



Coweta County Board of Commissioners

Called Meeting/Regular Session

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

Shannon Zerangue
770.254.2601

Monday, October 17, 2022

9:00 AM

The Newnan Centre

~ Minutes ~

COWETA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Bob Blackburn	District 3 - Chairman	Present	
John Reidelbach	District 4 - Vice Chairman	Present	
Paul Poole	District 1	Present	
Tim Lassetter	District 2	Present	
Al Smith	District 5	Present	
Michael Fouts	County Administrator	Present	
Kelly Mickle	Assistant Administrator	Present	
Nathan Lee	Assistant County Attorney	Present	
Hans Wilson	Finance Director	Present	
Shannon Zerangue	County Clerk	Present	

The Honorable Board of Commissioners of Coweta County, Georgia met in Called Meeting/Regular Meeting Session on Monday, October 17, 2022.

The meeting was conducted at the Newnan Centre located at 1515 Lower Fayetteville Road, Newnan.

City Manager Cleatus Phillips welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided information about the facility.

County Administrator Michael Fouts explained that the meeting is being conducted for the purposes of Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) distribution mediation. He further explained that separate caucus rooms have been reserved for the City of Newnan and for the County as well as a room for the public and/or media.

Attorney Mike McRae explained that he is the mediator for the LOST negotiations between Coweta County and the City of Newnan. He thanked everyone for their attendance as well as for the previous opportunities to meet with the parties (separately) to garner information regarding their standpoint on the issue. He further expressed his appreciation to the County Administrator and City Manager for providing any and all information that he has needed thus far. He informed the audience that mediation matters are confidential in accordance with the Georgia Uniform Mediation Act which means that the Chairman of the Commission and the Mayor of Newnan will be asked to call their respective meetings to order followed by a vote to enter into Executive Session. No portion of the meeting will be open to the public or the press unless an agreement is reached. If an agreement should be reached, an announcement will be made regarding the nature of the general agreement. The smaller municipalities will also have to vote separately on the agreement before it is submitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue. In closing, he explained that an Agreement to Mediate will need to be executed by each party prior to breaking out into session to begin the mediation process.

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Blackburn called the order at 9:00 a.m.

Notification of Location of Rules

Chairman Blackburn explained that County Clerk Shannon Zerangue has copies of the rules governing the meeting for anyone that might want to view them.

REGULAR SESSION**NEW BUSINESS**

1. 13416 Called Meeting Regarding Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) Mediation

Following Chairman Blackburn's call to order of the Board of Commissioners, Mayor Brady called the City Council meeting to order for the City of Newnan.

RESULT: HELD

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion To: **Enter Into Executive Session**

The Board voted to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) distribution mediation as allowed in O.C.G.A. 9-17-3 of the Georgia Uniform Mediation Act.

Members in attendance included Chairman Blackburn, Commissioner Poole, Commissioner Lassetter, Commissioner Reidelbach, and Commissioner Smith. Staff members in attendance included Administrator Fouts, Assistant Administrator Mickle, Assistant Attorney Lee, Finance Director Wilson, and County Clerk Zerangue.

Mediator Mike McRae was also in attendance during the mediation process.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Al Smith, District 5
SECONDER: John Reidelbach, District 4 - Vice Chairman
AYES: Blackburn, Reidelbach, Poole, Lassetter, Smith

REGULAR SESSION

Statement from the Mediator

Mr. McRae expressed his appreciation to all the parties for their cooperation and hard work to reach an agreement during the mediation process.

Motion To: **Return to Regular Session**

The Board reached a mediation agreement regarding Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) distributions during Executive Session and voted to return to Regular Session.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Al Smith, District 5
SECONDER: Paul Poole, District 1
AYES: Blackburn, Reidelbach, Poole, Lassetter, Smith

Motion To: **Approve the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) Mediation Agreement**

The Board voted to execute a Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) Mediation Agreement for the collection period beginning January 1, 2023 and expiring December 31, 2032. The Mediation Agreement also included agreed upon allocations of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) for the period beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2030 if approved by the voters in a referendum.

RESULT:	EXECUTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Al Smith, District 5
SECONDER:	John Reidelbach, District 4 - Vice Chairman
AYES:	Blackburn, Reidelbach, Poole, Lassetter, Smith

ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: **Adjourn**

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Al Smith, District 5
SECONDER:	John Reidelbach, District 4 - Vice Chairman
AYES:	Blackburn, Reidelbach, Poole, Lassetter, Smith