,973.65 (Tabled from the BOC Meeting on May 31, 2016)

Presented by Fire Chief Monroe: the current units are 12 – 15 years old. Under

The National Fire Protection guidelines the cylinders are at the end of service life. This is a liability issue, we cannot continue to answer calls that involve smoke or gas. Also looked at technical upgrades – now a GPS will be incorporated so that we can track personnel in large buildings. The new units have a 10 year warranty. The funds come from the Fire Tax Account.

Motion to approve: Commissioner Sims not to exceed \$599,973.65

Second: Maddox

Carried 4/0

3. Vice Chair's Report

There will be a Transportation Community Forum Friday, June 10th.

10:00am – Noon. Held at Georgia Piedmont Technical College on Alcovy Road. The public is invited to participate in a forum to discuss the need for transportation for seniors, students, etc.

Power Point that is made a part of these minutes, Senior Ride on June 11th to raise funds for senior transportation

Community Block Grant made it possible for the NCBOC to partner with Action Ministries to help families and individuals in need by providing food. June 16th.

1:00 – 3:00 pm at Live Oak Elementary and June 25th, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at The Enclave Clubhouse, 500 boxes of food will be available at each location

4. County Manager Report

Will have a report at the next meeting

D. 5. Newton County Resource Court request permission to accept a CJCC Grant for FY17 in the amount of \$283,765

Matching funds \$31,529 from Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance, Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant and Walton County DATE funds

(Lloyd Kerr presented, Judge Ozburn is out of town)

Motion to approve: Douglas

Second: Sims

Carried 4/0

E. 6. Newton County Drug Court request permission to accept a grant from the Council of Accountability Court Judges Funding Committee for FY17 in the amount of \$124,527 Match \$13,836

Judge Wynne presented

The Court has 39 participants, 17 have graduated and only 3 are back in jail. This is a fairly new Court and we have experienced great success. Matching funds will be paid out of fees.

Motion to approve: Sims

Second: Maddox

Carried: 4/0

- F. **7. Newton County Juvenile Court request to accept continuation funding from Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Accountability Courts for the Juvenile Drug Court Program. Continue treatment and supervision for youth in need of support for substance abuse in the amount of \$33,682 Match \$3,742**

Presented by Lloyd Kerr. Matching funds are from existing hours that are in the budget for Juvenile Court

Motion to approve: Sims

Second: Maddox

Carried: 4/0

- G. **8. Approval of the FY17 Family Connection Contract in the amount of \$47,000 Collaborative Agent is Newton County Community Partnership**

Presented by Lloyd Kerr

This is for child health care, development, school performance, fees for families and transportation as well. Department of Human Services, BOC is Fiscal Agent

Motion to approve: Douglas

Second: Maddox

Carried: 4/0

- H. **9. Request for Reimbursement – Hazardous Waste Trust Fund Application HIS No. 10678**

Discussion/Approval of Resolution: R060716-A

Related to work done when the ground water contamination was identified. This is the final payment between NCBOC and Department of Natural Resources \$36,103.79

Motion to approve: Maddox

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

- I. **10. Discussion/Approval of the Newton County Financial Report Summary April 2016**

Presented by Michelle Kelly

Discussion that we are at 92.3% of revenues and 90% of expenses. One area of is the amount spent on legal fees. July to December 2015 paid to Craig \$378,199 Jan to April 2016 \$138,566. Jarrard & Davis December to April \$375,051

Schulz: we knew this would be a transition, at least for the first six months we experience more fees due to new policies. Megan Martin, J&D, will begin giving quarterly reports.

*Motion to approve: Douglas
Second: Maddox
Carried: 4/0*

J. **11. Discussion/Approval of Check Register – Dated April 2016**

Douglas: we are paying two law firms, checks are paid and gone by the time we get the check register. I don't know what the answer is, we are not going to be able to be able to stop using the other firm, but it is clear that the Board is against it.

To Lloyd, how are legal fees reviewed?

Kerr: the Chair and I both review and send to finance.

Kerr: if you will remember the former county attorney still represents the Sheriff's Office. The large portion of Craig's billing is prior to Jarrard & Davis

Douglas: the legal fees for the Sheriff's Office; does that come out of the general fund or does it come out of the Sheriff's budget?

Kerr: the Sheriff's Budget

Sims: 4/1 vote we agreed not to utilize Craig, we need clarity. The invoice that comes from Craig, I understand Constitutional Officers; I want to be sure that no other Departments incur charges from Craig. I thought we had a deadline of May 1st, 2016 no more expenses from the general fund to Craig

Motion to approve: Maddox

Second: Sims

Carried: 3/1 with Douglas in Opposition

K. **12. Discussion/Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Porterdale**

Lloyd Kerr presented: there is a dead zone in Porterdale where emergency communications will not transmit. A Booster Antenna is needed, funds will come from Fire Funds \$67,000

Porterdale Police Chief Cripps: the areas around the Loft's, Crowell Rd and the By-Pass are the dead zone. With the Booster Antenna they will be able to receive the connectivity needed for 911 calls

Motion to approve: Maddox

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

L. **13. Discussion/Approval request from Finance to replace the current time and attendance system with an updated and user friendly system
\$75,311.96 (including first year annual maintenance)
\$10,425 per year annual support (would replace amount IT budgets for current system. Capital Improvement Fund**

Presented by Michelle Kelly: gave a handout to the BOC, copy attached to minutes,

Currently have Kronos software for Payroll, it is a very old version. 75% of time spent in payroll is on transporting information and making corrections. We need a time and attendance software that will communicate with our new software, Tyler. We will save time and money, this information will automatically flow to Tyler. The annual fee is stated incorrectly in the request. The annual fee will be \$19,395, which will begin the second year. This is already included in IT's budget. They will no longer have to update any software. All maintenance and updates are included with this annual fee. This is not the lowest bid, however Kronos did not include new time clocks. If that amount was included it would be about the same.

Motion to approve: Maddox

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

M. **14. Award of the Landscape Maintenance Services annual cost
\$67,700 to Yellowstone Landscape Group**

Presented by Lloyd Kerr: competitive bids, this includes all of the County owned buildings.

Motion to approve: Douglas

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

N. **15. Discussion/Approval Law Enforcement to purchase two – 2017 Dodge 3500
Pro-Master High Top Vans with prisoner transport system and double
compartments. 2 @ \$52,846.92 total \$105,693.84**

**Emergency Equipment/radios for the two inmate transport vans two
Packages @ \$9093.55 total \$18,187.10**

Total package price for both vans fully equipped \$123,880.94

Sheriff Brown: SPLOST funds are exhausted, they transport prisoners all over the state of Georgia and surrounding states. Currently 5 vehicles, each over 300,000 miles on them. Rather than go to taxpayers the purchase can come from the Inmate Fund. We are also in need of Tahoe's, they are used by other agencies for transport. They are equipped with two cages, you can transport male and female at the same time, which will save time and money. We also need a new x-ray machine for downstairs in this building.

Sims: I know that you have a need for the Tahoe's, I have always been concerned for the safety of the officers driving transporting the inmates.

Douglas: We are having a Budget Work Session next Wednesday, can we have discussion at that meeting for the purpose to act on the request for the Tahoe's

Maddox: I approve and support you. I can't imagine the burden that you have leading your team.

Bring the X-Ray machine back before the Board

Sheriff: Someone from the Board needs to take the time to shadow us, come to the Sheriff's Office, The Clerk's Office and Tax Commissioner's, all of the Constitutional Offices and see firsthand what we do.

Motion to approve: Sims

Motion to amend the Motion: Amend the Motion to approve the purchase of the two Vans with equipment as listed in the request and have a Special Called Meeting before our Budget Work Session next Wednesday night, June 15th, at 6:00 pm

Second: Maddox

Carried 4/0

- O. **16. A Waiver of Conflict of the Board of Commissioners related to a proposed Intergovernmental Agreement with the Newton County Solid Waste Authority (“NCSWA”) regarding the NCSWA taking over management of the County’s waste stream – County Attorney**

Motion to approve: Sims

Second: Maddox

Carried: 4/0

- P. **17. Discussion/Approval: Resolution R060716
The Board of Commissioners consideration to conduct
judicial in rem tax Foreclosures pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-4-76**

This will authorize the Tax Commissioner a tool to collect taxes in rem of foreclosure procedure. Is taxes are more than one year in arrears,

Tax Commissioner has the right to notify all interested parties by filing notice, if taxes are not satisfied the Tax Commissioner has the right to foreclose

Motion to approve: Douglas

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

18. Citizen Comments

Ray Cowan, 225 Fairlane Dr., Covington, GA

Written request to the BOC from Ray Cowan, Chairman, Newton County Republican Party, Inc. to be placed on the next agenda regarding the Republican appointee to The Election Board. The NCRP wishes to have a member removed and will offer a replacement. (The letter is attached and made a part of these minutes)

Ann Neuhierl, Ellington Community Covington GA

Ellington Neighborhood, the Silos, some roads have failed, very bad shape. Would like to see this on a SPLOST project

Mary and Matt Troutman, Hwy 213 Covington, GA

Request for Newton County to deed a portion of greenspace to them. Seems to be different information on plats. A subdivision was planned for the area that they live at, subdivision failed. This area was to be greenspace for the neighborhood. Now

have no access to their backyard, their septic is on one side and fence on the other.
(Letter of request to the Board and made a part of these minutes.)

Doris Thomas Cook , Providence Park, Covington, GA
Trees need to be cut down, grass mowed on r-o-w
Commissioner Schulz asked her to stay until the meeting was over and they would
speak to Lloyd Kerr

Barbara Morgan, East St., Covington, GA
Commend Commissioner Schulz on the efficient way that she conducted the
meeting

Citizen Comments Closed

No Comments from Commissioners
Vice-Chair Commissioner Schulz thanked Lisa Conner for helping her this week

No Executive Session necessary

Motion to Adjourn: Maddox

Second: Sims

Carried: 4/0

Meeting Adjourned at 8:27 pm

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Conner



William K. Ellis, Chairman