Coweta County Board of Commissioners

Public Hearing/Regular Meeting Session

Minutes

22 East Broad Street
Newnan, GA 30263
www.coweta.ga.us

Shannon Zerangue
Fran Collins
770.254.2601

August 5, 2025 **6:00 PM** **Commission Chambers**
37 Perry Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Coweta County Board of Commissioners

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Bill McKenzie	District 2 - Chairman	Present
John Reidelbach	District 4 - Vice Chairman	Present
Jeff Fisher	District 1	Present
Bob Blackburn	District 3	Remote
Alphonso Smith	District 5	Present
Michael Fouts	County Administrator	Present
Kelly Mickle	Assistant County Administrator	Present
Sandy Wisenbaker	Assistant County Administrator	Present
Tod Handley	Public Works Administrator	Present
Nathan Lee	County Attorney	Present
Fran Collins	Deputy County Clerk	Present

The Honorable Board of Commissioners of Coweta County, Georgia met in Public Hearing/Regular Meeting Session on Tuesday, August 5, 2025.

Commissioner Blackburn attended the meeting remotely because he was outside the jurisdiction of Coweta County [as allowed in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(g)(3)].

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman McKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman McKenzie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Invocation was given by Commissioner Smith.

Notification of Location of Rules

Chairman McKenzie explained that the rules governing the meeting could be found on the County's website as well as on the table located in the lobby outside the meeting room.

Announcements and Comments from the Commissioners

Chairman McKenzie explained that Commissioner Blackburn would be attending the meeting remotely and called for any announcements and/or comments from the Board. There were none.

Regular Session

NOTE Because of technical difficulties, Commissioner Blackburn's votes could not be heard or recorded until Agenda Item # 4 - *First Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed 2025 Millage Rates*. Therefore, Commissioner Blackburn is listed as absent until that time.

Approval of Minutes

1. **Request Approval of the Minutes from the Public Hearing/Regular Meeting Session Held on July 15, 2025**

   Motion to: Approve

   The Board voted to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing/Regular Meeting Session held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

   RESULT: Passed (4 to 0)
   MOVER: Alphonso Smith
   SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
   AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Alphonso Smith
   ABSENT: Bob Blackburn

2. **Request Approval of the Minutes from the Work Session Held on July 22, 2025**

   Motion to: Approve

   The Board voted to approve the minutes from the Work Session held on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

   RESULT: Passed (4 to 0)
   MOVER: John Reidelbach
   SECONDER: Jeff Fisher

AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Alphonso Smith
ABSENT: Bob Blackburn

Consent Agenda

3. **Confirm Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Coweta County School System Associated with Radio Tower Space on Collinsworth Road - District 4**

Motion to: Confirm

The Board voted to confirm execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Coweta County School System associated with radio tower space on the telecommunications tower located at 807 Collinsworth Road, Palmetto (Canongate Tower).

RESULT: Passed (4 to 0)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Alphonso Smith
ABSENT: Bob Blackburn

Supplemental and Non-Agenda Items

There were no Supplemental or Non-Agenda items to be added for discussion.

Public Hearing (The Chairman will call for any comments regarding the following items after each item is presented)

4. **First Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed 2025 Millage Rates**

Administrator Fouts explained that state law requires that the Board approve the millage rate or property tax rate as a levying authority. If there is a tax rate that is proposed that is higher than the state required rollback rate, then the Board must conduct three (3) public hearings. The proposed rate is above the rollback rate and tonight is the first of the (3) hearings. The next two (2) public hearings will be held on Tuesday, August 19th at 7:30 a.m. and at the regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., which is when the millage rate adoption will occur. He explained that over the last few months, as staff has worked through the budget and millage rate process, in addition to the normal process, there have been a few changes since 2024. In 2024, the General Assembly passed House Bill 581 (HB 581) limiting annual increases in assessed value of homestead property through a local floating homestead exemption. In November 2024, Georgia voters approved the referendum to enact the floating homestead exemption. Also, earlier this year, the

Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) ruled that only County and School System maintenance and operations (M&O) millage rates or levies are permitted on the state promulgated 2025 Notice of Assessment. Therefore, on the assessment notices mailed this year, only two (2) millage rates were listed, the County M&O and the School System M&O. In the past, the Fire District and the Fire Bond, which are special service districts, would have been included on the assessment notices, along with any applicable city millage rates. Lastly, he explained that the Board recently executed resolutions establishing three (3) new Special Service Districts, including the Countywide 911, Countywide EMS, and Countywide Parks & Recreation (see May 6, 2025 minutes).

Administrator Fouts explained that there are several parties involved in the process throughout the year, including the Assessor's Office, whose role is to determine the fair market value of property each year as of January 1. They also approve or deny exemptions and process taxpayer assessed value appeals. The Tax Commissioner's primary role is to compile the tax digest and to certify it to the DOR. When all of the levying authorities have approved a millage rate, the Tax Commissioner then bills, collects and disburses those taxes to the jurisdictions. The Board of Commissioners role is also vital in terms of setting the millage rate or tax rate, as well as the annual budget. Finally, the Board of Education (BOE), which is a separate body from the Board of Commissioners, has the responsibility of recommending a school system tax rate, as well as establishing their separate budget. He further explained that the process begins in July with the Board of Assessors completing its assessment and notices to taxpayers, and the Board of Commissioners conducting a Public Hearing for the budget. In August, the Board of Commissioners and the BOE recommend a millage rate and submit it to the DOR in order to collect taxes. He noted that in simple terms, the tax digest is the combined value of real and personal property, and in Georgia, personal and real property are assessed at 40% of the Fair Market Value, unless otherwise specified by law. He reviewed the calculation to determine the millage rate and explained that the press release along with the five-year history and the notices of property tax increase, have been completed and advertised. Tonight is the first of the three (3) Public Hearings, and two (2) additional Public Hearings will be conducted on August 19th at 7:30 a.m. and at 6:00 p.m. The Board has scheduled the 7:30 a.m. meeting as another option for those unable to attend the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

Administrator Fouts further explained that when taxpayers receive their bill, all the levying authorities are listed, but the County is listed at the top of the bill and often citizens assume the County is receiving all the taxes. He illustrated a breakdown (based on the 2024 millage rates) of each $1.00 received, including $0.6644 to the School System, $0.2021 to the County for general maintenance and operations, $0.1250 to the County for Fire, and $0.084 to the County for the Fire Bonds. Next year, the bill will include the new special service districts. He presented a table showing the 2025 digest, including the categories of real property, personal property, motor vehicles, mobile homes, timber, heavy equipment, the gross digest, exemptions that were applied to those categories, and finally the net digest value. He explained that the table includes those categories from the

2024 digest, reassessments, other/growth, and the total digest for 2025. He noted that the digest increased by almost $450 million net year over year.

Administrator Fouts addressed some myths and misinformation, explaining that many believe that HB 581 means a tax freeze was approved, which is not the case. HB 581 simply limits the increase of the assessed value of homestead property and does not freeze the millage/tax rate or the associated property taxes. He provided examples of a Notice of Assessment showing a property that decreased in fair market value in 2025 with a basic homestead exemption and a Notice of Assessment showing a property that increased in fair market value in 2025 with a floating homestead exemption. He pointed out that the School System opted out of the floating homestead exemption and therefore the floating homestead exemption will not apply to the School M&O.

Administrator Fouts explained that many citizens believe that Coweta County has the highest millage rate or property tax in Georgia, which is not true. Anyone can go out to the Department of Revenue's website that lists the millage rate for every county in the state at the following address: https://dor.georgia.gov/local-government-services/digest-compliance/proprty-tax-millage-rates. They have approximately ten (10) years of millage rate data on their website. Another myth is that the County's budget process is not transparent to the public. He explained that this year, the Board held two (2) Work Sessions that were open to the public and streamed online. Additionally, as soon as the budget documents were made available to the public, they were posted on the County's website at https://www.coweta.ga.us/departments-services/departments-f-q/finance. Multiple years of approved budgets and audited financial statements are available on the County's website. Another myth is that if the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) revenue is growing, then there is no need for a millage rate increase. He explained that the County has been fortunate since 1986 to have a SPLOST, and it has afforded many capital projects, but SPLOST cannot be used for operating expenses. It has afforded taxpayers a reduction in property taxes because those capital projects (i.e. fire apparatus, patrol cars, etc.) would otherwise be funded by property taxes. He pointed out that there is information regarding the SPLOST on the County website under Coweta SPLOST, including expenditures for capital and projects, and is updated quarterly.

Chairman McKenzie expressed his belief that Sheriff Wood and Fire Chief Flanagan would both agree about the importance of SPLOST.

Administrator Fouts addressed another myth regarding new development and that this kind of activity should provide adequate revenue without increasing property taxes. He explained that the majority of the tax digest is largely residential, and it costs more to provide services to heavy residential areas than to other land uses like commercial and industrial. In addition, the majority of the growth in the county is residential. In 2025, approximately 69% of properties are classed as residential, 17% commercial, 7% industrial, 3% utilities, with small classes like motor vehicles, etc. making up the rest.

Administrator Fouts explained that of the $450 million in growth in 2025, approximately $242 million, or roughly 2.41% was new growth (new homes, renovations, commercial, etc.). The proposed 2025 rollback rate would net just over $1,000,000 of new revenue, and the operating budget is a little over $114 million. The new revenue is not enough to keep up with inflation for the cost of fuel, insurance, benefits, maintenance agreements, postage, etc. The idea that new growth generates enough revenue is simply not true. In 2025, residential growth was 71.5% of all real property growth.

Chairman Reidelbach pointed out that it takes years for tax revenue to come in from new developments because it takes a number of years to complete them.

Administrator Fouts explained that if a new home is under construction and does not have a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) by January 1, then it will not be considered on the digest until it reaches a certain point of completion.

The last myth Administrator Fouts addressed is that the County's millage rate has continuously increased over the past five (5) years. He explained that in three (3) of the last five (5) years (2020, 2021, and 2023) the Board adopted the rollback rate. The Board adopted an increase in 2022 (3.17%) and in 2024 (5.60%). For 2025, the proposed increase is 4.69%, if approved.

Administrator Fouts briefly reviewed the proposed budget and what is necessary to fund it in terms of property taxes. He also explained that for the 2025 tax year there will be three (3) new special service districts, and those agencies will be removed from the General Fund for transparency. In the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, roughly $47 million was levied in property taxes with the planned use of $4.75 million of the Fund Balance. As proposed in Fiscal year 2026, approximately $61.7 million of property tax revenue is needed to fund the budget.

Chairman McKenzie explained that over the past few years, the County dipped into the Fund Balance to try to keep taxes as low as possible, but that is not sustainable.

Administrator Fouts explained that keeping a fairly substantial Fund Balance is necessary, and depending on the services provided, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends a Fund Balance of 15 to 50% of the operating budget for emergencies, favorable ratings for bond projects, etc.

Assistant Administrator Mickle explained that from a cash flow standpoint, the General Fund Fund Balance is the primary reserve for all funds, and it is not unusual to have to make emergency purchases like a chiller going out at one of the larger facilities that may cost $150,000, or a capital project where the state or federal government provides 50%-75% of funding, but the County has to provide the remainder and has to have the cash on hand to be able to receive the grant funding. Also, revenues are seasonal. For example, property taxes are collected in the fall, and sales taxes are collected throughout the year, so it becomes a cash flow issue at some point.

Administrator Fouts compared the millage rates from 2024 (4.688 mills) to the proposed millage rates for 2025 (4.817 mills for M&O and 1.12 mills for Countywide Special Service Districts) for a total of 5.937 mills or a change of 1.249 mills over 2024. For this year, the average value of a property with a homestead exemption is $400,000 and a property without a homestead exemption is $375,000. Both would be proposed to pay $890.55 for the County M&O and Countywide Special Service Districts portions of the tax bill, or an increase of $187.35 (or $15.61/month). He further explained that if a property owner lives in unincorporated county or in a municipality that has a contract with the County to provide fire protection, the 2025 Fire District and Fire Bond is an additional 2.389 mills, which would bring their 2025 total to 8.626 mills, or $1,293.90, which is an increase of $126.45 ($10.54/month). He also explained that although he discussed a $14 million increase in total, the actual General Fund budget is only proposed to increase by 2%.

Administrator Fouts highlighted the following four (4) step process to calculate the millage rate:

1. Development of a draft fiscal year budget based upon goals and expectations (service delivery). For Fiscal Year 2026, staff is proposing a $117,315,031 budget.
2. Development of non-property tax revenue projections to support the draft budget. For Fiscal Year 2026, staff is proposing $67,212,009 in non-property tax revenue, most of which is sales and use tax followed by ad valorem.
3. Calculation of property tax revenue needed from step 2 to balance the budget. For Fiscal Year 2026, staff takes the proposed budget and subtracts the non-property tax revenue to determine the revenue needed from property taxes ($117,315,031 - $67,217,009 = $50,098,022).
4. Calculation of the millage rate using the data from step 3 and the current tax digest. For Fiscal Year 2026, roughly $50,098,022 million of property tax revenue is needed, divided by the net digest $10,402,752,308 = millage rate of 0.004817.

In closing, Administrator Fouts presented the proposed millage rates for 2025 including the Countywide General M&O (4.817 mills), Countywide Parks and Recreation (0.397 mills), Countywide 911 (0.321 mills), Countywide EMS (0.402 mills), Fire District (2.500 mills), and Fire Bond (0.189 mills).

Chairman McKenzie called for any comments in support of or in opposition to the proposed 2025 millage rates. There were none.

In conclusion, Chairman McKenzie explained that the next Public Hearings regarding the proposed 2025 millage rates are scheduled for August 19, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. and August 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. followed by adoption of the millage rates (at the 6:00 p.m. meeting).

Motion to: Close the Public Hearing

The Board voted to close the first Public Hearing regarding the 2025 millage rates.
RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
AYES: Bill McKenzie, Bob Blackburn, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Alphonso Smith

Regular Session

Public Comments Regarding Items On the Agenda - This is also time for anyone that wishes to address the Board regarding cases heard at the Public Hearing conducted by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Chairman McKenzie called for comments regarding any items on the agenda.

For ease of transcription, the following speakers are not in order of appearance, but in order of topic.

Mr. Mike Lokhandwala, applicant representative for Khaja Nooruddi, addressed the Board regarding a request for an extension associated with a new package beer and wine license for property located at 1253 Lora Smith Road, Newnan (agenda item # 5). He explained that they have obtained a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) and a construction easement with the Korean Church of Newnan. They are waiting for approval from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for an orange permit card. In addition, they received approval from the County to place a silt fence for erosion control at the site. Today, he is here on behalf of the owner, who is also present, to request that the Board grant an extension.

The following citizens spoke in opposition to proposed amendments to *Chapter 10. Animals* of the *Coweta County Code* of *Ordinances* (agenda item # 8) citing the need to keep the Animal Services Board because of their experience with dogs and their objectivity, the need to keep dangerous and vicious dog cases heard by their peers, that keeping the Animal Services Board is in the best interest of both animals and their owners, that the Probate Judge (a single person) deciding on cases will not be fair and costs money, and their belief that there will be legal ramifications:

Ms. Libby Parham, Animal Services Board Chairman
Mr. Tilden Colten, Moore Road, Newnan, Animal Services Board Member

Joseph Sprott, DVM, Animal Services Board Member

Recommendations from Community Development and/or the Board of Zoning Appeals

5. **Request Filed by Khaja Nooruddin for an Extension Associated with a New Package Beer and Wine License for Property Located at 1253 Lora Smith Road, Newnan - District 4**

   Business License Associate Joy Thompson explained that at the Public Hearing held on August 8, 2023, the Board voted to grant a new Package Beer and Wine License to Mr. Khaja Nooruddin, operating as Serv Best Food Mart (Served Best, Inc.), for property located at 1253 Lora Smith Road, Newnan (Parcel # 109-6027-017). The approval was contingent upon the applicant obtaining a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) within twelve (12) months of approval (by August 8, 2024) and the store being fully operational within eighteen (18) months of approval (by February 8, 2025). On May 30, 2024, the Business and Alcohol License Division received a formal request from Mr. Nooruddin requesting an extension for both deadlines. At the Public Hearing held on August 6, 2024, the Board voted to grant a twelve (12) month extension to obtain an LDP and a six (6) month extension for the store to be fully operational, setting the deadline for both to be completed by August 8, 2025. On July 10, 2025, the Business and Alcohol License Division received a second extension request from Mr. Nooruddin for an additional twelve (12) month extension to obtain the LDP and an additional twelve (12) month extension for the store to become operational, making the new deadline for both to be completed by August 8, 2026. She recommended that the Board consider approving an additional twelve (12) month extension to obtain a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) and for the store's opening deadline to be completed by August 8, 2026 as well. In closing, she explained that the applicant was present should the Board have any questions.

   In response to a question from Commissioner Reidelbach, Public Works Administrator Handley explained that staff has not typically experienced 36-month delays with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the issuance of orange cards.

   Community Development Director Amason explained that, according to GDOT Traffic and Operations Manager Stanford Taylor, the design and installation of a dedicated right turn lane also required some traffic signal design modifications that are taking longer than normal. In September 2024, the applicant submitted a request for an encroachment permit, but did not apply for a traffic signal reversion permit. GDOT is going through the review process now, but could not commit to a timeline regarding when the review process and approval would be granted. This should be the only issue holding up the project at this point. Everything is in order and staff is ready to issue a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) once the GDOT permit has been approved.

Mr. Khaja Nooruddin, applicant, explained that financing has been ready since 2023. It took them 3–4 months to obtain an easement from the Korean Church of Newnan.

In response to a question from Chairman McKenzie, Mr. Mike Lokhandwala, applicant representative, explained that they have been working with the Korean Church of Newnan to obtain a construction easement for the last 5-1/2 months. Earlier this year, the LDP was approved by the County and that is when the issue came up that a construction easement would be required prior to the commencement of work. That is when they began to work to get the construction easement from the Korean Church of Newnan. The church has an internal committee, and they went through four (4) rounds of meetings, then the pastor, who was the last person that could sign off on the easement, had a death in the family and was out of the country.

In response to questions from the Board, Community Development Director Amason explained that on March 3, 2025, site plans were approved by staff for both the site work and roadway improvement. On March 4, 2025, instructions were given to the applicant on what documents were needed for the LDP processing. On May 16, 2025, inquiries were made by the applicant about the needed information for the LDP issuance and instructions were sent again. Today, everything has been received except for the GDOT permit card. The permit card will give the applicant permission to perform construction activity within the GDOT state Right-of-Way (ROW), and the traffic signal will then have to be modified.

Mr. Lokhandwala, explained that GDOT notified them on February 28, 2025, of the traffic light modification comment, and since that time, they have hired a special engineer, Kimberly Horn Engineering, to complete the necessary documents. The work cannot begin without the permit from GDOT. Today, County staff finally approved the installation of a silt fence for erosion control.

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Amason explained that GDOT cannot give staff a timeline for when the permit will be approved. There are different people at GDOT that have to review and approve the applicant's plan, and Mr. Taylor from GDOT could not provide that information. The applicant has to modify the traffic signal too for a dedicated right turn lane, because the light is not synchronized for that type of activity.

In response to questions from the Board, Public Works Administrator Handley explained that GDOT requires modifications to the signalization for traffic control, and they could send a revision to the signal permit to the County for approval before it goes to the applicant, because the County pays the power bill for that signal. Once the County receives a notice, it gets placed on the Commission meeting agenda for approval by the Board. There will likely be an additional signal head that goes up with a right-turn arrow, and it will probably have three (3) indicators on it (red, green and yellow). Some changes inside the signal cabinet will have to be made to make sure that that light functions like it should, and some new wiring will be necssary. The developer's contractor will perform this work.

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Lokhandwala explained that they have paid a $5,000 permit fee today, and when the scope of work is reviewed and approved by GDOT, they will pay for the signal modifications.

Commissioner Fisher expressed concerns about rendering the ordinance useless, and it has happened a series of times when people keep coming back asking for extensions.

In response to questions from the Board, Ms. Thompson explained that if the applicant communicates and provides documents when requested, they could obtain their building permits and be open in 12 months or less.

Motion to: Grant

The Board voted to grant a six (6) month extension to obtain a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP), extending the deadline to February 8, 2026, and to grant a twelve (12) month extension to open the store, extending the operational readiness deadline to August 8, 2026, to Mr. Khaja Nooruddin, associated with a new package beer and wine license for property located at 1253 Lora Smith Road, Newnan (Parcel # 109-6027-017).

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

6. **Request Acceptance of Additional Right-of-Way Along Lower Fayetteville Road at Lower Fayetteville Storage - District 1**

Administrator Fouts explained that Sharpsburg GA Storage, LLC has submitted documents for the donation of additional right-of-way consisting of 0.095± acres (4,169 square feet) along Lower Fayetteville Road at Lower Fayetteville Storage, Sharpsburg and is requesting acceptance by the Board. The County Attorney reviewed and approved associated legal documents prior to submission to the Board for consideration.

Motion to: Accept

The Board voted to accept the donation of additional right-of-way consisting of 0.095± acres (4,169 square feet) along Lower Fayetteville Road at Lower Fayetteville Storage, Sharpsburg.

RESULT: PASSED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Jeff Fisher

SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

Unfinished Business

7. **Request Appointments to Various Boards/Authorities**

   No action was taken by the Board regarding appointments to various boards and authorities.

8. **Request Approval/Execution of a Proposed Amendment to Chapter 10. Animals of the Coweta County Code of Ordinances**

   Assistant Administrator Wisenbaker explained that at the Commission meeting held on June 17, 2025, staff presented amendments to *Chapter 10. Animals* of the *Coweta County Code* of *Ordinances.* The Board voted to defer any further discussion or decision regarding the proposed amendments associated with redirection of the hearing process for the classification of dangerous or vicious dogs from the existing Animal Services Board to the Probate Court of Coweta County to be heard until August 5th. At this time, staff are looking for direction from the Board. Staff recommends that the Board execute the proposed amendments to Chapter 10 to become effective on September 1, 2025.

   In response to questions from the Board, Assistant Administrator Wisenbaker explained that currently, if an Animal Control officer determines that a dog should be classified as dangerous or vicious, the Animal Control officer does the investigation and sends a notice and summary to the owner based upon their investigation. The owner then has the right within 30 days to request a hearing to appeal the officer's classification of the dog as either dangerous or vicious. The Animal Services Board conducts the hearing, and they have the authority to either sustain, modify, or overrule that classification of either dangerous or vicious. Once a ruling has been made, that is it. If an owner is against the ruling, then they can then appeal to the Superior Court. There were approximately ten (10) cases in 2024 where dogs were classified as dangerous or vicious. The State statute is broader than the County's Ordinance, which states that to qualify as a vicious dog there has to be a serious injury which results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations that require multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery, or a physical injury that results in death.

   In response to a question from the Board, Animal Services Board Chairman Libby Parham explained that she remembers there were less than five (5) cases heard for both dangerous and vicious dogs in 2024.

   Administrator Fouts explained that the number of cases in 2024 can be obtained from Animal Services. He added that there are more bite cases, but the majority of those cases are not classified and do not meet the classification requirements. Now, not a week or month goes by when Animal Control officers do not respond to a bite scenario. However, a large majority, approximately 95% of those cases, do not meet the definition of state law, which is what the County's ordinance is for.

Chairman McKenzie pointed out that the hospital and urgent care centers also notify Animal Services officers regarding dog bites, at which time an investigation is started.

Commissioner Fisher explained that he has reviewed the backgrounds, skill sets, and qualifications of the Animal Services Board members and is impressed. The Board is looking at public safety and to ensure animals are treated fairly. There is also a business decision to make whether to utilize the Probate Court, which can also use vets, animal trainers, or behavioral specialists in order to figure out if a dog is truly dangerous or vicious. There are potential liability and legal issues and the Probate Court Judge is capable of rendering an impartial decision.

Chairman McKenzie explained that the Animal Services Board and the Probate Judge's authority would both be limited by the law.

Warden Jeff Rogers, pointed out that it is more of a procedural issue, a matter of the ordinance. Both he and Lieutenant Bush, who oversees Animal Services officers, support the amendments.

Commissioner Blackburn explained that the Animal Services Board provides a valuable service to the County. They are dog people and understand the issues. He asked if the Board should consider keeping the Board and for them to be able to hand off dangerous or vicious cases to the Probate Court.

Attorney Lee explained that the law does not allow for a hybrid situation as described by Commissioner Blackburn.

Motion to: Execute

On motion of Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Reidelbach, failing by a vote of 2 to 3, with Commissioner Fisher and Commissioner Reidelbach voting in support, and Chairman McKenzie, Commissioner Blackburn and Commissioner Smith voting in opposition, a motion to execute amendments to *Chapter 10. Animals of the Coweta County Code of Ordinances* was defeated.

RESULT: Failed (2-3)
MOVER: Jeff Fisher
SECONDER: John Reidelbach
AYES: John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher
NAYES: Bill McKenzie, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

New Business

Bids and Contracts

9. **Request Approval/Execution of a User Agreement with GAP Group, Inc and WinGap Associated with Software Utilized by the Tax Assessor's Office**

   Administrator Fouts explained that the Coweta County Board of Assessor's office has utilized GAP Group, Inc. and the WinGap Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system since 2000. Gap Group, Inc. is requesting an updated User Agreement signed for their records. WinGap is the appraisal system used by over 145 counties in Georgia and the annual membership dues are a budgeted expense.

   Motion to: Execute

   The Board voted to execute a WinGap User Agreement with GAP Group, Inc. associated with the Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system utilized by the Tax Assessor's office.

   RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
   MOVER: Alphonso Smith
   SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
   AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

10. **Request Approval/Execution of an Agreement with Five Star Breaktime Solutions Market**

   Administrator Fouts explained that based upon requests received from employees working within the Coweta County Justice Center, there is an interest in expanding the existing vending services. Staff is in receipt of an agreement with Five Star Breaktime Solutions Market that would expand the existing snack machines to a micro-market with greater variety and selection that would reduce the need to leave the facility for more substantive snacks or sandwiches. The micro-market will be available within the existing break room within the Justice Center and available to employees and citizens. The County will provide a data line to the vendor's equipment to facilitate customer payments.

   Motion to: Execute

   The Board voted to execute an agreement with Five Star Breaktime Solutions Market associated with the establishment of a micro-market at the Justice Center.

   RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
   MOVER: John Reidelbach

SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

11. **Request Approval/Execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with Southern Crescent Technical College Associated with an EMT Training Program**

Administrator Fouts explained that Southern Crescent Technical College (SCTC) has a training program with Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). As part of the final certification, students are required to complete clinical hours in an ambulance with a certified Paramedic preceptor. Staff is in receipt of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that replaces a previous agreement from 2016 which has been on a rolling renewal. SCTC has requested an updated agreement because of changes in their leadership, and the agreement has not changed substantially. Historically, this has been a positive, mutually beneficial relationship, and the County has hired several of their students.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Southern Crescent Technical College associated with Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training (ride along).
RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Alphonso Smith
SECONDER: Bill McKenzie
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

12. **Bid Award Associated with Construction of Pickleball and Tennis Courts at Leroy H. Johnson Park - District 1**

Assistant Administrator Mickle explained that Phase II of the Leroy H. Johnson Park project, including new baseball fields, pickleball courts, tennis courts, and an additional restroom facility, is currently under construction. The pickleball and tennis court additions are part of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Senoia. The IGA was drafted and approved on June 6, 2023, as the City expressed a desire to help facilitate the construction of additional amenities at the park to include the new courts. The IGA states the County shall provide the necessary labor, supervision, project management, and equipment to complete the project, including any necessary contractors. The City has funded the project at an estimated cost of $347,700. Upon completion, the County will maintain the additional amenities. County staff solicited a request for proposals (RFP) for the construction of six (6) pickleball and two (2) tennis courts at the park. The scope of work in the RFP includes fine grading, paving, surfacing, striping, fencing, and equipment installation. Rough grading and stormwater infrastructure will be completed by County forces and lighting has been awarded to a separate contractor. Staff recommends that the Board retain Signature Tennis Courts, Inc. on a low bid basis to construct the pickleball and tennis courts.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to retain Signature Tennis Courts, Inc. on a lowest and best bid basis to construct the pickleball and tennis courts at Leroy Johnson Park at a total cost of $206,000.00.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

In response to a question from Commissioner Blackburn, Administrator Fouts explained that the bid is for the construction of six (6) designated pickleball courts and two (2) tennis courts. There are some shared use tennis courts, and in the future, if demand is warranted, there is an opportunity to convert those for pickleball use.

13. **Request Approval/Execution of an Architectural Services Agreement Associated with the Animal Adoption Center**

Chairman McKenzie explained that he has received several calls from citizens concerned that the County plans to construct a smaller animal shelter than the existing shelter. He explained that the County plans to construct a new Animal Adoption Center, not a new shelter. The existing shelter will still be in operation and continue to be the intake facility for Animal Services.

Administrator Fouts explained that staff has been collaborating with Gardner Spencer Smith Tench & Jarbeau (GSST&J) on the design of the future Animal Adoption Center. The project is a Level 2 SPLOST project for the 2025 SPLOST. Mr. Joseph Gardner with GSST&J has assisted with conceptual drawings and other renderings on the front end of SPLOST and has continued to work with staff and the Animal Services Committee that was established to have some dialogue about the proposed use. In addition, staff have requested that Mr. Gardner provide a proposal for architectural services, including a specialty animal facility architectural design consultant along with civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering consultants. Before the Board is an agreement with GSST&J not-to-exceed $308,736 to provide these architectural services. However, compensation will be calculated on an hourly basis plus reimbursement of engineering and miscellaneous expenses.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute an agreement with the firm of Gardner Spencer Smith Tench & Jarbeau, P.C. to provide architectural services associated with the Animal Adoption Center at a cost not to exceed $308,736.00 (SPLOST 2025).

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

Additional Action Items

14. **Request Approval/Execution of a Resolution to Establish Compensation for Hearing Officers Related to Tax Appeals in 2026**

Administrator Fouts explained that State law provides that taxpayer disputes involving the value of uniformity of a parcel of non-homestead real property with a fair market value in excess of $500,000 as shown on the taxpayer's annual notice of current assessment may be appealed to a hearing officer. State law also provides that hearing officers shall be compensated by the County for time expended in hearing appeals at a minimum rate of $100 per hour for the first hour and not less than $25 per hour for each hour thereafter. Staff has drafted a resolution to establish compensation for hearing officers related to tax appeals in Coweta County.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute a Resolution to Establish Compensation for Hearing Officers Related to Tax Appeals in Coweta County in 2026 in accordance with State law.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Jeff Fisher
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

15. **Request Approval/Execution of a Resolution to Call for a Referendum Associated with a Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST)**

Administrator Fouts explained that the Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST) is a new sales tax option that was approved as part of House Bill 581 and further reformed in House Bill 92 this past session of the General Assembly. FLOST is a 1% sales tax exclusively for property tax reduction. It would be split between the County and eligible municipalities, based upon an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), which the Board will consider as the next item on the agenda. FLOST does apply to most sales countywide. Currently, the County has a 7% sales tax of which 4% goes to the State of Georgia, 1% goes to the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST), 1% goes to the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), and 1% goes to the Education SPLOST (ESPLOST). The County is proposing an additional 1% FLOST. He pointed out that the LOST and FLOST are specifically for property tax reduction. Currently, if a taxpayer looks at last year's bill, they will see a sales tax credit on their bill (LOST). If this proposed referendum is approved by the Board, placed on the November ballot, and approved by the voters, FLOST will be added as non-property tax revenue, which will reduce the funding needed from property taxes. He pointed out that it does not impact ESPLOST or SPLOST. Looking across the state, based on the current sales tax rates prior to the implementation of FLOST, three (3) counties have 6%, forty-four (44) [including Coweta] have a 7% sales tax rate, and the majority of counties have an 8% sales tax rate. Most of the counties with an 8% sales tax rate also have a Transportation SPLOST (TSPLOST).

Administrator Fouts further explained that staff has worked to generate a proposed estimate, and based on the current sales tax trends, it is estimated that FLOST would generate just over $220 million over a five-year collection period. He provided a breakdown of the year-by-year estimated collections beginning in 2026 and ending in 2030. He reviewed the proposed allocations with the cities and explained those allocations are based on the 2020 Census data. He also explained that the City of Palmetto opted out of the floating homestead exemption, and thus is not eligible to participate in FLOST. One of the requirements is that in order to receive FLOST revenue, the jurisdiction has to levy Ad Valorem tax. There is one local jurisdiction that did not levy Ad Valorem taxes last year. If a city does not levy Ad Valorem taxes for a given year, that city's allocation of FLOST would go to the County for that year. He highlighted that Coweta County collected almost $47 million in property tax revenue in 2024. He also explained that if FLOST is approved, it is projected that the County will collect $27 million in year one (1) and noted the impact it could have on property tax reduction in the county as well as the other jurisdictions.

In addition, Administrator Fouts explained that, similar to SPLOST, everyone who makes a purchase in Coweta County would pay the 1% sales tax, including a large portion of visitors who shop here daily. FLOST applies to transactions covered by State sales tax plus fuel, food and beverages, and online transactions. FLOST revenue is strictly for providing property tax relief. The State required rollback rate calculation will not change. However, FLOST revenue will be subtracted from the property taxes needed to support the annual budget, resulting in a lower millage rate than would otherwise be required.

In response to a question from Commissioner Reidelbach, Administrator Fouts explained that for 2026 there will not have been a full year of FLOST collections for the Department of Revenue to provide. Therefore, staff will have to take what has been collected during the year so far and project what they think will be collected in FLOST revenue for the year in order to make the recommendation to the Board regarding the millage rate.

Assistant Administrator Mickle also explained that the rollback rate the State requires the Tax Commissioner to calculate relates to the increase in assessed value of existing properties. They take last year's millage rate that was approved and reduce it by the average increase in assessed value, so LOST and FLOST are not part of that calculation. The reduction of property taxes by LOST and FLOST is a separate calculation.

Administrator Fouts explained that FLOST equals a reduction in property taxes, presented a sample ballot, and explained that if approved by the Board the referendum will be included on the ballot in November. He also noted that FLOST is capped at 5 years. After that, in order to renew it, FLOST requires a local act by the General Assembly, a new IGA with the cities, and another referendum. If approved in November 2025, FLOST collections will begin in January 2026 and continue through December 2030. The millage rate would be reduced from those levying jurisdictions. Next steps, if approved by this Board, include community education and awareness. Early voting would happen beginning in early October with Election Day on November 4, 2025.

Motion To: Execute

The Board voted to execute a Resolution to Call for a Referendum Associated with a Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST) to be included on the ballot in November 2025.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

16. **Request Approval/Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Associated with a Floating Local Option Sales Tax**

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the eligible municipalities that outlines the allocation of Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST) revenue.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Alphonso Smith
SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

17. **Request Adoption of an Amended Pension Funding Policy**

Assistant Administrator Mickle explained that each year, as part of the actuarial valuation for the Group Pension Plan, the County's actuaries calculate the total estimated liability, the actuarial value of the trust assets, and the resulting unfunded liability (or the difference between the total estimated liability and the actuarial value of the trust assets). The actuaries also calculate a required annual contribution, based upon the amortization method of the unfunded liability outlined in the County’s pension funding policy (approved by the Board in 2015). The funding policy outlines that the unfunded liability will be amortized over an open-ended 15-year period. The County's actuaries recently notified staff that certain actuarial standards had changed, and they felt that staff needed to re-evaluate the open-ended amortization method. Staff has worked with the actuaries to review several options of closed amortization methods. Based upon staff's review and analysis, staff recommends the Board approve a closed 15-year amortization policy with a 20-year base year. The unfunded liability as of the July 1, 2024, actuarial valuation will be amortized over a closed 20-year period. All subsequent changes in the unfunded liability resulting from actuarial gains or losses, as well as changes in actuarial methods or assumptions, will be amortized over separate 15-year layers. Any changes to the unfunded liability attributed to benefit enhancements shall be amortized over a shorter period of time, depending upon whether it affects active employees and/or retirees.

In response to questions from the Board, Ms. Mickle explained that the actuarial analysis is based on all active employees and retirees who are participating in the Pension Plan and, based on current assumptions, the Plan would be fully funded around the year 2044. The assumptions are reviewed and updated periodically, and the actuarial studies are performed annually.

Motion to: Adopt

The Board voted to adopt an updated Pension Funding Policy amending the amortization method to become effective for fiscal years beginning on October 1, 2025.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

18. **Decision Regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget**

Administrator Fouts explained that a Public Hearing regarding the proposed budget was held on July 15, 2025. In addition, the Board conducted a couple of Work Sessions regarding the proposed budget. He presented the proposed final budget for the Board's consideration and asked that they consider tentatively adopting the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget. When the millage rate is adopted on August 19th, staff requests that the Board adopt the final budget that night as well. He presented a chart showing the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget, and the final Fiscal Year 2026 budget. The only substantive change is picking up the extra cost for the health insurance renewal for next year for employees. Upon adoption of the final budget, the actual cost of the health insurance will be functionalized in each department. The total proposed budget is $117,315,031.

Motion to: Tentatively Adopt

The Board voted to tentatively adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 budget as presented by staff.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Alphonso Smith
SECONDER: Bob Blackburn
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

19. **Request Approval/Execution of Participation Forms Associated with the National Opioid Settlements**

Assistant Administrator Mickle explained that in 2021, nationwide settlements were reached to resolve opioid litigation brought by states and local political subdivisions against certain pharmaceutical distributors, manufacturers, and retail pharmacies. The settlement agreements call for the distribution of settlement funds from one (1) year to over eighteen (18) years, depending on the agreement. These National Settlements have been finalized, and payments have already begun. Coweta County has an opportunity to opt-in to opioid settlement agreement payments, excluding payment years which have already been distributed. BrownGreer PLC is serving as the Directing Administrator for finalized settlements totaling over $45 billion between state/local subdivision governments for settlement agreements with Allergan Finance, LLC and Allergan Limited, CVS Health Corporation and CVS Pharmacy, Distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health and Amerisource Bergen, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (plus parent company Johnson & Johnson), The Kroger Co., McKinsey & Company, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Walgreens Co., and Walmart Inc. She further explained that Coweta County opted in to the Kroger Company settlement in September 2024 and has received payment for years 1 and 2, totaling $17,914. In addition, as a subdivision of the State of Georgia, the County automatically received a one-time payment of $49,780 from McKinsey & Company. In order to receive additional opioid settlement funds, the County must submit participation forms for each of the remaining seven (7) settlements listed. These agreements list eligible uses in support of addressing the opioid crisis in the community. As presented in September 2024, the County proposes to utilize opioid settlement funds to reduce opioid overdose deaths and increase success rates in treatment through a two (2) prong approach. The first involves interventions as soon as practicable in the County's jail setting. The second approach involves providing services for individuals with opioid use disorders treated by first responders through the Coweta Cares Community Paramedicine Program.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute and submit Participation Forms to BrownGreer PLC, serving as the Directing Administrator associated with the National Opioid Settlements.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Jeff Fisher
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

20. **Request Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2026 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Award**

Assistant Administrator Wisenbaker explained that the Coweta County Juvenile Court has received notification regarding the award of grant funds totaling $152,219 through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). The purpose of the grant is to utilize evidence-based programs to address the needs of felony youth who are typically committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice and short-term placement in residential facilities. Coweta County Juvenile Court is currently using Evidence Based Associates, LLC (EBA) to implement the program. Staff proposes that the Board approve an updated agreement with Evidence Based Associates, LLC related to the new grant award to continue to implement the program for Coweta County Juvenile Court.

Motion to: Accept

The Board voted to accept grant funds for the Coweta County Juvenile Court in the amount of $152,219 through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), to approve an updated agreement with Evidence Based Associates, LLC to implement the program, and to designate the County Administrator as authorized official to execute any related documents.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Bill McKenzie
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

21. **Request Approval/Execution of a Right-of-Entry Associated with Storm Drain Maintenance at 8 Landsdowne Drive, Newnan - District 4**

Public Works Administrator Handley explained that staff obtained a Right-of-Entry (ROE) from the property owner at 8 Landsdowne Drive, Newnan (Parcel # W06-135) for the purpose of removing a blockage at the outlet end of the drainage pipe.

Motion to: Execute

The Board voted to execute a Right-of-Entry (ROE) with Mr. Joshua Witt for the purpose of performing drainage system maintenance at 8 Landsdowne Drive, Newnan (Parcel # W06-135).

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: John Reidelbach
SECONDER: Bob Blackburn
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

22. **Request to Set a Called Meeting/Public Hearing on August 19, 2025**

Motion to: Schedule a Called Meeting/Public Hearing

The Board voted to schedule a Called Meeting/Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. in the Commission Chambers (37 Perry Street, Newnan) regarding the proposed 2025 millage rates.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Bob Blackburn
SECONDER: Alphonso Smith
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith

Supplemental and Non-Agenda Items

There were no Supplemental or Non-Agenda items added for discussion.

Public Comments Regarding Items Not on the Agenda – This section is for any public comments regarding items NOT on the agenda. In accordance with the rules governing the meeting, up to 10 speakers will be afforded 3 minutes to speak and will be respectfully heard by the Board without public display or approval/disapproval from the audience. The Board does not engage with speakers during their comments. The Board will listen to any questions or comments and take them into consideration but will ask the County Administrator or staff to correct any inconsistencies or false statements after the speaker has been heard without debate.

Chairman McKenzie called for comments regarding any items not on the agenda. He explained that in accordance with the rules governing the meeting, up to ten (10) speakers will be afforded three (3) minutes to speak and will be respectfully heard by the Board without public display or approval/disapproval from the audience. The Board does not engage with speakers during their comments. The Board will listen to any questions or comments and take them into consideration but will ask the County Administrator or staff to correct any inconsistencies or false statements after the speaker has been heard without debate.

For ease of transcription, the following speakers are not in order of appearance, but in order of topic.

The following citizens spoke in opposition to data centers and Project Sail, citing concerns about the project's size, proximity to residential areas, lack of responsible construction, the level of demand on utilities, negative impacts on the environment, power, wildlife, and quality of life, increased sound levels, contamination of groundwater, the need to extend the moratorium, the need to pause adoption of an ordinance, the need for an independent committee of experts and local stakeholders, the need to place data centers in industrial areas, closed loop versus open loop systems, water vapor amplifying greenhouse effects, water usage and chemical pollution, tax revenue streams that will not help if water resources run dry or if it hurts the quality of life, and accusations by Commissioners that citizens are spreading misinformation regarding data centers.

- Mr. Tim Ryan, District 3
- Mr. Jimmy Newman, District 2
- Ms. Jacqueline Lassetter, W Hwy 16 (presented a thumb drive to the Board)
- Mr. Ron Bockrath, District 2
- Ms. Connie Lytten, Wagers Mill Road, in addition to comments regarding accusations that citizens are spreading misinformation regarding data centers, Ms. Lytten addressed the Board regarding large equipment/tractors knocking over stop signs on Wagers Mill Road and Hwy 16, causing a hazard.

Mr. Mitch Williams, District 3, spoke in support of Project Sail, data centers, and the County's draft ordinance regarding data centers, citing stringent controls by the County regarding erosion control and development oversight, strict local water quality requirements, a 300-feet buffer requirement in the draft ordinance, strict state and federal regulations, tax revenue benefits, and the lack of burden on schools, traffic, and infrastructure

Ms. Charlotte Merz, Summergrove Subdivision, Newnan, addressed the Board regarding a need for a covered arena or a covered over the existing arena at the Fairgrounds. The arena could be utilized for dog trials and obedience competitions, horse shows, 4-H livestock events, an emergency shelter during severe weather, and as a venue for graduation, school functions, and community ceremonies.

Chairman McKenzie explained that a new covered arena is on the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) project list.

Executive Session - In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4

There were no issues to be discussed in Executive Session.

Adjournment

Motion to: Adjourn

The Board voted to Adjourn.

RESULT: Passed (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER: Jeff Fisher
SECONDER: Bob Blackburn
AYES: Bill McKenzie, John Reidelbach, Jeff Fisher, Bob Blackburn, Alphonso Smith