



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Board of Commissioners

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Thursday, December 15, 2022

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 894 5540 2339

## ROLL CALL

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, December 15, 2022, 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 19 members present and 2 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 19 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Chairperson Jared Anderson, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, 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 Jeff Jopling, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Dyran Bledsoe, and Commissioner Staci Lawhorn

## A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

With no objection, the Chairman declared that the Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors (3-Year Term) Appointment of Susanne Davis, CPA would be added as item 4 under D. Elections, Appointments, and Confirmations. There was no objection.

With no objection, the Chairman declared that Resolution No. 22-11-016, Setting of a Zoning Public Hearing to Amend the Zoning Regulations for Suburbanizing and R1 Zoning Districts of Blount County, Tennessee would be added as item 15 under F. New Business. There was no objection.

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

## B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the Consent Calendar be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

1. [Resolution No. 22-12-012, Proclamation Honoring Jerry Orr for His Dedicated Service to the Citizens of Blount County, Tennessee.](#)

**Attachments:** [Proclamation res Jerry Orr](#)

The Resolution was adopted. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Bowers who read the proclamation out loud. Commissioners Bennett, Bowers, and Mikels, along with the County Mayor and the Commission Chairman, presented the proclamation to Jerry Orr.

2. [Resolution No. 22-12-013, Proclamation Honoring Terry Orr for His Dedicated Service to the Citizens of Blount County, Tennessee.](#)

**Attachments:** [Proclamation res Terry Orr](#)

The Resolution was adopted. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Mikels who read the proclamation out loud. Commissioners Bennett, Bowers, and Mikels, along with the County Mayor and the Commission Chairman, presented the proclamation to Terry Orr.

3. [Minutes of Zoning Public Hearing on November 8, 2022.](#)

**Attachments:** [Zoning Public Hearing 2022-Nov-8](#)

The minutes were approved.

4. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on November 17, 2022.](#)

**Attachments:** [Regular Meeting 2022-Nov-17](#)

The minutes were approved.

5. [Minutes of Special Called Commission Meeting on November 29, 2022.](#)

**Attachments:** [Called Meeting 2022-Nov-29](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

**Attachments:** [OATHS AND BONDS RESOLUTION 22-12-011](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2022-Dec-15](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2022-Dec-15](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

**Attachments:** [Notaries to be Elected 2022-Dec-15](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

- Attachments:** [Minutes of Audit Committee 2022-Oct-20](#)  
[Minutes of Beer Board 2022-Sep-13](#)  
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2022-Nov-8](#)  
[Minutes of Education Committee 2022-Nov-1](#)  
[Minutes of Finance Committee 2019-Feb-21](#)  
[Minutes of Human Resources Committee 2022-Jul-19](#)  
[Minutes of Insurance Committee 2022-Jul-19](#)  
[Sheriff Annual Financial Report year end 6-30-22](#)  
[Trustee Monthly Report October 2022](#)

The reports were received and filed.

9. [November 2022 Financial Reports \(Information Only\).](#)

- Attachments:** [Nov Expense Report](#)  
[Nov Revenue Report](#)  
[YTD Budget Report - Revenue - Nov 2022](#)  
[YTD Budget Report - Expense - Nov 2022](#)  
[US Bank Report Nov 2022](#)  
[FY22.23 Capital Exhibit](#)  
[ARPA Tracking Report](#)  
[ARPA Utility Project Update](#)

The reports were received and filed.

10. [2023 Schedule of Blount County Commission Committee Meetings.](#)

- Attachments:** [Public Notice - 2023 Committee Meetings](#)

The calendar was approved.

11. [Budget Process Calendar for FY23-24](#)

- Attachments:** [FY23/24 Blount County Budget Process Calendar](#)

The calendar was approved.

12. [Certified Election Results for November 8, 2022 \(Information Only\).](#)

- Attachments:** [Receipt of Certified Election Results for 2022-Nov-08](#)  
[State and Federal General Election 2022-Nov-08](#)  
[City of Alcoa Election 2022-Nov-08](#)  
[Town of Louisville Election 2022- Nov-08](#)  
[City of Maryville Election 2022-Nov-08](#)  
[City of Friendsville Referendum Election 2022-Nov-08](#)

The reports were received and filed.

**C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

**D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.**

1. [Resolution No. 22-12-017, A Resolution to Appoint Judicial Commissioners.](#)

- Attachments:** [RESOLUTION-JC 2022](#)

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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

2. [Blount County Building Commissioner - Cameron Buckner.](#)

- Attachments:** [Building Commissioner Memo \(2022\)](#)  
[Highway Superintendent Memo 11.28.22](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

3. [Public Records Commission - Historian, Mark D. Bennett.](#)

**Attachments:** [Memo to Commissioners \(BC Historian\) 2022](#)  
[Mark Bennett Resume](#)

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

**Yes:** 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 1 - Bennett

4. [Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors \(3-Year Term\) Appointment of Susanne Davis, CPA.](#)

**Attachments:** [Susanne Y Davis Nominations and Resume](#)

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

**Yes:** 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 3 - Caylor, King, and McMahan

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 1 - Carver

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**F. NEW BUSINESS.**

1. [Resolution No. 22-12-001, Budget Increase - BCSO - \\$160,500.00 \(to appropriate general fund balance for three patrol cars to support three COPS grant-funded deputies\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution BCSO COPS grant - vehicles](#)  
[Amendment BCSO vehicle funding](#)  
[Memo BCSO vehicle funding](#)  
[BCSO vehicle funding backup](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, 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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

2. [Resolution No. 22-12-002, Budget Increase - Education Capital Fund - \\$1,595,000.00 \(to appropriate capital funds for Fairview Roof project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Schools-Fairview Roof.pdf](#)  
[Amendment Schools-Fairview Roof](#)  
[Memo Schools-Fairview Roof](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

3. [Resolution No. 22-12-003, Budget Increase - Education Capital Fund - \\$300,000.00 \(to appropriate Capital Project Contingency Funding\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Schools Capital Project Contingencies](#)  
[Amendment Schools Capital Project Contingencies](#)  
[Memo Schools Capital Project Contingencies](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

4. [Resolution No. 22-12-004, Budget Increase - Highway - \\$2,120,000.00 \(to appropriate highway fund balance for bridge projects\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Highway Bridges](#)  
[Budget Amendment Highway Bridges](#)  
[Memo to Commission HWY Bridges 12.1.2022](#)  
[Clover Hill Documentation](#)  
[Big Springs Background](#)  
[Carr's Creek Documentation](#)  
[Old Tuckaleechee Documentation](#)  
[Nebo Road Slide](#)  
[Wildwood Documentation](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, 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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

5. [Resolution No. 22-12-005, an update to Resolution No. 22-11-005, Budget Increase - General Services - \\$366,974.03 \(to appropriate AMR reserve account funds to be disbursed equally to the 11 first response agencies providing emergency services to Blount County\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0-1\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Updated Resolution AMR Reserve Funds](#)  
[Updated Amendment AMR Reserves](#)  
[Memo AMR Reserve Funds](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, 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:** 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 1 - Caylor



6. [Resolution No. 22-12-006, General County Purchasing Bid Increase \(Resolution to increase the threshold over which public advertisement and sealed competitive bids or proposals are required\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE THRESHOLD OVER WHICH PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT AND SEALED COMPETITIVE BIDS OR PROPOSALS ARE REQUIRED 2022](#)  
[Bid Threshold Increase SB 2489 HB 2600](#)  
[Sheriff Memo of Support for bld increase](#)  
[Highway dept letter of support for bid increase](#)  
[School letter of support for bid increase](#)

**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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

7. [Resolution No. 22-12-014, Resolution Authorizing a Continuous Four \(4\) Year Reappraisal Cycle.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Reappr Plan 4 Yr 2027 9](#)  
[MOU Reappr Plan 4 Yr 2027](#)

**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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

8. [Resolution No. 22-12-015, A Resolution that Approves an Agreement Term Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year for Group Organ and Tissue Transplant Insurance for Blount County, TN.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution for Transplant Policy effective 01 01 2023](#)  
[Organ Transplant Paperwork 1.1.23](#)  
[Minutes Insurance Com 2022-Nov-15](#)  
[Minutes HR Com 2022-Nov-15](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

9. [Resolution No. 22-12-016, A Resolution that Approves an Agreement Term Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year for the Stop Loss Insurance Carrier for Blount County, TN.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution for Stop Loss Vendor effective 01 01 2023](#)  
[Proposal BlountCountyGovernment 127292](#)  
[Minutes Insurance Com 2022-Nov-15](#)  
[Minutes HR Com 2022-Nov-15](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

10. [Resolution No. 22-12-018, Resolution to Urge the Tennessee General Assembly to Designate the City of Friendsville the Pink Marble Capital of Tennessee.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Declaring Friendsville Pink Marble Capital of Tennessee](#)

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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

**11.** [Resolution No. 22-12-019, Resolution to Approve Lease Agreement Between Blount County, Tennessee, and U.S. Congressman Tim Burchett for Office Space in Blount County Courthouse.](#)

**Attachments:** [Burchett Office Resolution for 2023-25](#)  
[Congressman Office District Lease 2023-2025](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

**12.** [Resolution No. 22-12-020, Resolution to Oppose Alcoa Wildwood Area Annexation.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution \(Alcoa Annexation\)](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

13. [Resolution No. 22-12-021, Resolution to Approve Charter Amendment of Blount Memorial Hospital, Incorporated to Restructure Nominating Committee.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution \(BMH Charter Amendment\)](#)

[BMH amendment to charter \(JTA\)](#)

[BMH amendment to charter](#)

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Stinnett, seconded by Vice Chair French, that the Resolution be postponed until the January 2023 Commission meeting. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - French, Mikels, Reagan, and Stinnett

**No:** 14 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Webb, and Wells

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 1 - Carver

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

**Yes:** 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 3 - French, Mikels, and Stinnett

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 1 - Carver

15. [Resolution No. 22-11-016, Setting of a Zoning Public Hearing to Amend the Zoning Regulations for Suburbanizing and R1 Zoning Districts of Blount County, Tennessee.](#)

**Attachments:** [22-11-016 packet to Alcoa\\_12012022 \(1\)](#)

[RESOLUTION 22-11-016 - Min Lot Size](#)

[Bell 11-09-22](#)

[Anderson & Akard 11-15-22 \(1\)](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the Zoning Public Hearing be set for Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5:45 p.m. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:**

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

Abstain: 0

14. [Resolution No. 22-12-022, A Resolution to Allow Safe Passage in Blount County, Tennessee for a Certain Visitor From the North Pole. \(This Resolution is Introduced in the Memory of the Late Commissioner Richard Williams, Jr.\)](#)

**Attachments:** [Santa Resolution 2022-Dec-15](#)

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

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

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Bledsoe, and Lawhorn

**Abstain:** 0

The Chairman recognized Commissioner Giles to read the Resolution out loud.

**G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.**

**H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

**I. ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion was made by Vice Chair French that the meeting be adjourned. The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners meeting in regular session adjourned on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 7:22 p.m.