



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

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 870 2043 1217

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:30 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 18 members present and 3 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

Present: 18 - Mike Akard, Jared Anderson, Dyran Bledsoe, Brad Bowers, Nick Bright, Quentin Caldwell, Richard Carver, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Jeff Jopling, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Steve Mikels, Dawn Reagan, Linda Webb and David Wells

Absent: 3 - Robbie Bennett, Mike Caylor and Scott King

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Anderson, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [2033 M Commission Workshop 25-01-07 Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

D. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner McMahan, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that the 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

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

Attachments: [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 25-02-011](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2025-Feb-20](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2025-Feb-20](#)

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2025-Feb-20](#)

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Budget Committee 2024-Dec-10](#)

[Records Requests Quarterly Report OCT-DEC 2024](#)

[Trustee Report December 2024](#)

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

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

[ARPA Tracking 1.31.25](#)

[FY24.25 Capital Plan](#)

[January 2025 Expense Report](#)

[January 2025 Revenue Report](#)

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

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

[US Bank Report January 2025](#)

4. [Consideration for approval; Draft - Blount County Government Finance Department Policies and Procedures. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Memo- Financial Management Policies & Procedures](#)

[Policies & Procedures Manual - Finance Department Rev Jan 2025 PDF](#)

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.

- a. [Resolution No. 25-02-001, Budget Increase – Civil Defense - \\$2,758.95 \(Accept and appropriate additional funds for Emergency Management Performance Grant received from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Civil Defense Emergency Management Performance Grant](#)
[Amendment - Civil Defense Emergency Management Performance Grant](#)
[Memo - Civil Defense Emergency Management Performance Grant](#)
[Backup - Civil Defense Emergency Management Performance Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 25-02-002, Budget Increase – Civil Defense - \\$2,562.50 \(Accept and appropriate additional funds for Homeland Security Program Grant received from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Civil Defense State Homeland Security Program Grant](#)
[Amendment - Civil Defense State Homeland Security Program Grant](#)
[Memo - Civil Defense State Homeland Security Program Grant](#)
[Backup - Civil Defense State Homeland Security Program Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- c. [Resolution No. 25-02-003, Budget Increase – General Services - \\$127,972.40 \(Appropriate funds to upgrade county security cameras and access control systems.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - General Svcs Security Cameras and Controls Upgrade](#)
[Amendment - General Svcs Security Cameras and Controls Upgrade](#)
[Memo - General Svcs Security Cameras and Controls Upgrade](#)
[Backup - General Svcs Security Cameras and Controls Upgrade](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- d. [Resolution No. 25-02-004, Budget Increase – General Services - \\$79,600.00 \(Accept and appropriate funds from the Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant \[EECBG\] for the purchase and installation of three HVAC units.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - General Services EECBG](#)
[Amendment - General Services EECBG](#)
[Memo - General Services EECBG](#)
[Backup - EECBG Program Allocations](#)
[Backup - EECBG Request for Consideration](#)
[Backup - Grant Information Worksheet Central Svcs EECBG](#)
[Backup - EECBG quotes](#)

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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- e. [Resolution No. 25-02-005, Budget Increase – General Services - \\$36,762.00 \(Appropriate funds for painting the stairwells in the county courthouse.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - General Services Stairwell Paint](#)

[Amendment - General Services Stairwell Paint](#)

[Memo - General Services Stairwell Paint](#)

[Backup - Stair Painting Quotes](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Webb, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- f. [Resolution No. 25-02-006, Budget Increase – General Services - \\$19,324.00 \(Appropriate funds for modernizing building automation system that controls the HVAC units in county buildings.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - General Services HVAC Controls Upgrade](#)
[Amendment - General Services HVAC Controls Upgrade](#)
[Memo - General Services HVAC Controls Upgrade](#)
[Backup - Trane BAS quote](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- g. [Resolution No. 25-02-007, Budget Increase – County Clerk - \\$25,834.00* \(Appropriate funds by use of fund balance for an additional counter clerk to support the increase of customer transactions.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\). *Amount amended at the Workshop meeting from twelve \(12\) month salary of \\$62,001.00 to five \(5\) month prorated salary.](#)

Attachments: [Amendment - County Clerk Request for Additional Employee](#)
[Resolution - County Clerk Request for Additional Employee](#)
[Memo - County Clerk Request for Additional Employee](#)
[Backup County Clerk Dashboard](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Webb, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be amended to prorate the salary request for five (5) months at \$25,834.00 instead of twelve (12) months. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken for the amended Resolution to be forwarded to full commission. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- h.** [Resolution No. 25-02-008, Budget Increase - County Clerk - \\$20,840.00 \(Appropriate funds from the Other State Revenue Vehicles Reserve to update and replace credit card machines, barcode scanners, and signature pads allowing more payment options for customers.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - County Clerk Data Processing Equipment](#)

[Amendment - County Clerk Data Processing Equipment](#)

[Memo - County Clerk Data Processing Equipment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Davis, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- i. [Resolution No. 25-02-009, Budget Increase – County Clerk - \\$4,830.00 \(Appropriate funds from the Electronic Insurance Verification Revenue Reserve to create two new workstations and purchase new license plate cabinets.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - County Clerk Work Stations and License Plate Cabinets](#)
[Amendment - County Clerk Work Stations and License Plate Cabinets](#)
[Memo - County Clerk Work Stations and License Plate Cabinets](#)
[Backup - Work Stations and License Plate Cabinets Quote](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- j. [Resolution No. 25-02-010, Budget Increase – Juvenile Court - \\$220,000.00 \(Re-appropriate Opioid Abatement grant funds to continue services with Helen Ross McNabb in support of Journey Court for at risk children.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Juvenile Court TN Opiod Abatement Grant](#)
[Amendment - Juvenile Court TN Opioid Abatement Grant](#)
[Memo - Juvenile Court TN Opioid Abatement Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- k. [Resolution No. 25-02-012, Budget Increase – Juvenile Court - \\$100,000.00 \(Accept and appropriate funds from Safe Baby Court yearly grant awarded to support coordinator position and the salary supplement to the juvenile court services director for oversight of program.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Juvenile Court Safe Baby Court Grant](#)
[Amendment - Juvenile Court Safe Baby Court Grant](#)
[Memo - Juvenile Court Safe Baby Court Grant](#)
[Backup - Safe Baby Court Grant Extra Supporting Documentation](#)
[Backup - Safe Baby Court Grant Worksheet](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Davis, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- l. [Resolution No. 25-02-013, Budget Increase – Highway - \\$1,500,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for asphalt hot mix to allow the Highway Department to pave additional roads for the county.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - HWY Asphalt Mix](#)
[Amendment - HWY Asphalt Mix](#)
[Memo - HWY Asphalt Mix](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- m. [Resolution No. 25-02-014, Budget Appropriation – BCSO - \\$687,141.00 \(Appropriate Federal Opioid Funds for FY25-27 for eligible expenses in the Blount County Sheriff's Office.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - BCSO Appropriation of Opioid Funds](#)
[Amendment - BCSO Appropriation of Opioid Funds](#)
[Memo - BCSO Appropriation of Opioid Funds](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- n. [Resolution No. 25-02-015, Budget Decrease – BCSO - \\$229,047.00 \(Decrease funds originally budgeted during FY25 with local revenue sources that are eligible for the use of federal opioid funds.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - BCSO Use of Opioid Funds](#)
[Amendment - BCSO Use of Opioid Funds](#)
[Memo - BCSO Use of Opioid Funds](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Davis, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- o.** [Resolution No. 25-02-016, Budget Increase – Animal Center - \\$14,000.00 \(Appropriate SMACF reserve fund balance to help cover expected operational cost.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Animal Center](#)
[Amendment - Animal Center](#)
[Memo - Animal Center](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- p. [Resolution 25-02-017, Budget Increase - Elections - \\$110,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for Convenience Voting Centers due to increase number of registered voters.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Amendment - Elections Voting Centers](#)
[Resolution - Elections Voting Centers](#)
[Memo - Elections Voting Centers](#)
[Backup - Elections Voting Centers-Support Documents](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Resolution be forwarded to full commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mikels that the budget increase be separate with a separate amendment as a prerequisite to the budget increase as Resolution No. 25-02-017"A" that would approve Blount County going from voting precincts to voting centers prior to the full commission's consideration of this item. The Chairman declared this motion to have failed due to the lack to receive a second.

An electronic vote was taken on the motion to forward to full commission. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Wells

No: 7 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner Mikels

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Webb

2. Other Budget Items.

- a. [BCSO Grant Application - \\$200,000.00. \(To apply for FY25 Bureau of Justice Assistant Grant to purchase a Virtual Training Simulator that provides different scenarios during training; no matching funds are required\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [BCSO Grant Application Worksheet VR Training Simulator](#)
[Backup - BCSO VR Training Simulator Quote](#)
[Backup - BCSO VR Training Support Documents](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the grant application request be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

3. Appointments.

- a. [Agriculture Extension Committee \(2-Year Term\) Appointments of Farm Women Rep. Lyssa McKenry and Farm Men Rep. Steve Myers.](#)

Attachments: [Ag Committee appointments February 2025](#)

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

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 25-02-018, A Resolution by the Blount County Board of Commissioners Supporting the Efforts of the Blount County Highway Department to Repair and Maintain the Swinging Bridge in Townsend, Tennessee, Known as the "Dark Island Bridge"](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Maintaining Swinging Bridge](#)
[Jopling, Bowers & Akard 02-03-25 \(Dark Island Bridge\)](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Commission Workshop meeting adjourned on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 8:03 p.m.