



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Commission Workshop

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10-B David Wells 865-221-7603 dwells@blounttn.org

Thursday, June 12, 2025

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 839 9582 7909

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Blount County Courthouse of Maryville, Tennessee. Blount County Commission Workshop Chairman Nick Bright called the meeting to order. An electronic roll call was taken by Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty. There were 17 members present, with the late arrival of Jeff Jopling, and 4 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

Present: 17 - Jared Anderson, Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Nick Bright, Quentin Caldwell, Richard Carver, Mike Caylor, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Jeff Jopling, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Steve Mikels, Dawn Reagan and David Wells

Absent: 4 - Mike Akard, Brad Bowers, Scott King and Linda Webb

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

Prior to setting the agenda, Commissioner Anderson requested unanimous consent to move General Consent Calendar item D.5., titled "Regional Comprehensive Plan 2024 for Blount County, Tennessee (INFORMATION ONLY)," to become the first item under section G. New Business for discussion only. Hearing no objection, the Chairman declared the item so moved.

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

Yes: 16 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.****1. [Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2025.](#)**

Attachments: [Minutes 2025-May-8 Workshop Comm](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

D. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the General Consent Calendar be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

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

Attachments: [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 25-06-011](#)

[Oath of Deputy Clerk 2025-06-19](#)

[Oath of Deputy Sheriff 2025-06-19](#)

[Public Officials Bonds 2025-06-19](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2025-06-19](#)

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2025-06-19](#)

3. [Receiving of Reports. \(FOR INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Audit Committee 24-11-12 Meeting Minutes](#)

[Education Committee 25-04-01 Meeting Minutes](#)

[Beer Board 25-04-17 Meeting Minutes](#)

[Trustee Report April 2025](#)

a. [May 2025 Financial Reports. \(FOR INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update May 2025](#)

[ARPA Tracking 5.31.25](#)

[FY24.25 Capital Plan Exhibit](#)

[May 2025 Expense Report](#)

[May 2025 Revenue Report](#)

[YTD Expense Report as of May 31, 2025](#)

[YTD Revenue Report as of May 31, 2025](#)

[US Bank Report May 2025](#)

4. [Tuckaleechee Utility District of Blount County, Tennessee, Order Appointing Commissioner Michael Talley to Serve a 4-Year Term. \(FOR INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Appointment-Tuckaleechee Utility Board- Michael Talley](#)

5. [Regional Comprehensive Plan 2024 for Blount County, Tennessee. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Memorandum on Actions by County Commission on Resolution](#)
[Memo to CC comp plan resolution 060525](#)
[Attach1 Comp Plan draft resolution for County Commission](#)
[Attach2 Exhibit A BlountCo-Comp Plan approved by PC 02272025](#)
[Attach3 Comp plan PC resolution signed](#)

E. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner French, that the Budget Consent Calendar be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 25-06-005, Budget Increase - Central Services - \\$49,556.20 \(Appropriate General County Capital funds to upgrade Courthouse security cameras\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Central Svs Capital Camera Upgrade](#)
[Amendment - Central Svs Capital Camera Upgrade](#)
[Memo - Central Svs Capital Camera Upgrade](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

2. [Resolution No. 25-06-008, Budget Increase - Schools - \\$15,500.00 \(Appropriate Education Capital funds to construct new office space in Central Office due to increased staff\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Schools Central Office Construction](#)
[Amendment - Schools Central Office Construction](#)
[Memo - Schools Central Office Construction](#)
[Backup - Schools Central Office Construction](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

3. [Resolution No. 25-06-009, Budget Increase - Schools - \\$44,420.00\(Appropriate Education Capital funds to install new fencing at William Blount High School CTE and around the new retention pond\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Schools WBHS Fencing](#)
[Amendment - Schools WBHS Fencing](#)
[Memo - Schools WBHS Fencing](#)
[Backup - Schools WBHS Fencing](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

4. [Resolution No. 25-06-010, Budget Increase – Schools - \\$9,380 \(Appropriate Education Capital funds to repair the roof on Fairview Elementary School's portable building\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Schools Fairview Portable Roof Replacement](#)
[Amendment - Schools Fairview Portable Roof Replacement](#)
[Memo - Schools Fairview Portable Roof Replacement](#)
[Backup - Schools Fairview Portable Roof Replacement](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

5. [Resolution No. 25-06-015, Budget Increase – Schools – \\$1,499.15 \(Appropriate General Purpose School Funds to cover loan payments to General County\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Schools Debt Service](#)
[Amendment - Schools Debt Service](#)
[Memo - Schools Debt Service](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

6. [Resolution No. 25-06-016, Information Technology - \(Request approval for a three year contract with Cogent Communications, LLC for primary Internet Services. This contract provides savings of \\$24,480 over the three year term\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Multi-Year Contract Cogent](#)
[Memo - Multi-Year Contract Cogent](#)
[Backup - Multi-Year Contract Cogent](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

7. [Resolution No. 25-06-017, Information Technology - \(Request approval for a three year contract with IRIS Networks for Backup Internet Services. This contract will provide savings of \\$8,100 over the three year term\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Multi-Year Contract IRIS](#)
[Memo - Multi-Year Contract IRIS](#)
[Backup - Multi-Year Contract IRIS](#)

Item forwarded to full commission per action taken above in "E. Budget Consent Calendar".

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

G. NEW BUSINESS.

[Regional Comprehensive Plan 2024 for Blount County, Tennessee. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Memorandum on Actions by County Commission on Resolution](#)

[Memo to CC_comp plan resolution_060525](#)

[Attach1_Comp Plan draft resolution for County Commission](#)

[Attach2_Exhibit A BlountCo-Comp Plan approved by PC_02272025](#)

[Attach3_Comp plan PC resolution_signed](#)

The Chairman recognized Ms. Sarah Sinatra Gould, Vice President of Inspire Placemaking Collective, to present the Regional Comprehensive Plan to the body.

1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.

- a. [Resolution No. 25-06-004, Budget Increase - Central Services -\\$510,000.00 \(Appropriate General County Capital funds to modernize Courthouse elevators\).](#)
[Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Central Svs Courthouse Elevators](#)

[Amendment - Central Svs Courthouse Elevators](#)

[Memo - Central Svs Courthouse Elevators](#)

[Backup - 1954 Elevator](#)

[Backup - 1975 Elevator](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner McMahan, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 25-06-006, Budget Increase – Schools - \\$2,449,384.34 \(Appropriate Education Capital funds for capitalized expenses incurred in the current fiscal year\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - BCS 141-177 Changes](#)
[Amendment - BCS 141-177 Changes](#)
[Memo - BCS 141-177 Changes](#)
[Backup - BCS 141-177 Changes](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- c. [Resolution No. 25-06-007, Budget Increase – Schools - \\$1,343,290.21 \(Appropriate Tennessee State grant funds for the 2025 Summer School Program\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Summer School 2025](#)
[Amendment - Summer School 2025](#)
[Memo - Summer School 2025](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission. Commissioner Reagan stated she would abstain for cause. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Reagan

2. Other Budget Items.

- a. [Resolution 25-06-001 FY 25-26 Tax Rate Resolution. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [FY25.26 Tax Levy Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY25.26 Tax Levy Exhibit Revenue Report](#)
[FY25.26 Tax Levy Exhibit Revenue Report Capital](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 25-06-002 - FY 25-26 Appropriation Resolution. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [FY25.26 Appropriation Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY25.26 Appropriation Budget Exhibit](#)
[FY25.26 Appropriation Budget Exhibit Capital](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- c. [Resolution No. 25-06-003 - FY 25-26 A Resolution Establishing Capital Outlay Priorities. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [FY25.26 Resolution Capital Outlay Prioritization Resolution Recommended](#)
[FY25.26 Capital Outlay Exhibit](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

3. Appointments.

- a. [Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment for Blount County Purchasing Agent Kari Barrett.](#)

Attachments: [Memo to Commission Purchasing Agent Kari Barrett June 2025](#)
[Kari Barrett Resume](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 25-06-012, A Resolution to Enter Into a Binding Memorandum of Understanding for the Highway Department.](#)

Attachments: [Board of Regents MOU Resolution May 2025](#)
[Binding MOU with Bristol 321 Partners LLC](#)
[Memo Re Board of Regents Funds](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 25-06-013, A Resolution of the Blount County Legislative Body Adopting the Revised Blount County Hazard Mitigation Plan.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution for Blount County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025](#)
[Blount County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2024 Final](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

6. [Resolution No. 25-06-014, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission to Establish a Blount County Historical Commission.](#)

Attachments: [Blount County Historical Commission Resolution](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hannah, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

7. [Setting a Date and Time for a Zoning Public Hearing to Amend the Zoning Resolution of Blount County, Tennessee by Modifying Section 7.20.C to Revise the Open Space Requirement of Cluster Developments.](#)

Attachments: [Memo Re Amendment to Zoning Regs - Sec7.20.C Open Space Requirement of Cluster Developments](#)
[Resolution Draft open space](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2025-Mar-27](#)
[Alcoa Regional Planning Commission Resolution](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Vice Chair Anderson, that the setting of a Zoning Public Hearing be forwarded to full commission to set the date and time. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner King and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

I. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

J. ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Commission Workshop meeting adjourned on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 7:29 p.m.