



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Final

Board of Commissioners

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10-A Linda Webb 865-389-0541 lwebb@blounttn.org
10-B David Wells 865-221-7603 dwells@blounttn.org

Thursday, June 15, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

Live stream via <https://zoom.us/join>

Zoom Meeting ID: 859 0678 6540

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Blount County Courthouse of Maryville, Tennessee. Blount County Commission Chairman Jared Anderson called the meeting to order. An electronic roll call was taken by Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty. There were 20 members present and 1 absent, with the late arrival of Commissioner Mike Caylor. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 20 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Chairperson Jared Anderson, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Dyran Bledsoe, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Nick Bright, Commissioner Richard Carver, Commissioner Mike Caylor, Commissioner Misty Davis, Vice Chair Ron French, Commissioner John Giles, Commissioner Jessica Hannah, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Staci Martin, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Jeff Jopling

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair French, that the agenda be set. With no objection, the Chairman declared that Consent Calendar item B.1. "Resolution No. 23-06-014, A Proclamation Honoring High School Senior Grant Campbell for Record Breaking High Jump" would be postponed until the July 20, 2023, Commission meeting. An electronic vote was taken to set the agenda as amended. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Caylor, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that Consent Calendar items B.2 - B.8 be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Caylor, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 23-06-014, A Proclamation Honoring High School Senior Grant Campbell for Record Breaking High Jump.](#)

Attachments: [proclamation Grant Campbell State-record setting high jump](#)

The Proclamation was postponed until the July 20, 2023, Commission meeting.

2. [Resolution No. 23-06-015, A Proclamation Honoring the Alcoa High School Girls' Track & Field Team for their First State Championship.](#)

Attachments: [Proclamation for AHS Girls Track State Championship](#)

The Proclamation was presented to the Alcoa High School Girls' Track & Field Team as Commissioner Bledsoe read the Proclamation out loud.

3. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on May 18, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [BOC Regular Meeting Minutes 2023-May-18](#)

The minutes were approved.

4. [Minutes of Zoning Public Hearing on May 9, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [Zoning Public Hearing Minutes 2023-May-09](#)

The minutes were approved.

5. [Approval of Bonds and Oaths.](#)

Attachments: [23-06-011 OATHS AND BONDS RESOLUTION](#)

[Oath of Board of Equalization 2023](#)

[Deputy Clerk Oaths 2023-06-15](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2023-Jun-15](#)

[Public Officials Bonds 2023](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

6. [Notaries to be Elected.](#)

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2023-Jun-15](#)

The Notaries were elected.

7. [Receiving of Reports. \(Information Only\)](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Budget Comm 2023-May-09](#)

[Minutes of BZA 2023-Apr-06](#)

The reports were received and filed.

8. [May 2023 Financial Reports. \(Information Only\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update May 2023](#)

[ARPA Tracking 5.30.23](#)

[FY22.23 Capital Exhibit REVISED May 23](#)

[May 2023 Expense Report](#)

[May 2023 Revenue Report](#)

[YTD Budget Report Expenses ending 31 May](#)

[YTD Budget Report Revenue ending 31 May](#)

[US BANK REPORT MAY 23](#)

The reports were received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.

1. [Interim Purchasing Agent - Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment of Ms. Jackie Cooper, CPPB.](#)

Attachments: [Interim Purchasing Agent Appt. of Jackie Cooper 5-2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Caylor, seconded by Commissioner Webb, that the appointment be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

2. [Parks & Recreation Board \(4-Year Term\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment of Nelson Russell.](#)

Attachments: [Parks and Rec Commission 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the appointment be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

3. [Jail Inspection Committee Appointment of Dr. Bob Ramsey to fill the Vacancy of James Ferguson \(term expires January 2024\).](#)

Attachments: [Bob Ramsey DDS Bio 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Bledsoe, that the appointment be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**F. NEW BUSINESS.**

1. [Resolution No. 23-06-001, Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy in Blount County, Tennessee for the Year Beginning July 1, 2023. \(Referred to full commission by the Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation of 5-0.\)](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 23-06-001 Tax Levy Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY23.24 Tax Levy Exhibit Revenue Report](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Bright, that the Resolution be adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner McMahan, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, that the Resolution be amended by reducing the funds for General County by .01 (0.68), Debt Service by .02 (0.20), Gen. Admin. Capital Projects by .01 (0.02), and increase the General Purpose Schools fund by .04 (0.59).

A motion was made by Commissioner Stinnett, that the Revenue Exhibit be amended in order to retain the funds for General County at 0.69, and utilize fund balance for any shortfalls. Commissioner Mikels raised a point of order. Commissioner Stinnett withdrew this amendment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mikels, that the Resolution be amended by reducing the funds for General County by .01 (0.68), Debt Service by .01 (0.21), Gen. Admin. Capital Projects by .02 (0.01), and Education Capital Projects by .01 (0.09), and increase the General Purpose Schools fund to 0.57 thereby amending the Total Tax Rate to 1.56. This motion failed due a lack of receiving a second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, to call for previous question on all pending motions. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 15 - Anderson, Bennett, Carver, Caylor, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 5 - Akard, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, and Davis

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken on the motion that the Resolution be amended by reducing the funds for General County by .01 (0.68), Debt Service by .02 (0.20), Gen. Admin. Capital Projects by .01 (0.02), and increase the General Purpose Schools fund by .04 (0.59). The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, French, McMahan, Reagan, and Stinnett

No: 13 - Akard, Anderson, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, Mikels, Webb, and Wells

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken on the original motion that the Resolution be adopted. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 4 - French, McMahan, Mikels, and Reagan

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

2. [Resolution No. 23-06-002, A Resolution Making Appropriations for the Various Funds, Departments, Institutions, Offices, and Agencies of Blount County, Tennessee for the Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024. \(Referred to full commission by the Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation of 5-0.\)](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 23-06-002 Appropriation Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY23.24 Appropriation Budget Analysis](#)
[paper notification](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair French, seconded by Commissioner Bright, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 23-06-003, A Resolution Establishing Capital Outlay Priorities in Blount County, Tennessee, for the Year Beginning July 1, 2023, and Ending June 30, 2024. \(Referred to full commission by the Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation of 5-0.\)](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 23-06-003 Capital Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY23.24 Capital Exhibit](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair French, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 23-06-004. Budget Increase - County Wide FY23 Budget Shortages to avoid negative balances. \(Appropriate funds to cover shortfalls in the current budget year.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution for FY22-23 Budget Shortages](#)
[AMENDMENTS BINDER](#)
[MEMOS BINDER](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 23-06-005. Budget Increase - BCSO - \\$1,175,400.00 \(Accept and appropriate collaborative violent crime intervention fund grant.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution BCSO VCIF grant](#)
[Amendment VCIF grant](#)
[Memo regarding VCIF grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

6. [Resolution No. 23-06-006. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$46,657.00 \(Appropriate additional funds to continue repair on Old Tuckaleechee Road Slip.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Old Tuckaleechee Rd Slip Addl Amendment for Old Tuckaleechee Slip](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

7. [Resolution No. 23-06-007. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$230,000.00 \(Appropriate funds to repair the Tuckaleechee Bridge.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Hwy Tuckaleechee Bridge Amendment Hwy Tuckaleechee Bridge Memo Hwy Tuckaleechee Bridge GSI Proposal Tuckaleechee Pike Bridge Replacement - Blount County](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

8. [Resolution No. 23-06-008. Budget Increase - Eagleton Ballpark Renovation - \\$274,500.00 \(Appropriate funds to purchase stream mitigation credits to comply with federal and state environmental regulations.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Mitigation Credits](#)
[Amendment Request Mitigation Credits](#)
[Memo Mitigation Credits](#)
[Attachment Narrative for Jurisdictional Waters Credit Mitigation and Permitting 5-25-23](#)
[Attachment Jurisdictional Waters Map Mitigation Credits](#)
[Attachment Blount County Agreement Purchase and Sale of Mitigation Credits 5.26.23](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

9. [Resolution No. 23-06-009. Budget Increase - Eagleton Ballpark Renovation - \\$198,364.00 \(Appropriate additional funds for Eagleton Ballpark Multi-year Design Contract.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution S&ME Scope Amendment](#)
[Amendment S&ME Scope Amendment](#)
[Memo S&ME Scope Amendment](#)
[Attachment S&ME Scope Amendment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

10. [Resolution No. 23-06-012, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Raising the Income Limit of the Senior Tax Freeze Program From \\$43,500 to \\$60,000 for Qualified Blount County Citizens.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Senior Tax Freeze Limit](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

11. [Resolution No. 23-06-013, A Resolution Accepting the Final Report on the Classification and Compensation Study for Blount County, TN by Management Advisory Group and Authorizing the County to Take the Actions Necessary to Implement the Report's Recommendations. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Human Resources Committee \(12-0\).](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FINAL REPORT ON THE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY](#)
[Blount County Report 5-24-23 Final](#)

[DRAFT RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FINAL REPORT ON THE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

12. [Setting of a Zoning Public Hearing to Amend the Zoning Resolution of Blount County, Tennessee by Modifying Article 7 to add a new Section which Further Defines and Regulates Cluster Development.](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION 7.20 cluster - DRAFT](#)
[Cluster7.20draft_to CC_052523](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the Zoning Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion was made that the meeting be adjourned. The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners having met in regular session adjourned on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 9:07 p.m.