



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

August 11, 2021

The Honorable Kenneth Weeks
County Judge
110 Court Street
Newton, Texas 75966

Dear Judge Weeks:

Re: 2016 Floods and Storms CDBG-DR Newton County's Method of Distribution
Amendment 1

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) Community Development and Revitalization Program has completed its review of all materials submitted in support of the Newton County's proposed Method of Distribution (MOD) Amendment 1 for the 2016 Floods and Storms Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. We are happy to inform you that the MOD Amendment 1 has been approved.

The terms of the approval are as noted below:

1. Acceptance of the MOD does not indicate the eligibility or approval of funding for any proposed projects.
2. The County's allocation must meet the requirement that 70 percent of funds benefit low-to moderate income persons. Projects that do not meet HUD's national objective for benefitting low- to moderate- income persons may not be approved until this allocation requirement is met.

If you have any questions, please contact me at alexandra.gamble.glo@recovery.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Gamble

Alexandra Gamble
Director, Policy Development



**County Method of Distribution for
2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation
Amendment 1**

Summary Information

Contact Information

County: **Newton County**

Principal Contact Name, Title: **Kenneth Weeks, County Judge**

Principal Contact Telephone: **409-379-5691**

Principal Contact Email: **newtoncountyjudge@co.newton.tx.us**

Principal Contact Address: **110 Court Street**

City, State, Zip: **Newton, Texas 75966**

Allocation Summary

County Allocation for All Activities: **CURRENT MID ALLOCATION
(Action Plan Amendment #2)**

Housing – \$19,759,085.00

Non-Housing – \$10,611,036.00

Housing- DISD - \$5,000,000.00

Citizen Participation (Amendment 1)

Below is a description addressing how the County complied with the Citizen Participation Plan regarding citizen and non-governmental organization outreach, and any efforts exceeding GLO minimum public participation requirements:

**Newton County conducted two Public Hearings. July 13, 2020 10:00 a.m. Public hearing held in conjunction with Newton County Commissioners Court. (Public Hearing could be attended in person or virtually).
July 13, 2020 5:05 p.m. Public Hearing held in open air on Courthouse steps in consideration of COVID-19.
Notices were placed in Newton County News July 8, 2020 advertising Public hearings. Notices were posted on Public Notice Board at County Clerks Office and on County Website on July 6, 2020. Notices remained up through Public Hearing dates.
Notices hand delivered to area affected agencies on July 8, 2020.
The amendment will be posted ofr a 14_day public comment period.**

First Public Hearing Information

Date/Time: July 13, 2020 10:00 a.m. Location: Newton County Courthouse Commissioners Court

Attendance: 10

Second Public Hearing Information

Date/Time: July 13, 2020 5:05 p.m. Location: Newton County Courthouse steps

Attendance: 2

Personal Notice. As required, personal notice was sent to eligible entities at least **five** days in advance of the public hearings using the following method(s) (at least one must be selected):

	Method	Date Sent	Documentation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronic Mail		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fax		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hand Delivery	July 8, 2020	Deliverers statement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Mail		

Internet Notice. As required, public notices was distributed on the Internet at least **five** days in advance using the following method:

	Method	Date Published	Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Website	July 6, 2020	Affidavit

Published Notice. As required, notice of the public hearings was published in at least one regional newspaper at least **three** days in advance. Notice of public hearing was published in the following regional newspaper(s):

	Newspaper Name	Date Published	Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Newton county News	July 8, 2020	Publishers Affidavit
<input type="checkbox"/>			

Citizen Comment Documentation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The required copy of a sign-in sheet from the public hearing is attached.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A summary of the citizen comments and meeting discussion is attached.	
Describe any efforts to notify and accommodate those with modified communication needs, such as posting information and providing interpretive services for other languages.		All notices published, posted, places on website or delivered included language addressing access to interperative services.

Long-Term Planning and Recovery (Amendment 1)

Below is an explanation of how the region's method of distribution fosters long-term community recovery that is forward-looking and focused on permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing and the local economy.

In establishing the Method of Distribution for the March 2016 Flood Allocation, Newton County took a very aggressive approach to assist homeowners. We allocated 70% of the funds received by the County to Housing and DISD activities. The average MOD housing allocation for the remaining four counties is 35% with 65% going to non-housing activities. At this time we have exhausted all avenues of reaching eligible homeowners with an interest in the program and need to reallocate funds to desperately needed infrastructure restoration to aid in overall recovery from the disaster.

Unmet Housing Needs (Amendment 1)

Below is an explanation of how unmet housing needs will be addressed or how economic revitalization or infrastructure activities will contribute to long-term recovery and restoration of housing in the most impacted and distressed areas.

In administering the Housing Funds, Newton County has conducted extensive marketing efforts to ensure that all residents affected by the 2016 floods was made aware of the available programs and allowed sufficient opportunities to apply. These outreach efforts included conducting Informational Meetings at the Deweyville Senior Center in Deweyville, the Cade Building in Burkeville, and Newton County Courthouse in Newton on 9/18/2018 & 9/19/2018 to explain the programs and their eligibility requirements. Newspaper ads published on 9/12/2018 and 9/19/2018, radio advertising, flyers, and personal phone calls to approximately 1100 FEMA recipients were used to invite residents to these informational meetings. Approximately 269 people attended this first round of meetings. The initial application intake period was for 90 days from 9/18/2018 to 12/17/2018. In early December 2018, workshops were conducted to assist any residents that needed extra help filling out their applications.

Newton County elected to re-open their application intake period for another 60 days from 3/1/2019 to 4/30/2019. In conjunction with this intake period, newspaper ads were published on 2/20/2019 and 2/27/2019. Another round of Informational Meetings was conducted at the same locations as previously held. In Deweyville, only two homeowners attended, and one had already applied. No homeowners attended the Burkeville meeting and only a few homeowners attended the meeting in Newton.

Once the County began constructing homes, the Newton County News published 11 front page articles and Orange Leader published one article celebrating these accomplishments. As more residents became aware of the programs through these articles, word of mouth, What's Up Deweyville's Facebook page and other personal social media accounts, the County opened its application intake period once again. In an effort to serve additional residents, the last intake period was for 30 days and it ended on July 18, 2019.

Due to Hurricane Harvey, other storms, and normal deterioration, there continues to be unmet housing needs in Newton County. In order to be eligible for this program residents had to own, occupy, and receive damage to their homes during the 2016 floods. It is believed that all eligible residents affected by the 2016 floods having an interest in assistance have submitted an application at this time.

The amended budget for housing contains funding to assist all remaining applicants for the 2016 floods. Unmet housing needs related to other disasters will continue to be addressed through Harvey HAP assistance, Harvey buyout assistance and TDHCA Housing funding as applicable.

The remaining funds in the 2016 Newton County allocation are desperately needed to assist in restoring infrastructure for the overall recovery and economic revitalization of the county.

Method of Distribution Detail

The County is required to prepare a method of distribution between the eligible entities or projects. The GLO has directed the County to use a direct allocation technique based on objective, verifiable data. The Method of Distribution will identify how it meets benefiting 70% low-to-moderate persons requirement., supports minimum allocation amounts that help ensure project feasibility, and provides an explanation of the distribution factors selected.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Statement

All subrecipients will certify that they will affirmatively further fair housing (“AFFH”) in their grant agreements, and will receive GLO training and technical assistance in meeting their AFFH obligations. Additionally, all project applications will undergo AFFH review by GLO before approval. Such review will include assessment of a proposed project’s area demography, socioeconomic characteristics, housing configuration and needs, educational, transportation, and health care opportunities, environmental hazards or concerns, and all other factors material to the AFFH determination. Applications should show that projects are likely to lessen area racial, ethnic, and low-income concentrations, and/or promote affordable housing in low-poverty, nonminority areas in response to natural hazard related impacts.

Distribution Factors

The County has selected the following distribution factors:

Distribution Factor*	Weight	Documentation Source	Explanation of Factor Selection and Weighting
Housing	30%	Housing Expenditures	Actual Expenditure Statistics
Non-Housing	56%	Unmet Infrastructure Needs	2016 Flooding Damage
Deweyville ISD	14%	Information received from Deweyville ISD officials	Deweyville ISD is in need of 25% local match of FEMA funds allocated for rebuilding the new school building

*Add more rows if needed

All allocations must meet or exceed a floor of \$100,000 to help ensure sufficient funds for at least one eligible project.

Eligible Activities

Grantee activities must be specifically related to 2016 disaster(s), and must meet the following criteria:

- Activity must be a CDBG-eligible project;
- Activity must be in response to a 2016 disaster(s) related impact in one of the following ways:
 - Direct verifiable damage from the disaster(s) that requires improvement of conditions, or
 - The facilities must have failed to function in the normal capacity as a result of the disaster(s).
- The County has added a stipulation that projects must meet a regionally-established recovery priority.

The County has addressed prioritization of eligible activities as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/>	The County has chosen not to limit Grantees in the region to projects meeting regional priority activities.		
-OR-			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The County has limited Grantees in the region to selecting projects meeting the following regional priority activities:		
Non-housing Activities			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Water Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specially Authorized Public Facilities & Improvements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewer Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Public Utilities (gas, et al)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clearance & Demolition Activities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Street Improvements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Code Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flood and Drainage Improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specially Authorized Assistance to Private Utilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Debris Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Centers & Emergency Shelters (Existing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning and Urban Environmental Design
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Senior Centers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parks, Playgrounds and other Recreational Facilities		
Housing Activities			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single-family repair and rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-family repair and rehabilitation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single-family replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-family replacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single-family elevation of homes in flood plains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Multi-family to replace multi-family stock
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single family relocation from flood plains or identified environmental hazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Buyouts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planning related to housing		

Reallocation of Funds (Amendment 1)

The county must identify the process of reallocation of funds from de-obligated funds and/or cost savings from completed projects:

This reallocation of funds allows funding to assist all remaining housing applicants. Should there still be a surplus of funds in the housing budget it will be reallocated to non-housing as it becomes available.

	Non-Housing	\$24,922,349.78	Housing	\$10,447,771.22	Total	\$35,370,121.00	
City, County, or Public Housing Authority	Non-Housing	Percentage of County Non-Housing Allocation	Housing	Percentage of County Housing Allocation	Total Allocation	Percentage of Total Regional Allocation	70% LMI Benefit Requirement
Newton County	\$19,922,349.78	79.94%	\$10,447,771.22	100.00%	\$30,370,121.00	85.86%	\$24,759,087.70
DISD-25% local cost share	\$5,000,000.00	20.06%		0.00%	\$5,000,000.00	14.14%	\$0.00
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	
	\$24,922,349.78	100.00%	\$10,447,771.22	100.00%	\$35,370,121.00	100.00%	
	Non-Housing Percentage of Total Allocation	70.46%	Housing Percentage of Total Allocation	29.54%	Low to Moderate Benefit Requirement	70%	24,759,087.70

Approval and Signatory Authority

A Resolution of the County is attached approving the method of distribution and authorizing its submittal to the Texas General Land Office. I certify that the contents of this document and all related attachments are complete and accurate.



Signature

May 07-22

Date

Kenneth Weeks
Printed Name

County Judge
Title

newtoncountyjudge@co.newton.tx.us
Email Address

409-379-5691
Telephone Number

AFFIDAVIT

I hereby confirm that the attached **Method of Distribution-Amendment #1 for Newton County 2016 Floods** was posted for public comment at the following location(s) on the date stated below and the same notice was removed on the date stated. No comments from the public were received.

Location #1

Newton County Website
www.co.newton.tx.us

Posted: 6/14/2021

Removed: 6/29/2021

Location#2

Newton County Courthouse
110 Court Street Newton, TX
Court Clerk's Board

Posted: 6/14/2021

Removed: 6/29/2021

Location#3

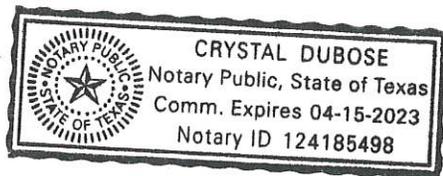
Newton County Courthouse
110 Court Street Newton, TX
Board near Treasurer's Office

Posted: 6/14/2021

Removed: 6/29/2021

Elizabeth Holloway

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, this the 5th day of August, 2021.



Crystal Dubose
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



Welcome to Newton County, Texas

[Declaration of Disaster for Flooding](#)
[Order of Voluntary Evacuation for Flooding](#)

[May 2021 Flooding TDEM Information for Assistance](#)

To comply with the Governor's Disaster Declaration limiting in-person attendance, the Commissioners' meetings and quorums will be provided online for the public via Microsoft TEAMS. Please click this [link](#) to view each meeting's agenda or notice, and online or phone access information.

Tax Rate Information and Publications
Order Adopting 2020 Tax Rate
Tax Rate Increase Information Notice
Notice of Tax Rates (2020)
2020 Tax Rate Worksheet
Small Taxing Unit Notices

[County MOD for 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation Amendment 1](#)

[2015 Housing Assistance Program Application](#)

[2015 Housing Assistance Program Application Flyer](#)

[Request for Proposals ARP 2021 2021-G06](#)

[Request for Qualifications HMGP DR-4586 and DR-4572 Engineering Services and Addendum](#)

- QUICKLINKS
- Offices
- Court
- County Offices
- Financial Transparency
- Facility Management
- Notices & News
- Employment Opportunities
- Registration
- Assessment
- Assessing
- DR-4288 Information
- DR-4223 DR-4245 Information
- DR-4332 Hurricane Harvey
- DR-4288 Hurricane Harvey
- DR-4288 Grant
- Disaster Mitigation Funding Information
- Procurement Bid Notices
- County Holidays

Planning and Permit Inquiries

[Information on Taxation Terms and Definitions](#)

[Tax Rate Information and TINI Worksheets](#)

[Hazardous Materials](#)

[Useful Links](#)



Public Hearings

7-13-2020

10 am & 5:05 pm

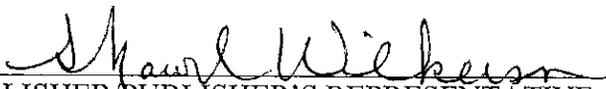
From the Newspaper ad:

The public hearings will include discussions of re-allocating approximately \$7,500,000 in 2016 Flood funds previously awarded under contract #DR-18-533-000-B277 Housing to contract #DR-18-535-000-B279 Infrastructure along with any additional funds that may be remaining at a future date.

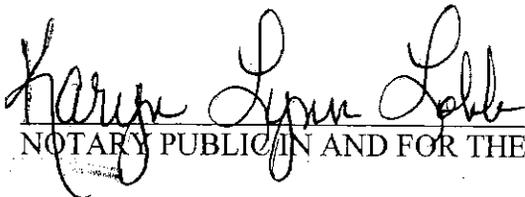
PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

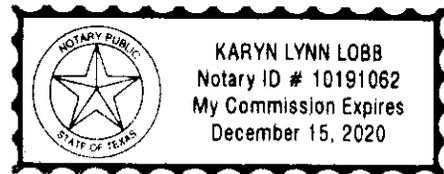
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF NEWTON

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, ON THIS DAY PERSONALLY APPEARED SHAWN WILKERSON, WHO BEING BY ME DULY SWORN, DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT HE/SHE IS THE PUBLISHER OF THE NEWTON COUNTY NEWS THAT SAID NEWSPAPER IS REGULARLY PUBLISHED IN NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS, AND GENERALLY CIRCULATED IN NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS; AND THAT THE NOTICE, A COPY OF WHICH IS HERETO ATTACHED, WAS PUBLISHED IN SAID NEWSPAPER ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS: July 8, 2020 (DR18-533-000-277 & DR18-535-000-B2779 ad).


PUBLISHER/PUBLISHER'S REPRESENTATIVE

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO ME ON THIS THE 29th DAY OF JULY, 2020 TO CERTIFY WHICH WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE.


NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



KARYN LYNN LOBB
PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 12/15/2020

(Affix Notary Seal Above)

Classified Ads

Great Online Content Can Let You 'Visit' A Museum This Summer

(StatePoint) If you are looking for new things to do this summer while staying home or social distancing, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has you covered.

The museum has lots of free content available for both adults and kids, including digital learning tools for students of all ages and on-line versions of many of its most popular exhibitions. Access to this content is through the museum's website: AmericanIndian.si.edu.

For Students: Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°) is the museum's national education initiative to inspire and promote improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians. NK360° provides educational materials and teacher training that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information to enlighten and inform teaching and learning about Native America. The initiative's website has digital lessons for K-12 students, teacher guides, videos and websites. Several lessons are also available in Spanish.

Online Exhibitions: Many of the museum's most popular exhibitions are available to explore online. "Americans" shows how American Indians have been part of the nation's identity since before the country began. Visitors can click on some familiar images and learn why images of American Indians are everywhere in our country.

The bilingual exhibition "The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire" examines why the Inka Road was built more than 500 years ago, and how its construction - without the use of metal or iron, the wheel or stock animals to pull heavy loads - stands as one of the greatest engineering feats.

The exhibition "Infinity of Nations: Art and History in the Collections of the National Museum of the American Indian," which features some 700 works of Native art from throughout North, Central and South America, demonstrates the breadth of the museum's collection and highlights the historic importance of many of these iconic objects.

"Developing Stories: Native Photographers in the Field" is the museum's newest exhibition. It features the work of two Native photographers who are using photography to break down stereotypes and portray stories that show the diversity and complexity of their contemporary lives.

Explore the Collections: Through its online search, visitors to the museum's website can learn more about the history of the museum's holdings, which have their foundation in the collection largely assembled by George Gustav Heye, beginning in 1897. The collection currently contains more than 800,000 items from across the entire Western Hemisphere. And for more from the collections, visit the museum's new Google Arts & Culture website.

Shop: The museum's online store offers an array of books for adults and kids, cards, CDs and DVDs. The best part? Your purchase helps to continue the museum's important work.

You can also get more content from the museum by following it on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Thanks to great online exhibitions, you can spend this summer "visiting" an amazing museum from wherever you are.

For Rent

MARSUE PROPERTIES - Quality residential rentals and leases. Call 409-382-0871 or MarsueProperties.com.

WANTED: Applicants for Housing: Elderly (1) Bedroom Apartments; Single (1) Bedroom Apartments; Family Size: 2, 3 & 4 Bedroom Apartments. All sites have playgrounds and laundry facilities. All apartments have washer hook-ups and clothes lines, AC and Heat at affordable rents. Minimum \$50, maximum \$638 monthly. Rent is based on income. Applicants welcome. Applications taken Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Equal Opportunity Renter. Apply today at Newton Housing Authority, one mile north of Newton on Hwy. 87 at Sartain Street. Phone TDD 1-800-735-2989.

Found

TWO donkeys found on Hwy. 87 S. near Pine Grove area. Please call County Stockman at 409-489-6494 to identify & claim.

2tp8

Legals

NOTICE OF SALE THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF NEWTON

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE DATED the 26th day of June, 2020, and issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the District Court of Newton County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 26th day of June, 2020, seized, levied upon, and will on the 4th day of August, 2020, at the Courthouse Door of Newton County, Texas, at 10:00 a.m. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

All of the following properties being located in Newton County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the Volume and Page reference (V___/P___) or document number of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

Property #1, Cause # 3310-T - Newton Independent School District v. Bernie Burch, et al. Part of Lot 14, Block A, Pinecrest Addition to the City of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 308 Page 15), Bluebonnet Street, Account #23461/23461.

Property #2, Cause #3310-T - Newton Independent School District v. Bernie Burch, et al. Part of Lot 13, Pinecrest Addition to the City of Newton of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 308, Page 15), Bluebonnet Street, Account #23460/23460.

Property #3, Cause No. T1403511 - Newton Independent School District v. Willie Wayne Powell, et al. 1.00 acre, more or less, John H. Kirby Survey, Tract 76, Abstract 997, City of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 499, Page 254, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 900 Court St. Newton, Texas 75966-3204, Account #000000021338.

Property #4, Cause No. T1403518 - Newton Independent School District v.

Legals

William Self, et al. 1.50 acre, more or less, Jonathan D. Ray League, Tract 54, Abstract 13, Newton County, Texas (Volume 372, Page 317, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1472 County Road 4106, Account #000000010411.

Property #5, Cause No. T1403539 - Newton Independent School District v. Teddybear Barnes, et al. 1.46 acre, more or less, Benjamin William Survey, Tract 27, Abstract 512, Newton County, Texas (Volume 496, Page 618, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 2310 West Court Street, Account # 000000018335.

Property #6, Cause No. T1403539 - Newton Independent School District v. Teddybear Barnes, et al. A manufactured home only, Serial # ALS8214X56FKS-N13324, Label #UL10179185, PID #1325, City of Newton, Newton County, Texas, Account #000000026469.

Property #7, Cause No. T1603737 - The County of Newton, Texas v. Joseph Thelen, et al. 10.013 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 179 of the Jasper Hardin Survey, being Lot 71, and a Lifestyle Craftmade Manufactured Home, Serial #3913T, Label #TXSO510210, PID# 2126, Newton County, Texas (Volume 484, Page 1, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 257 County Road 3149, Orange, Texas 77632-2875, Account #43850.

Property #8, Cause No. T1703820 - Newton Independent School District v. L.E. Lee AKA Lue E. Lee, et al. 3.5 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 139 of the Thomas Holmes Survey, Tract 22, Newton County, Texas (Volume 334, Page 823 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), W. Hwy. 190, Newton, Texas 75966, Account #000139004400/00000013080.

Property #9, Cause No. T1803882 - Newton Independent School District v. Robert Carmen, et al. 1.09 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 97 of the Francis Deason Survey, Tract 28, Newton County, Texas (Volume 551, Page 559 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), Hwy. 190 E, Account #000000012548.

Property #10, Cause #T1803889 - Newton Independent School District v. Darrell Joshlin, et al. Lot 2, Block 15, Davison Addition to the City of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 294, Page 829 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 706 Main St. Account #000000023183.

Property #11, Cause #T1803902 - Newton Independent School District v. Jeri Maria Franks Hillard AKA Maria Franks Hillard, et al. 0.720 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 222 of the H & TCRR Survey, Tract 41, Newton County, Texas (Volume 527, Page 191 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1618 Court St., Account #000000014153.

Property #12, Cause #T1803915 - Newton Independent School District v. Charles H. Dougherty, et al. 4.0 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 330 of the John A. McClanahan Survey, Tract 69, Newton County, Texas (Volume 360, Page 280 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 457 FM 1416, Account #000000016060.

Property #13, Cause #T1803917 - Newton Independent School District v. Anissa Spikes, et al. A 2010 Cavco Industries, Inc., 32x56 Manufactured Home Only, Serial #CAVTX15112370A, Title #00363174, Label #NTA1521537 located on Ac

Legals

count #18093/000494-008800 in Abstract 494 of the T & NORR Survey, Tract 44, Newton County, Texas, 335 CR 2041, Account #000000063920.

Property #14, Cause #T1803929 - Newton Independent School District v. Dena Dykes, et al. 1.14 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 222 of the H & TC RR Survey, Tract 10, Newton County, Texas (Volume 346, Page 103 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1318 E. Court St. Account #000000014117.

Property #15, Cause #T1803931 - Newton Independent School District v. Peggy Moore AKA Peggie Juanita Moore, et al. 4.0 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 13 of the Jonathan D. Ray League, Tract 37, PID #477, Newton County, Texas (Volume 286, Page 45 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1203 CR 4106, Account #000000010389.

RESALES THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES HELD IN TRUST BY THE TAXING UNITS LISTED BELOW ARE OFFERED FOR SALE PURSUANT TO \$3405 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE:

Property #16, Cause #3493-T - Newton Independent School District v. Kenneth W. Hall, et al. 0.060 acre, more or less, John A. McLanahan Survey, Tract 36, Abstract 330, Newton County, Texas (Volume 362, Page 948 and Volume 687, Page 422, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), E. Hwy. 190, Bon Wier, Texas 75928, Account #000000016017/000330007200 (Bid in Trust 6/6/2017).

Property #17, Cause #3365-T - Newton Independent School District v. Latonya Glenn, et al. Lot 6, Block 6, Kerr Addition #2, City of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 218, Page 463 and Volume 693, Page 197, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), S. College Street, Newton, Account #23335/23335 (Bid in Trust 12/5/2017).

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 26th day of June, 2020, at Newton, Texas.

/s/ Billy Rowles
Billy Rowles,
Sheriff, Newton County,
Texas

You may contact the attorney for the taxing units at (979) 775-1888.

3tc1

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM General Land Office Disaster Funds

Newton County will hold two public hearings, one at 10:00 a.m. on July 13, 2020 at the Newton County Courthouse during Commissioners Court and a 2nd public hearing at 5:05 p.m. on July 13, 2020 at the Newton County Courthouse on the North steps.

Instructions on participating virtually in the 1st pub

Legals

lic hearing will be available in conjunction with the Commissioners Court agenda posted on the County website and at the courthouse.

These public hearings will be held concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts.

The purpose of these meetings is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TX-CDBG funds expended, the projected amount of funds remaining, all eligible Tx-CDBG activities, and the use of past Tx-CDBG funds.

The public hearings will include discussions of re-allocating approximately \$7,500,000.00 in 2016 Flood funds previously awarded under contract #DR-18-533-000-277 Housing to contract #DR18-535-000-B279 Infrastructure along with any additional funds that may be remaining at a future date.

The county encourages citizens to participate in the revisions of this Tx-CDBG Method of Distribution and subsequent contract amendments and to make their views known at these public hearings.

Citizens unable to attend these meetings may submit their views and proposals to Kenneth Weeks, County Judge at the Courthouse. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact the County Courthouse to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the County Courthouse at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Para Mas Informacion en español, comuniquese con Elizabeth Holloway al 409-379-5755.

1tc8

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Laura Q. Nance dba MeMom's Country Store #2 is making application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Off Premises Permit to be located at 19256 Hwy 87 South in the City of Call, Newton County, Texas. Owner: Laura Q. Nance.

2tc1

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS City of Newton Texas

The City of Newton of Newton, Texas, plans to apply for Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and is soliciting proposals to provide administration, and/or planning services and implementation for CDBG-MIT contract(s), if awarded. Please submit 5 copies of your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below:

Attn: Donald H. Meek, City of Newton 101 North Street Newton, Texas 75966

Proposals must be received by the City of Newton no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 22, 2020 to be considered.

The City of Newton

Legals

reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

The City of Newton is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

Due to the extenuating circumstances of Emergency Declaration COVID-19, many offices are closed or have limited hours of operation. With these circumstances, submittals for the above can be made by electronic means. If they are submitted via email donnie@newtontexas.org please use read and delivery receipts for proof of submittals. If submitted via fax (409-379-5061), please keep your fax confirmation.

1tc8

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS City of Newton Texas

The City of Newton of Newton, Texas, plans to apply for Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and is soliciting Request for Statement of Qualification for Engineering Services for 2015, 2016, Regional and Hurricane Harvey Disaster Mitigation Funding proposals to provide engineering services for CDBG-MIT contract(s), if awarded. Please submit 5 copies of your Statement of Qualifications for the proposed services to the address below:

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The City of Newton reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

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1tc8

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count #18093/000494-006800 in Abstract 494 of the T & NORR Survey, Tract 44, Newton County, Texas, 335 CR 2041, Account #000000063920.

Property #14, Cause #T1803929 - Newton Independent School District v Dena Dykes, et al. 1.14 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 222 of the H & TC RR Survey, Tract 10, Newton County, Texas (Volume 346, Page 103 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1318 E. Court St. Account #000000014117.

Property #15, Cause #T1803931 - Newton Independent School District v Peggy Moore, AKA Peggia Juanita Moore, et al. 4.0 Acres, more or less, out of Abstract 13 of the Jonathan D. Ray League, Tract 37, PID #477, Newton County, Texas (Volume 286, Page 45 of the Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), 1203 CR 4106, Account #000000010389.

RESALES

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES HELD IN TRUST BY THE TAXING UNITS LISTED BELOW ARE OFFERED FOR SALE PURSUANT TO §3405 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE:

Property #16, Cause #3493-T - Newton Independent School District v Kenneth W. Hall, et al. 0.060 acre, more or less, John A. McLanahan Survey, Tract 36, Abstract 330, Newton County, Texas, (Volume 362, Page 948 and Volume 687, Page 422, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), E. Hwy. 190, Bon Wier, Texas 75928, Account #0000000160170003 30007200 (Bid in Trust 6/6/2017).

Property #17, Cause #3365-T - Newton Independent School District v Latonya Glenn, et al. Lot 6, Block 6, Kerr Addition #2, City of Newton, Newton County, Texas (Volume 218, Page 463 and Volume 693, Page 197, Deed Records, Newton County, Texas), S. College Street, Newton, Account #23335/23335 (Bid in Trust 12/5/2017).

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM General Land Office Disaster Funds

Newton County will hold two public hearings: one at 10:00 a.m. on July 13, 2020 at the Newton County Courthouse during Commissioners Court and a 2nd public hearing at 5:05 p.m. on July 13, 2020 at the Newton County Courthouse on the North steps.

Instructions on participating virtually in the 1st pub

Legals

ic hearing will be available in conjunction with the Commissioners Court agenda posted on the County website and at the courthouse.

These public hearings will be held concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts.

The purpose of these meetings is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of Tx-CDBG funds expended, the projected amount of funds remaining, all eligible Tx-CDBG activities, and the use of past Tx-CDBG funds.

The public hearings will include discussions of re-allocating approximately \$7,500,000.00 in 2016 Flood funds previously awarded under contract #DR-18-533-000-277 Housing to contract #DR18-535-000-B279 Infrastructure along with any additional funds that may be remaining at a future date.

The county encourages citizens to participate in the revisions of this Tx-CDBG Method of Distribution and subsequent contract amendments and to make their views known at these public hearings.

Citizens unable to attend these meetings may submit their views and proposals to Kenneth Weeks, County Judge at the Courthouse. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact the County Courthouse to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the County Courthouse at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Para: Mas Información en español comuníquese con Elizabeth Holloway al 409-379-5755.

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City of Newton
101 North Street
Newton, Texas 75966

Proposals must be received by the City of Newton no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 22, 2020 to be considered.

The City of Newton

Legals

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11c8

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS City of Newton Texas

The City of Newton of Newton, Texas, plans to apply for Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and is soliciting Request for Statement of Qualification for Engineering Services for 2015, 2016, Regional and Hurricane Harvey Disaster Mitigation Funding proposals to provide engineering services for CDBG-MIT contract(s), if awarded. Please submit 5 copies of your Statement of Qualifications for the proposed services to the address below.

Attn: Donald H. Meek,
City of Newton
101 North Street
Newton, Texas 75966

Proposals must be received by the City of Newton no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 22, 2020 to be considered.

The City of Newton reserves the right to negotiate donnie@newtontexas.org please use read and delivery receipts for proof of submittals. If submitted via fax (409-379-5061), please keep your fax confirmation.

11c8

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409-379-2416

Great Online Content Can Let You 'Visit' A Museum This Summer

(StatePoint) If you are looking for new things to do this summer while staying home or social distancing, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has you covered.

The museum has lots of free content available for both adults and kids, including digital learning tools for students of all ages and online versions of many of its most popular exhibitions. Access to this content is through the museum's website: americanindian.si.edu.

For Students: Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°) is the museum's national education initiative to inspire and promote improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians. NK360° provides educational materials and teacher training that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information to enlighten and inform teaching and learning about Native America. The initiative's website has digital lessons for K-12 students, teacher guides, videos and websites. Several lessons are also available in Spanish.

Online Exhibitions: Many of the museum's most popular exhibitions are available to explore online. "Americans" shows how American Indians have been part of the nation's identity since before the country began. Visitors can click on some familiar images and learn why images of American Indians are everywhere in our country.

The bilingual exhibition "The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire" examines why the Inka Road was built more than 500 years ago, and how its construction without the use of metal or iron, the wheel or stock animals to pull heavy loads stands as one of the greatest engineering feats.

The exhibition "Infinity of Nations: Art and History in the Collections of the National Museum of the American Indian," which features some 700 works of Native art from throughout North, Central and South America, demonstrates the breadth of from the collections; visit the museum's new Google Arts & Culture website.

Shop: The museum's online store offers an array of books for adults and kids, cards, CDs and DVDs. The best part? Your purchase helps to continue the museum's important work.

You can also get more content from the museum by following it on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Thanks to great online exhibitions, you can spend this summer "visiting" an amazing museum from

**Affidavit of Posting Public Notice of Public Hearing
Concerning the Revision of the Newton County
Method of Distribution for the 2016 Floods CDBG-
Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the
Texas General Land Office under Contracts DR 18-
533-000-B277 and DR 18-535-000-B279**

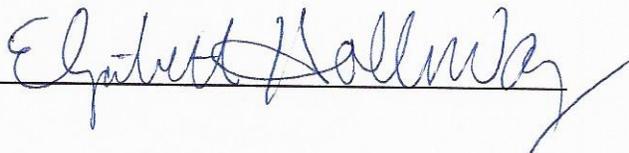
The undersigned, Elizabeth Holloway, says that he/she did post a public notice of Public Hearings concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution for the 2016 floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts DR 18-533-000-B277 and DR 18-535-000-B279 to be held as follows:

July 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Newton County Courthouse, 110 Court Street, Newton, TX

July 13, 2020 at 5:05 p.m. at the Newton County Courthouse on the North steps

Notice posted at: Newton County Clerk – Public Notice Board; County website

Date: 7/6/2020 Time: 10:00

Signature: 

Newton County

Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Newton County will conduct a public hearing concerning the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. The hearing will be held to discuss revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts. Residentes que necesiten traducción, favor de comunicarse con Newton County antes de la audiencia pública. The public hearing will be held as follows:

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE:

Monday, July 13, 2020

TIME:

10:00 AM

5:05 PM

PLACE:

Newton County Courthouse

ADDRESS:

110 Court Street

Newton, Texas

***Newton County
110 Court Street
Newton, TX 75966***

TO: Public Housing Authorities and Local Community Groups
FROM: Newton County
Date: July 6, 2020
RE: Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office. Discussions will include reallocating approximately \$7,500,000 in funds from housing projects to infrastructure projects. Please post the enclosed Public Notice which gives the date, time and location of the hearing.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local community needs, the amount of Texas Community Development Program funding available, all eligible activities, and the use of past Texas Community Development Program funds.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Enclosure

Citizen Participation for: Newton County

Agency	Address
Burke Center	2001 South Medford Drive Lufkin, Texas 75901-5699
Newton Housing Authorities	103 Sartain Street Newton, Texas 75966
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services	314 North Herndon Kirbyville, Texas 75956
The Salvation Army of Orange	1960 MLK Drive Orange, Texas 77630
HFH of Jefferson County	P.O. Box 3174 Beaumont, Texas 77704

Public Hearing Minutes

A public hearing was held on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts.

The Attendance List for the meeting is attached.

Charbel Hollway
Signature

County Auditor
Title

Newton County ATTENDANCE LIST

2016 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Method of Distribution

Contract Amendment Public Hearing

TEXAS General Land Office

Public Hearing

Monday, July 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE #	Email
Mark Pugh	201 Cambridge	903/581-0500	mark@getuph.com
Danny Bente	9250 FM 363	409/651/5975	Dannybente@gmail.com
Phillip White	1205 FM 1415 WIERGATE TX 75977	409-779-8261	phillip.white@Co. Newton, Tx. US
Rhonda Alford	ASST Auditor. Grants		
Liz Holloway	Auditor		
Billy Rowles	Newton SD		
Angie Woods	P.O. Box 1075, Kirbyville	(409) 422-9913	angie.woods40@yahoo.com
John Jeffers	1907 E COURT	409-381-9403	jeff75966@yahoo.com
Olen Bean	110 Court St	409-594-4516	olen.bean@co. newton, tx. US
Melissa Burks	113 Court St	(409) 379-4241	Melissa.burks@Co. Newton, TX. US

Public Hearing Minutes

A public hearing was held on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 5:05 p.m. to discuss the Revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts.

The Attendance List for the meeting is attached.

Elizabeth Hollway
Signature

County Auditor
Title

Commissioners Court
Kenneth Weeks, County Judge
William L. Fuller, Comm. Pct. 1
Phillip A. White, Comm. Pct. 2
Gary Fomby, Comm. Pct. 3
Wesley G. Thompson, Comm. Pct. 4



Monday, July 13, 2020,
10:00 A.M.

Agenda # 6976

NOTICE

Is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Newton County Commissioners Court will be held on the date stated above, at the Newton County Courthouse, Second Floor, District Courtroom, 110 Court Street, Newton, Texas 75966. At which time the following subjects will be considered and/or discussed.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT'S DISASTER DECLARATION THIS MEETING WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES WITH SIX (6) FEET SPACING. BE ADVISED THAT SEATING IS LIMITED. THEREFORE, THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND VIA LIVE STREAMING. PLEASE REFER TO THE COUNTY WEBSITE AT co.newton.tx.us FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Invocation

AGENDA

- **CALL TO ORDER** • Establish Quorum • Acknowledge Guests

I. CONSENT AGENDA

(The items listed within the CONSENT AGENDA are deemed to be of a routine nature and are not scheduled for individual consideration by the Commissioners Court. However, any member of the Court retains the option to remove any one or more items from the CONSENT AGENDA and to have the item(s) individually considered.)

- A. Minutes from the previous meetings. *(Included 02-19-20)*
- B. Accept Statement of Oath, Deputation, and Bonds.
- C. Monthly Departmental reports:
 1. The Newton County Historical Commission
 2. County Extension Agents
 3. Newton County Public Library
 4. Newton County Indigent Health Program *(previous months)*
 5. Justices of the Peace: No. 1, 2, 3, & 4
 6. County Sheriff
 7. District Clerk
 8. County Treasurer
 9. County Clerk
 10. Criminal District Attorney
 11. Tax Assessor-Collector
 12. Delinquent Tax Collections
- D. Continuing Education Certifications.

II. DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Discuss and if appropriate, approve waiving penalty and interest for Firststrike Energy Corp. *(Bowen Waters)*
2. Public hearing concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts. *(Mark Taylor)*
3. Consideration of a resolution authorizing the execution of a County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program Agreement. *(Mark Taylor)*
4. Discussion of possible MIT grant projects. *(Mark Taylor)*

5. Pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 26.04(c), the governing body shall designate an officer or employee to calculate the effective tax rate (no-new-revenue tax rate) and the rollback tax rate (voter-approval tax rate) for the unit. *(Melissa Burks)*
6. Pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 26.04(c-1) Newton County Commissioners Court directs designated officer to calculate Voter Approval Rate using the special disaster provision of 8%. *(Melissa Burks)*
7. Discuss and if appropriate, approve the Sheriff's office to sell wrecked 2017 Ford Explorer. *(Sheriff Billy Rowles)*
8. Discuss request for vehicle allowance for Sheriff's office. *(Sheriff Billy Rowles)*
9. Discuss and if appropriate, approve the purchase of fiber optic line for internet for all Newton County offices. *(Shannon Ponthier)*
10. Discuss and if appropriate, approve installation of Fiber Optic cable for Commissioners Barn, Pct. 1. *(Shannon Ponthier)*
11. Discuss and if appropriate, approve the purchase of video conferencing kit w/room monitor from Dell Inc. *(Shannon Ponthier)*
12. Discuss and if appropriate, approve the Contract between Newton County and Texas Computer Associates for network maintenance for the County. *(Shannon Ponthier)*
13. Accept County Veteran's Service Officer report, 2nd Quarter. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
14. Further discussion on MIT Grant opportunity. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
15. Discuss and if appropriate, approve renaming Francis Scoggins to continue to serve as a member for Newton County on the Burke Center Board of Trustees. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
16. Discuss and if appropriate, approve the \$350.00 County maximum for Indigent Burial Expenses for Linda Faye Beck, deceased. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
17. Discuss and if appropriate, approve Newton County to purchase airport slab #5 from Richard Nelson. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
18. Present a Distinguished Service Award for the 2019 year of service to John Jefferson on behalf of the Newton County Historical Commission. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
19. Discuss and if appropriate, extend the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration until August 10, 2020. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks)*
20. Discuss and if appropriate, approve creation of a County Chief Grants Officer position. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks/Elizabeth Holloway)*
21. Discuss and if appropriate, approve budget amendment for Chief Grants Officer position. *(Judge Kenneth Weeks/Elizabeth Holloway)*
22. Discuss and if appropriate, approve grant advance payment policies and Procedures. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
23. Bid Selection Committee to present recommendation for selection of contractor for 2020 Disaster Recovery Package. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
24. Consider directing that the voter-approval tax rate be calculated at 8% in the manner provided for a special taxing unit. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
25. Discuss and if appropriate, approve contract between Newton County and Net Data for the retention/destruction of any hard drives that are replaced according to the data security rules. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
26. Approve advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off the State System between TXDOT and Precinct 3. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
27. Resolution approving construction of bridge on CR 2018 at Hackberry Branch in partnership with Texas Department of Transportation. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
28. Approve Humanities Texas Relief Grant Agreement and Contract for History Center. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
29. Payment of bills. *(Elizabeth Holloway)*
30. Budget Workshop.
31. Public Hearing.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Pursuant to the authority granted under Government Codes, Chap. 555.07(1)(A), (2) regarding pending and/or contemplated litigation, and/or 551.074, regarding personnel matters, and/or property acquisition, Commissioners Court may convene a closed session to discuss any of the above agenda items.
- B. Return to open meeting and take any action deemed necessary upon discussion in closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.102.

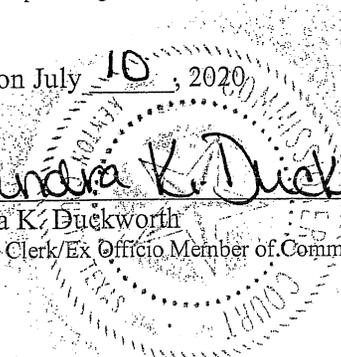
► ADJOURN

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting on the Newton County Commissioners Court is a true and correct copy of said Notice and that I posted a true and correct copy of said Notice in the Newton County Courthouse at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times and that said Notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting, as is required by Section 551.002 & 551.041.

Executed on July 10, 2020 Time: 9:25

By: Sandra K. Duckworth by Michelle Medley
Sandra K. Duckworth
County Clerk/Ex. Officio Member of Commissioners Court



JULY 13, 2020

REGULAR MEETING

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by County Judge Kenneth Weeks, who welcomed the guests present and invited their participation in any discussion.

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF NEWTON §

On this the 13th day of July, the Commissioners' Court of Newton County, Texas convened in regular session at the Newton County Courthouse, Commissioners' Courtroom, in the City of Newton, County of Newton, Newton County, Texas with the following members present to-wit:

Kenneth Weeks	County Judge
Phillip White	Commissioner Precinct No. 2
Gary "Tick" Fomby	Commissioner Precinct No. 3
Wesley "Gene" Thompson	Commissioner Precinct No. 4
Sandra K. Duckworth	County Clerk

the following absent, Commissioner Precinct No. 1 William "Bill" Fuller, constituting a quorum when among other proceedings the following orders were adopted:

Attending the meeting were Auditor Elizabeth Holloway, Assistant Auditor Rhonda Alford, Administrative Assistant Angie Woods, Sheriff Billy Rowles, Tax Assessor-Collector Melissa Burks, Emergency Management Officer Olen Bean, John Jefferson with Newton County Historical Commission, Mark Taylor with Traylor & Associates and Private Citizen Alton Jones.

CONSENT AGENDA

(The items listed within the CONSENT AGENDA are deemed to be of a routine nature and are not scheduled for individual consideration by the Commissioners' Court. However, any member of the Court retains the option to remove any one or more items from the CONSENT AGENDA and to have the item(s) individually considered.)

- A. Minutes from the previous meetings. (Included 02-19-2020)
- B. Accept Statement of Appointment, Oath, Deputation, and Bonds.
- C. Monthly Departmental Reports:

1. The Newton County Historical Commission	7. District Clerk
2. County Extension Agents	8. County Treasurer
3. Newton County Public Library	9. County Clerk
4. Newton County Indigent Health Program	10. Criminal District Attorney
5. Justice of the Peace No. 1, 2, 3, & 4	11. Delinquent Tax Collections
6. County Sheriff	12. Tax Assessor-Collector
- D. Continuing Education Certifications. (Sandra Bishop, Pam Davis and Ray Boughner)

Moved: Commissioner Pct.
Seconded: Commissioner Pct.

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented and to include Newton County Indigent Health Program Reports from previous months.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

Any reports that were turned in to the treasurer, in a timely manner, will be shown under Exhibit "A".

II. DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Discuss and if appropriate, approve waiving penalty and interest for Firststrike Energy Corp.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Motion: To deny waiving penalty and interest for Firststrike Energy Corp.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Request if marked Exhibit "B" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Public hearing concerning the revision of the Newton County Method of Distribution (MOD) for the 2016 Floods CDBG-Disaster Recovery Allocation for funds through the Texas General Land Office under contracts #DR18-533-000-277 and #DR18-535-000-B279 and subsequent amendments to these contracts.

No public comments were received.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the execution of a County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program Agreement.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Motion: To approve resolution authorizing the execution of a County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program Agreement.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Resolution is marked Exhibit "C" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Discussion of possible MIT grant projects.

No action was needed for the agenda item.

Mark Taylor with Traylor & Associates discussed with the Court possible projects that could be included in the County grant application. Court discussed Water Boards throughout the County and the possibility of consolidating the Water Districts within the county and adding sewer service as well. Court will discuss projects in greater detail closer to time for submittal of the application.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 26.04(c), the governing body shall designate an officer or employee to calculate the effective tax rate (no-new-revenue tax rate) and the rollback tax rate (voter-approval tax rate) for the unit.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To designate Melissa Burks, Tax Assessor-Collector, as officer to calculate the effective tax rate (no-new-revenue tax rate) and the rollback tax rate (voter-approval tax rate) for the unit.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

Pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 26.04(c-1) Newton County Commissioners' Court directs designated officer to calculate Voter Approval Rate using the special disaster provision of 8%.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Motion: To designate Melissa Burks, Tax Assessor-Collector, as officer to calculate Voter Approval Rate using the special disaster provision of 8%.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

Discuss and if appropriate, approve the Sheriff's office to sell wrecked 2017 Ford Explorer.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Motion: To approve the Sheriff's office to advertise and sell wrecked 2017 Ford Explorer.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Discuss request for vehicle allowance for Sheriff's office.

No action was taken on the agenda item.

Sheriff Billy Rowles is requesting the Court to allow him to assign his county owned patrol truck to the deputy at Toledo Bend and to approve a vehicle allowance for the use of his personal truck starting September 1st and ending December 31st, which is the end of his term. Sheriff Rowles stated that when he requested an additional deputy for the lake during the 2020 budget workshop, he failed to request a patrol unit for that deputy. An amendment to his budget will be required and the Court has requested additional time to review the budget and will address the agenda item at a later time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

Discuss and if appropriate, approve the purchase of fiber optic line for internet for all Newton County offices.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To table the agenda item in order to schedule a workshop with AT&T to clarify and address questions and concerns in regards to purchasing the fiber optic lines for county offices.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

Discuss and if appropriate, approve installation of Fiber Optic cable for Commissioner Barn, Precinct 1.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To approve installation of Fiber Optic cable for Commissioner Barn, Precinct 1.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

IT Administrator Shannon Ponthier advised the Court that the quote received from AT&T for the installation and equipment was \$2,275.00 and would include the Tax / Motor Vehicle office at the Precinct 1 county barn. There will also be an additional \$1,700.00 for contractor to bore the pipe and to bury the cable.

The said Quote is marked Exhibit "D" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

Discuss and if appropriate, approve the purchase of video conferencing kit w/room monitor from Dell Inc.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Motion: To approve the purchase of video conferencing kit w/room monitor from Dell Inc.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The video conferencing equipment will be for use in the Commissioners' Courtroom as well as the District Courtroom, and will be beneficial for both County Court and District Court proceedings.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

Discuss and if appropriate, approve the Contract between Newton County and Texas Computer Associates for network maintenance for the County.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To approve the Contract between Newton County and Texas Computer Associates for network maintenance for the County.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Contract is marked Exhibit "E" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Texas Computer Associates is replacing Micro Integration in an effort to produce a network map for all county offices for internet and server access.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

Accept County Veteran's Service Officer report, 2nd quarter.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Motion: To accept County Veteran's Service Officer report, 2nd quarter.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Report is marked Exhibit "F" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

Further discussion on MIT Grant opportunity.

This agenda item was discussed with agenda item #4 and will be discussed further in a workshop to be scheduled at a later time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

Discuss and if appropriate, approve renaming Francis Scoggins to continue to serve as a member for Newton County on the Burke Center Board of Trustees.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To approve renaming Francis Scoggins to continue to serve as a member for Newton County on the Burke Center Board of Trustees.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Appointment is marked Exhibit "G" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

Discuss and if appropriate, approve the \$350.00 County maximum for Indigent Burial Expenses for Linda Faye Beck, deceased.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Motion: To approve the \$350.00 County maximum for Indigent Burial Expenses for Linda Faye Beck, deceased.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Request is marked Exhibit "H" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purpose.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

Discuss and if appropriate, approve Newton County to purchase airport slab #5 from Richard Nelson.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Motion: To approve Newton County to purchase airport slab #5 from Richard Nelson for the amount of \$500.00.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

Present a Distinguished Service Award for the 2019 year of service to John Jefferson on behalf of the Newton County Historical Commission.

No action was needed for the agenda item.

County Judge Kenneth Weeks, presented John Jefferson, on behalf of the Newton County Historical Commission, the 2019 Distinguished Service Award.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 19

Discuss and if appropriate, extend the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration until August 10, 2020.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Motion: To extend the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration until August 10, 2020.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

The said Declaration is marked Exhibit "I" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 20

Discuss and if appropriate, approve creation of a County Chief Grants Officer position.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 4 Wesley "Gene" Thompson

Motion: To approve the creation of a County Chief Grants Officer position.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of four (4) for and none (0) against.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21

Discuss and if appropriate, approve budget amendment for Chief Grants Officer position.

Moved: Commissioner Pct. 2 Phillip White

Seconded: Commissioner Pct. 3 Gary "Tick" Fomby

PUBLIC HEARING
(talking points highlighted in yellow)

In establishing the Method of Distribution for the March 2016 Flood Allocation, Newton County took a very aggressive approach to assist homeowners. We allocated 70% of the funds received by the County to Housing and DISD activities. Of this, 78% went to housing. This is more than any of the remaining four counties receiving a direct March 2016 Flood allocation. The average MOD housing allocation for the remaining four counties is 35% with 65% going to non-housing activities.

Housing – 18,035,447.00

Infrastructure - \$10,611,036.00

In administering the Housing funds, Newton County has gone above and beyond in ensuring the availability of services to assist any eligible homeowner in our county. Extensive marketing outreach has been done throughout the entire county. This outreach has included extending the application deadline multiple times, conducting additional workshops, newspaper ads, phone calls as well as social media.

Marketing Round 1

- General Applicants Meeting were conducted on
 - 9/18/2018 at the Deweyville Senior Center with approximately 120 people in attendance
 - 9/19/2018 at the Cade Building in Burkeville with approximately 55 people in attendance
 - 9/19/2018 at the Newton County courthouse with approximately 94 people in attendance
- 269 total
- Radio Advertising was done on
 - KJAS station 107.3 FM – Jasper
 - KTXJ-FM station 102.7 FM – Jasper
 - KOGT station 1600 AM – Orange
- Newspaper Ads were placed in the Newton County News on 09/12/2018 and 09/19/2018
- Phone Calls were placed by Gary R Traylor & Associates staff to March 2016 Flood FEMA recipients to let them briefly know about the program and invite them to the meeting closest to their area.
- Flyers advertising the Program and the meetings were posted at Newton County courthouse, sub-locations, and on the County website. Flyers were also posted at local businesses such as convenience stores, laundromats, car washes, and grocery stores. Key members of the community were given a smaller version of the flyer to be placed in church bulletins or to share with other community organizations.

- Applications were available on the Newton County website, at the General Applicants Meetings, and at the Court House. Applications were accepted from 9/18/2018 until 12/17/2018.

Additional Marketing Round 1 (prior to the 12/17/2018 application deadline)

- Application Workshops were conducted on
 - 12/3/2018 at the Deweyville Senior Center with 8 homeowners in attendance
 - 12/4/2018 at Cade Building in Burkeville with 2 homeowners in attendance
 - 12/4/2018 at the Newton County courthouse with approximately 16 homeowners in attendance
- 6 total
- Phone Calls were placed by Gary R Traylor & Associates staff to March 2016 Flood FEMA recipients to let them briefly know about the program and invite them to the meeting closest to their area.
- Flyers advertising the Program and the meetings were posted at Newton County courthouse, sub-locations, and on the County website. Flyers were also posted at local businesses such as convenience stores, laundromats, car washes, and grocery stores. Key members of the community were given a smaller version of the flyer to be placed in church bulletins or to share with other community organizations.
- Social Media was used to advertise Workshops on the “What’s Up Deweyville?” Facebook page which is a well followed site in the community.

Marketing Round 2

- Newton County elected to re-open their application intake period for 60 days. Applications were available at the County Auditor’s office and on the website continuously beginning 9/18/2018. Many homeowners used that time to complete the application and gather documents in anticipation of the County re-opening the application intake period. A second round of applications were accepted from 3/1/2019 to 4/30/2019.
- Newspaper Ads were placed in the Newton County News on 02/20/2019 and 02/27/2019
- General Applicants Meetings were conducted on
 - 02/27/2019 at the Deweyville Senior Center with 2 homeowners in attendance. One of the 2 homeowners had already applied and just checking on their status
 - 02/28/2019 (10:00 am) at the Cade Building in Burkeville and no homeowners showed up
 - 02/28/2019 (6:00 pm) at the Newton County courthouse only a few homeowners attended
- 6 total
- Flyers advertising the program were posted at the Newton County courthouse, sub-locations, County website, local businesses such as convenience stores,

laundromats, car washes and grocery store. Special attention was shown to flood prone areas including Kirkendall, Indian Lake and Sabine Sands. Flyers were either handed to the homeowner or one was left at their mailbox or front door. Flyers were also on hand at the Gary R Traylor & Associates office in Newton.

- Social Media was used in hopes of notifying as many homeowners as possible. County Residents also shared the information on their personal Facebook page.

Marketing Round 3

- Newton County elected to re-open the application intake period for an additional 30 days after news of the first home built under the 2016 Program was released by the media. Newton County is a small, tight knit community. The County knew that the news would spread quickly via word of mouth once residents saw homes being built under the Program.
- An extensive, front page article in the Newton County News was published on 6/11/2019. It featured several homeowners that had been approved for new homes. Instructions and information on how to apply was included in the article. The newspaper agreed to publish articles following the first approved homeowner all the way from preconstruction to key ceremony. On 6/19/2019, Newton County re-opened the application cycle to coincide with the ground-breaking ceremony for the first home. The Orange Leader, published in nearby Orange County, featured the ground-breaking ceremony for that first home in their 7/3/2019 issue.
- Social Media was used in hopes of notifying as many homeowners as possible. County Residents also shared the information on their personal Facebook page.

Again, Newton County has gone above and beyond to ensure all eligible/interested homeowners impacted by the March 2016 floods have either been assisted or are currently in the process of being assisted.

Newton County is requesting to pursue the revision of our 2016 Method of Distribution with the intention of reallocating \$7,500,000.00 from housing to non-housing funds in order to utilize this much needed funding in our county. We currently have infrastructure projects, LMI eligibility and budgets established in order to move swiftly in utilizing these funds. In order to revise the Method of Distribution, bid projects and complete the work the county is also requesting a contract extension of six months.

136 Applications Processed
25 homes completed or in process
42 Pending (8 certified, 34 Denied)
69 Denied

**RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION RELATED TO THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in March 2016, Newton County experienced floods that were declared Presidential Disaster Areas; and

WHEREAS, as part of the declaration, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD) will provide funds to the State of Texas, through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to be distributed to flood-affected areas to facilitate long-term recovery in the form of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds; and

WHEREAS, on August 14, 2017 the Newton County Commissioner's Court passed and approved a resolution in conjunction with the Method of Distribution for HUD funds through CDBG-DR Federal Award Number B-16-DL-48-0001 received through the Texas General Land Office; and

WHEREAS, the Method of Distribution allocated Seventy Percent (70%) of the funds to Housing activities including Five-Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) to the Deweyville Independent School District (DISD) and Thirty Percent (30%) of the funds to Non-Housing Activities; and on August 31, 2017 the Texas General Land Office approved the Method of Distribution; and

WHEREAS, the funds allocated to the DISD were allocated as Non-Housing funds; and

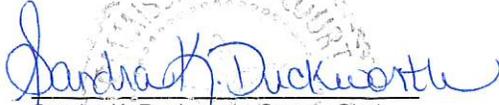
WHEREAS, after assisting all eligible homeowners desiring to receive assistance through this funding a projected balance of at least Eight-Million Dollars (\$8,000,000) remains; and

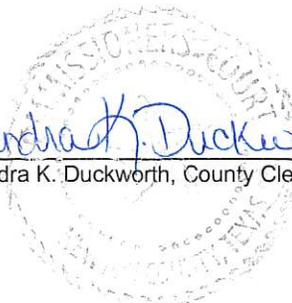
WHEREAS, these funds are desperately needed in aiding the citizens of Newton County recover from the 2016 floods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONER'S COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, TEXAS:

1. That the Method of Distribution be amended moving Five-Million dollars (\$5,000,000) allocated to the DISD as Housing funds and reallocating these funds to the DISD as Non-Housing funds.
2. That the Method of Distribution be amended reallocating Eight-Million Dollars (\$8,000,000) along with any additional funds that may be remaining at a future date, allocated as Housing funds, to Non-Housing funds.

Passed and Approved by Newton County Commissioner's Court this 5th day of April, 2021.


Sandra K. Duckworth, County Clerk




Kenneth Weeks, County Judge
Newton County, Texas