



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Commission Workshop

1-A Jessica Hannah 865-978-7049 jhannah@blounttn.org
1-B Earl McMahan 865-216-3160 emcmahan@blounttn.org
2-A Mike Akard 865-982-6369 makard@blounttn.org
2-B Dyran Bledsoe 865-806-7091 dbledsoe@blounttn.org
3-A Scott King 865-455-7335 sking@blounttn.org
3-B Mike Caylor 865-323-3143 mcaylor@blounttn.org
4-A Robbie Bennett 865-806-8869 rbennett@blounttn.org
4-B Dawn Reagan 865-567-5415 dreagan@blounttn.org
4-C John Giles 865-250-0438 jgiles@blounttn.org
5-A Jared Anderson 865-272-9455 janderson@blounttn.org
5-B Rick Carver 865-964-9945 rcarver@blounttn.org
6-A Nick Bright 865-254-0637 nbright@blounttn.org
6-B Misty Davis 865-363-1001 mddavis@blounttn.org
7-A Quentin Caldwell 865-603-3922 qcaldwell@blounttn.org
7-B Staci Martin 865-719-6765 slawhorn@blounttn.org
8-A Brad Bowers 865-659-7711 bbowers@blounttn.org
8-B Jeff Jopling 865-719-9480 jjopling@blounttn.org
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 David Wells 865-221-7603 dwells@blounttn.org

Thursday, April 9, 2026

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Thursday, April 9, 2026 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 15 members present, and 6 were absent with the late arrival of Commissioner Jopling. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

Present: 15 - Mike Akard, Jared Anderson, Nick Bright, Quentin Caldwell, Mike Caylor, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Jeff Jopling, Scott King, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Steve Mikels, and David Wells

Absent: 6 - Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Brad Bowers, Richard Carver, Dawn Reagan, and Linda Webb

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Commission Workshop Minutes for March 12, 2026.](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes 2026-Mar-12](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Wells, that the Minutes be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following

Yes: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 26-04-012, A Proclamation Honoring the Alcoa High School Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [26-04-012 AHSrClass2026ResProclamation](#)

2. [Resolution No. 26-04-013, A Proclamation Honoring the Eagleton College & Career Academy Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [ECCA 2026 Senior Class ACT Proclamation](#)

3. [Resolution No. 26-04-014, A Proclamation Honoring the Heritage High School Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [Heritage HS 2026 Senior Class ACT Proclamation](#)

4. [Resolution No. 26-04-015, A Proclamation Honoring the Maryville High School Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [MHS Senior Class 2026 ACT Proclamation](#)

5. [Resolution No. 26-04-018, A Proclamation Honoring the Maryville Virtual School Graduating Class of 2026 for their Accomplishment in Scoring A 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [MVHS Senior Class 2026 ACT Proclamation](#)

6. [Resolution No. 26-04-016, A Proclamation Honoring the Samuel Everett School of Innovation Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [SESI 2026 Senior Class ACT Proclamation](#)

7. [Resolution No. 26-04-017, A Proclamation Honoring the William Blount High School Graduating Class of 2026 for Their Accomplishment in Scoring a 30 or Above on the ACT.](#)

Attachments: [William Blount HS 2026 Senior Class ACT Proclamation](#)

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

Attachments: [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 26-04-011](#)

[Sheriff Oaths \(March\)](#)

[Notary Bonds \(March\)](#)

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be elected \(March\)](#)

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

Attachments: [Jail Facility Inspection Report 2026-Mar-04](#)
[Emergency Communications District Budget FY 2026-27](#)
[Minutes for Budget Committee Feb-12-2026](#)
[Record Request Report 4thQuarter Jan-Mar 2026](#)
[Trustee Monthly Report February 2026](#)

E. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Vice Chair Anderson, that the Budget Consent Calendar be forwarded to full commission. Commissioner Akard requested that items...

E.2. (Resolution No. 26-04-002);

E.3. (Resolution No. 26-04-003);

E.4. (Resolution No. 26-04-004);

E.5. (Resolution No. 26-04-005);

E.8. (BCSO Grant Application - Tennessee Highway Safety Office (THSO) - (\$120,000.00); and

E.9. (BCSO Grant Application - Tennessee Highway Safety Office (THSO) - \$24,000.00)

of the Budget Consent Calendar be considered separately.

An electronic vote was taken to forward items E.1, E.6 and E.7 per action taken above in index "E" of the Budget Consent Calendar to full commission. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 26-04-001, Budget Increase - General Admin. Projects - \\$14,529.72 \(Appropriate General County Capital funds to replace HVAC unit at Courthouse.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Courthouse Replacement HVAC](#)
[Amendment - Courthouse Replacement HVAC](#)
[Memo - Courthouse Replacement HVAC](#)

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

2. [Resolution No. 26-04-002, Budget Transfer - Schools - \\$144,082.92 \(Transfer money within budget to align the Innovative School Model Grant.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - ISM Grant](#)
[Amendment - ISM Grant](#)
[Memo - ISM Grant](#)
[Backup - ISM Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 26-04-003, Budget Increase - General Admin. Projects -\\$100,000.00 \(Appropriate General County Capital funds to replace treads and landings in Courthouse Stairwells.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Retread Stairwells](#)
[Amendment - Retread Stairwells](#)
[Memo - Retread Stairwells](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Wells, 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: 13 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, and Commissioner Wells

No: 1 - Commissioner Mikels

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 26-04-004, Budget Increase - Highway - \\$73,284.85 \(Appropriate Highway Capital funds to account for additional cost required to break through rock when relocating the sewer line for Wildwood Bridge.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Wildwood Sewer Relocation](#)
[Amendment - Wildwood Sewer Relocation](#)
[Memo - Wildwood Sewer Relocation](#)
[Backup - Wildwood Sewer Relocation](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 26-04-005, Budget Transfer - Schools - \\$68,000.00 \(Transfer money within budget to align the Public School Security Grant.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Public School Security Grant](#)
[Amendment - Public School Security Grant](#)
[Memo - Public School Security Grant](#)
[Backup - Public School Security Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

6. [Resolution No. 26-04-006, to authorize and appropriate funds for an actuarial study to determine the cost\(s\) associated with establishing the supplemental bridge benefit under Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 34, Section 211 for certain members of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System \("TCRS"\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - TCRS Bridge Program](#)

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

7. [BCSO Grant Application - Justice Assistant Grant \(JAG\) - \\$19,216.00, to support purchase of law enforcement equipment; no matching funds are required. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Worksheet - BCSO JAG Grant](#)

[Allocations - BCSO JAG Grant](#)

[Certification - BCSO JAG Grant](#)

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

8. [BCSO Grant Application - Tennessee Highway Safety Office \(THSO\) - \\$120,000.00, to support overtime funding for patrol division, no matching funds required. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Worksheet - THSO Police Traffic Services 2026-27](#)

[Memo - THSO Grants](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Davis, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

9. [BCSO Grant Application - Tennessee Highway Safety Office \(THSO\) - \\$24,000.00, to support Network Coordinator, no matching funds required. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Worksheet - THSO Network Coordinator](#)
[Memo - THSO Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Hannah, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

G. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.

2. Other Budget Items.

3. Appointments.

- a. [Mayoral Recommendation for Reappointments to the Board of Equalization \(2-Year Term to Expire May 2028\): Scott Blevins, Bruce Recktenwald, Amanda Stone, Steve Johnson, and Darrell Tipton.](#)

Attachments: [Board of Equalization 2026](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Request for Public Hearing for June 11, 2026 at 5:45 PM conforming to the minimum 30 day notice on the Regional Comprehensive Plan.](#)

Attachments: [memo to CC for PH_040226](#)

[Memo - Comp Plan to PC_022626](#)

[BlountCo-Comp Plan-FINAL](#)

[Chapter 8 revised_022626](#)

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

Yes: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 7 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Reagan, and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

I. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

J. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion was made that the meeting be adjourned. Hearing no objection, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Commission Workshop meeting adjourned on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 6:19PM.