



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Commissioners

- 1-A Jackie Hill 865-982-8667 jhill@blounttn.org
- 1-B Joe McCulley 865-982-6351 jmcculley@blounttn.org
- 2-A Mike Akard 865-982-6369 makard@blounttn.org
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- 3-B Mike Caylor 865-323-3143 maylor@blounttn.org
- 4-A Robbie Bennett 865-806-8869 rbennett@blounttn.org
- 4-B Dawn Reagan 865-724-3162 dreagan@blountk12tn.org
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- 7-A Tom Stinnett 865-310-8606 tstinnett@blounttn.org
- 7-B Staci Lawhorn 865-719-6765 slawhorn@blounttn.org
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- 9-A Ron French 865-577-8393 rfrench@blounttn.org
- 9-B Steve Mikels 865-755-6958 smikels@blounttn.org
- 10-A Linda Webb 865-389-0541 lwebb@blounttn.org
- 10-B Tom Hood 865-643-2891 thood@blounttn.org

Thursday, April 15, 2021

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

<https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 954 3521 2681

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session electronically via Zoom Meetings on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Blount County Commission Chairman Ron French called the meeting to order. The roll call was taken by Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty. There were 16 members present and 5 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 16 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Jared Anderson, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Nick Bright, Vice Chair Richard Carver, Commissioner Mike Caylor, Commissioner Dodd Crowe, Chairperson Ron French, Commissioner James Hammontree, Commissioner Jackie Hill, Commissioner Tom Hood, Commissioner Staci Lawhorn, Commissioner Joe McCulley, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, and Commissioner Linda Webb
- Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Jeff Jopling, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Steve Mikels, and Commissioner Brian Robbins

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

The Chairman announced a correction to item F.7, the actual amount of the budget increase is \$315,965.00, not \$318,170.00 as the title description states.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lawhorn, seconded by Commissioner Bright, that the agenda be set. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Hammontree, that the Consent Calendar be approved. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

1. [Approval of the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes for March 18, 2021.](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes 2021-Mar-18](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

Attachments: [21-04-011 OATHS AND BONDS RESOLUTION](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2021-Apr-15](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2021-Apr-15](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [Notaries 2021-Apr-15](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Audit Committee 2021-Feb-18](#)
[Minutes of Board of Zoning Appeals 2021-Jan-7](#)
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2021-Mar-9](#)
[Minutes of Education Committee 2021-Mar-2](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2021-Feb-25](#)
[Perishables Report -Q3 FY21](#)
[Trustee Report March 2021](#)

The reports were received and filed.

5. [March 2021 Financial Reports \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [March 2021 Expenses](#)
[March 2021 Revenues](#)
[US Bank Report - March 2021](#)

The reports were received and filed.

6. [Sales Tax Revenue Update \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [Sales Tax Update - March 2021](#)

The report was received and filed.

7. [Property Tax Update \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [Property Tax Update- March 2021](#)

The report was received and filed.

8. [BCSO THSO Grants - Recurring/No Match \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Information Worksheet THSO 2021-2022 BCSO Alcohol Saturation Patrols](#)
[Grant Information Worksheet THSO 2021-2022 BCSO Distracted Driving](#)
[Grant Information Worksheet THSO 2021-2022 BCSO Network Coordinator](#)
[Grant Information Worksheet THSO 2021-2022 Police Traffic Services Motorcycle](#)

The grant request was received and filed.

9. [Juvenile Court TN Department of Children's Services Prevention Grant - Recurring/No Match \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [Juvenile Grant Information Worksheet](#)

The grant request was received and filed.

10. [BCSO - TDOT Litter Grant - Recurring/No Match \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [2021 Litter Grant Education Plan](#)
[Proposed Litter Grant Budget 2021-2022](#)
[WorkProgram 2021- 2022](#)

The grant request was received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

1. [Grant Application Request - BCSO - CESF Video Arraignment Grant \(Up to \\$100,000, no match\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant-Information-Worksheet-CESF](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Lawhorn, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the grant request be approved. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

2. [Budget Transfer - Veterans Services to County Buildings - \\$3,000 \(Transfer Veterans funds to the County Buildings budget to assist in funding for Veterans Services new flooring\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Veterans Flooring Budget Amendment Request - Signed](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the budget transfer be adopted. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

3. [Budget Transfer - Debt Service Fund - \\$78,000 \(To cover QSCB 7/1/2020 payment that should have been recorded in FY2020\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Debt Service Transfer Budget Amendment Request & Backup](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair Carver, that the budget transfer be adopted. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

4. [Budget Transfer - General County - \\$392,532.25 \(To transfer funds to appropriate departments for employees who elected to opt in to the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [VRIP Transfer Budget Amendment Request - 101 - Signed](#)
[Final VRIP Election Memo](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Lawhorn, that the budget transfer be adopted.

Commissioner Stinnett asked for unanimous consent that items F.4, F.5 and F.6 be combined in the motion and vote to adopt. There was no objection.

A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to adopt items F.4, F.5 and F.6 to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 21-04-001, Budget Increase - Library - \\$95,710.55 \(To appropriate funds for the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program for those employees who have elected to retiree within the Library department\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-001 Library VRIP](#)
[VRIP Increase Budget Amendment Request - 115 - Signed](#)
[Final VRIP Election Memo](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.4 above.

6. [Resolution No. 21-04-002, Budget Increase - Highway - \\$68,388.37 \(To appropriate funds for the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program for those employees who have elected to retiree within the Highway department\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-002 Highway VRIP](#)
[VRIP Transfer Budget Amendment Request - 131 - Signed](#)
[Final VRIP Election Memo](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.4 above.

7. [Resolution No. 21-04-007, Budget Increase - General County - \\$318,170.00 \(To appropriate funds for a one-time supplement for all General County employees - FT at \\$550, PT at \\$275\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-007 - General County Supplements](#)
[GC Supplement Accounts](#)
[GC Supplements Budget Amendment Request - Signed](#)
[Mayor Memo to Commissioners 3.31.21 re One-Time Employee Supplement](#)

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

Commissioner Stinnett asked for unanimous consent that items F.7 and F.8 be combined in the motion and vote to adopt. There was no objection.

A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to adopt items F.7 and F.8 to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 15 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, and Stinnett

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 1 - Webb

8. [Resolution No. 21-04-008, Budget Increase - Highway - \\$32,132.00 \(To appropriate funds for a one-time supplement for all Highway employees - FT at \\$550, PT at \\$275\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-008 - Highway Supplements](#)
[HWY Supplement Accounts](#)
[HWY Supplements Budget Amendment Request - Signed](#)
[Mayor Memo to Commissioners 3.31.21 re One-Time Employee Supplement](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.7 above.

9. [Resolution No. 21-04-003, Budget Increase - General County - \\$34,340.01 \(To appropriate funds for remaining project amounts not reimbursed through the Corona Virus Relief Fund\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-003 CRF Projects Not Reimbursed](#)
[CRF Remaining Amt's Not Reimbursed - Budget Amendment Request - Signed](#)
[CRF Memo Payroll Decrease & Other CRF Spending](#)
[CRF Budget Committee Presentation April 2021](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

10. [Resolution No. 21-04-004, Budget Decrease - General County - \(\\$229,801.75\) \(To decrease department payroll budgets originally budgeted within the FY20-21 budget but reimbursed by the Corona Virus Relief Fund\). Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-004 Payroll decrease for CRF Reimbursements](#)
[CRF Payroll Decrease Budget Amendment Request - Signed](#)
[CRF Memo Payroll Decrease & Other CRF Spending](#)
[CRF Budget Committee Presentation April 2021](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

11. [Resolution No. 21-04-005 - To reconcile a reserve to recognize first offender fees for Officer Training purposes that were approved by Commission action on Sept. 20, 2007 but that have not been "Committed" for such purposes. Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-005 Officer Training Reserve correction](#)
[Memo to Committ \(true-up\) Officer training \(Res 21-04-005\)](#)
[Blount County Government Mail - Sheriff Training Reserve](#)
[Training Reserve backup](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

12. [Resolution No. 21-04-006 - To recognize training tuition revenue as an additional component to the reserve and corresponding "Committed" fund balance for Officer Training purposes retroactively back to FY2017 and forward. Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 21-04-006 Officer Training Reserve - add trng tuition](#)
[Memo to Committ Office training \(Res 21-04-006\)](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

13. [Resolution No. 21-04-009 - To approve a multi-year contract with DebtBook to assist the County in analyzing and reporting on all Debt and Contractual obligations for compliance with GASB 87 reporting. Referred to full commission by Budget Committee with a favorable recommendation \(5:0\).](#)

Attachments: [DebtBook Resolution multi year 4.21](#)
[Memo- Debtbook software 3.31.2021](#)
[DebtBook Quote Blount County, TN 3 year Contract](#)
[DebtBook Quote Blount County, TN May 1, 2021 - July 1, 2021](#)
[DebtBook Sole Source](#)

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

Commissioner Stinnett asked for unanimous consent that items F.13, F.14 and F.15 be combined in the motion and action to adopt. There was no objection.

A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to adopt items F.13, F.14 and F.15 to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

14. [Resolution No. 21-04-012, A Resolution that Approves an Agreement Which Extends Beyond the End of the Current Fiscal Year for Online Subscription Services with LexisNexis.](#)

Attachments: [21-04-012 LexisNexis 2021 Agreement Resolution](#)
[LexisNexis Amendment - 2021-2024 signed by Garrett](#)
[Note for LexisNexis Amendment 2021-2024](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.13 above.

15. [Resolution No. 21-04-013, A Resolution that Approves Agreement with Cadient, LLC Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year Term.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution for Cadient Agmt extending beyond FY](#)
[Draft Agreement - Cadient 2021-2023](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.13 above.

16. [Resolution No. 21-04-014, Resolution to Establish a Redistricting Committee.](#)

Attachments: [AMENDED Resolution Est Redistricting Comm 2021](#)
[TCA 5-1-111](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, that the Resolution be adopted. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Hammontree, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 6 - Akard, Anderson, Crowe, French, Hill, and Stinnett

Commissioner Anderson requested that his vote be changed from "abstain" to "yes". There was no objection. The Chairman declared the motion to adopt the resolution to have passed by the following revised vote:

Yes: 11 - Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Hammontree, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 5 - Akard, Crowe, French, Hill, and Stinnett

17. [Resolution No. 21-04-017, A Resolution to Urge the Tennessee General Assembly to Pass SB0187.](#)

Attachments: [AMENDED Resolution Supporting SB0187](#)
[Tennessee-2021-SB0187-Draft](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair Carver, that the Resolution be adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the Resolution be amended by striking "recognizing" and inserting "that the Blount County Commission recognizes" in the NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED clause. Commissioner Stinnett requested unanimous consent for the amendment. There was no objection.

A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to adopt the Resolution as amended to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, and Webb

No: 3 - Hill, Reagan, and Stinnett

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 0

18. [Resolution No. 21-04-018, Resolution to Reestablish Public Services Committee and Provide for Hearing Required by T.C.A. § 5-1-115 Dealing with Removal of Vegetation and Debris from Certain Lots.](#)

Attachments: [21-04-018 Resolution to reestablish Public Services Committee](#)

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

Yes: 14 - Anderson, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, French, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 2 - Akard, and Bowers

19. [Confirmation of the Highway Superintendent's Appointment Nominations for the Public Service Committee \(2-Year Term\) Mike Akard, Nick Bright, Ron French, Larry Garner, Richard Maples, Tara Rasher and Tom Stinnett.](#)

Attachments: [Public Services Committee](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hammontree, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, that the appointments be approved. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Anderson, Bowers, Carver, Caylor, Crowe, Hammontree, Hill, Hood, Lawhorn, McCulley, Reagan, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bennett, Jopling, King, Mikels, and Robbins

Abstain: 4 - Akard, Bright, French, and Stinnett

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

With unanimous consent, the Chairman read a letter from Mayor Ed Mitchell dated March 29, 2021, addressed to the Board of Commissioners, as well as, a written statement from Blount County Commission Chairman Ron French.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, that the meeting be adjourned. The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 7:06 p.m.