



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Final

Board of Commissioners

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2-A Mike Akard 865-982-6369 makard@blounttn.org
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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, April 17, 2025

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 844 9260 1008

Opening by the Sheriff or designated deputy.

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 6:00 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 16 members present, with the late arrival of Jessica Hannah, and 5 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum was present. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 16 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Chairperson Jared Anderson, Commissioner Dyran Bledsoe, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Vice Chair Nick Bright, Commissioner Richard Carver, Commissioner Mike Caylor, Commissioner John Giles, Commissioner Jessica Hannah, Commissioner Jeff Jopling, Commissioner Staci Martin, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Quentin Caldwell, Commissioner Misty Davis, Commissioner Ron French, and Commissioner Scott King

Welcome and Recognition of Special Guests.

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

B. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR.

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

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

1. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on March 20, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Regular BOC 2025-Mar-20](#)

The minutes were approved.

2. [Minutes of Called Commission Meeting on March 20, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Called BOC 2025-Mar-20](#)

The minutes were approved.

3. [Resolution No. 25-04-018, A Proclamation Honoring the Heritage High School Lady Mountaineers Basketball Team.](#)

Attachments: [Proclamation - HHS Lady Mountaineers 2025 Championship](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner McMahan, and presented to the Heritage High School Lady Mountaineers Basketball Team.

4. [Resolution No. 25-04-012, A Proclamation Honoring the Alcoa High School Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [AHSrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

5. [Resolution No. 25-04-013, A Proclamation Honoring the Eagleton College & Career Academy Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [ECCASrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

6. [Resolution No. 25-04-014, A Proclamation Honoring the Heritage High School Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [HeritageHSrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

7. [Resolution No. 25-04-015, A Proclamation Honoring the Maryville High School Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [MHSrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

8. [Resolution No. 25-04-016, A Proclamation Honoring the Samuel Everett School of Innovation Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [SESISrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

9. [Resolution No. 25-04-017, A Proclamation Honoring the William Blount High School Graduating Class of 2025 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [WBSrClass2025ResProclamation](#)

The proclamation was read out loud by Commissioner Reagan.

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

Attachments: [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 25-04-011](#)
[Oaths of School Board Member 2025-Apr-17](#)
[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2025-Apr-17](#)
[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2025-Apr-17](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2025-Apr-17](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

Attachments: [Emergency Comm District Budget FY 2025-26](#)
[Jail Facility Inspection Report 2025-Mar-05](#)
[Minutes of Beer Board 2025-Mar-11](#)
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2025-Feb-11](#)
[Minutes of Education Committee 2025-Dec-03](#)
[Minutes of Education Committee 2025-Mar-04](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2025-Jan-23](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2025-Feb-27](#)
[Records Requests Qtr1 2025-Jan-Mar](#)
[Trustee Report February 2025](#)

The reports were received and filed.

13. [March 2025 Financial Reports \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update March 2025](#)
[ARPA Tracking 3.31.25](#)
[FY24.25 Capital Plan Exhibit](#)
[March 2025 Expense Report](#)
[March 2025 Revenue Report](#)
[YTD Expense Report as of March 31, 2025](#)
[YTD Revenue Report as of March 31, 2025](#)
[US Bank Report March 2025](#)

The reports were received and filed.

14. [Fiscal Confirmation Letter - ThreeStar Program. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Three Star 2025 Packet](#)

The information was received and filed.

15. [Blount County Penny Valuation for FY25-26 memorandum \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Penny Valuation Memo FY 25-26](#)

The information was received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**D. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.**

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

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution 25-04-002, Budget Increase – Library - \\$49,997.90 \(Appropriate funds from Library Fund Balance to increase the Capital Maintenance & Repair expense account for the replacement of the chiller compressors\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution-Library Chiller Compressor Replacement](#)
[Amendment-Library Chiller Compressor Replacement](#)
[Memo-Library Chiller Compressor Replacement](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

2. [Resolution 25-04-003, Budget Increase – Library - \\$14,469.27 \(Appropriate funds from Library Fund Balance to cover increased utility expenses for the library for current year; increase likely due to the Book Return Construction Project and cold temperatures\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution-Library Utility Increase](#)
[Amendment-Library Utility Increase](#)
[Memo-Library Utility Increase](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

3. [Resolution 25-04-004, Budget Increase – Veterans - \\$19,545.18 \(Appropriate funds to cover retirement payout and provide one-month training overlap to the department\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Veteran Retirement Overlap](#)
[Amendment - Veteran Retirement Overlap](#)
[Memo - Veteran Retirement Overlap](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

4. [Resolution 25-04-005, Budget Increase – General Services Capital - \\$32,890.00 \(Appropriate capital funds for architectural services for the Courthouse plumbing project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution-General Svs Capital Plumbing](#)
[Amendment-General Svs Capital Plumbing](#)
[Memo-General Svs Capital Plumbing](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

5. [Resolution 25-04-006, BCSO - A Resolution to add correctional officers to the mandatory retirement provisions established pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-205 \(effective 1 July 2025\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution BCSO adding COs to Bridge](#)
[Backup-BCSO 2025 Sheriff Bridge Benefit Analysis](#)
[Backup-BCSO History of retirement benefit for Post Certified-Patrol deputies](#)
[Backup- BCSO New law affecting Corrections Officers' retirement](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

E. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.

1. [Public Building Authority \(Term to Expire 07/31/2029\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment of Kevin Ross to Fulfill the Vacancy by Jason F. Emert.](#)

Attachments: [PBA Appointment Mayor Memo-Kevin Ross](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair 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: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

G. NEW BUSINESS.

1. [BCSO Tennessee Highway Safety Office \(THSO\) Grant Applications - \\$185,000.00, No matching funds required on reoccurring grant. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [BCSO THSO Grant Information Worksheet Network Coordinator](#)

[BCSO THSO Grant Info Wrksht Police Traffic Svcs](#)

[MotorcycleDUIDistracted](#)

[Memo-BCSO THSO Grants](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bledsoe, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the grant application request be approved. An electronic vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

2. [Emergency Management Grant Application - \\$381,945.00 \(To re-apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant originally brought for consideration in November 2022; to fund three trailer-mounted generators for the operation centers at Blount County, Maryville and Alcoa; \(A 12.5% match or \\$47,743.12 is required\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Worksheet EMA Trailer mounted generator](#)

[EMA Trailer Mounted Generator Project Application](#)

[Memo-EMA Trailer Mounted Generator Project](#)

[Backup-EMA Trailer Mounted Generator Project Worksheet](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Webb, that the grant application request be approved. An electronic vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution 25-04-001, Budget Increase - BCSO - \\$167,700.00 \(Appropriate Sheriff Training Funds to enter into a contract for engineering services for the design of a new firing range training center\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - BCSO Range House](#)
[Amendment - BCSO Range House](#)
[Memo-BCSO Range House](#)
[Backup-BCSO Summary of Tasks and Proposed Professional fees](#)

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

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 6 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, Hannah, and King

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 25-04-019, Resolution to Sell Inherited Property as Surplus Property.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Flanagan Estate](#)
[Garrett Memo 3.25.2025](#)
[Last Will and Testament of Maureen Flanagan](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Bright, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, and King

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 25-05-013, Resolution to Amend the Zoning Map of Blount County, Tennessee, From R-1\(Rural District 1\) to RAC \(Rural Arterial Commercial District\) for a 3.19 Acre Portion of a 5.01 Acre Tract of Land Located at 5202/5204 US Hwy 411 S, Blount County, TN. \(Tax Map 100 Parcel 009.03\)](#)

Attachments: [25-05-013 Resolution 5202 US Hwy 411S](#)
[Request ZPH - R1-RAC 5202-5204 US411S](#)
[Draft Resolution - R1-RAC 5202-5204 US411S](#)
[Report of Action 2025-Mar-27](#)
[Staff Memo - R1-RAC 5202-5204 US411S](#)
[Public Notice for Rezoning - 5202-5204 US Hwy 411S](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Bright, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Zoning Public Hearing be set for Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 5:45 p.m. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Caldwell, Davis, French, and King

Abstain: 0

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

I. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

J. ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman declared that with no further business and without objection the meeting to be adjourned. There was none. The Blount County Board of Commissioners, having met in regular session on Thursday, April 17, 2025, adjourned at 6:54 p.m.