



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Final

Board of Commissioners

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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, October 17, 2024

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 841 6471 2742

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 17, 2024, 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 16 members present and 5 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum was present. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

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

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 24-10-012, A Proclamation Honoring the Friends of the Blount County Animal Center, Formerly the Smoky Mountain Animal Care Foundation \(SMACF\).](#)

Attachments: [Proclamation Friends of BCAC - SMACF](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

2. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on September 19, 2024.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Regular BOC Meeting 2024-Sep-19](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

Attachments: [RESOLUTION 24-10-011 BONDS AND OATHS](#)
[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2024-Oct-17](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2024-Oct-17](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Animal Center Advisory Board 2024-Feb-27](#)
[Minutes of Animal Center Advisory Board 2024-May-28](#)
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2024-Aug-06](#)
[Trustee Report August 2024](#)

The reports were received and filed.

6. [September 2024 Financial Reports. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update September 2024](#)
[ARPA Tracking 9.30.24](#)
[FY24.25 Proposed Capital Plan](#)
[September 2024 Expense Report](#)
[September 2024 Revenue Report](#)
[YTD Expense Report As of September 30 2024](#)
[YTD Revenue Report As of September 30 2024](#)
[US Bank Report September 2024](#)

The reports were received and filed.

7. [Certified Election Results for August 1, 2024. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [Receipt of Certified Election Results for 2024-Aug-01](#)
[US and State Republican Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[US and State Democratic Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[Blount County General Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[State Judicial Retention Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Friendsville Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Townsend Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Alcoa Republican Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Alcoa Democratic Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Maryville Republican Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)
[City of Maryville Democratic Primary Election Held 2024-Aug-01](#)

The reports were received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.**

1. [Veterans Affairs Committee Appointment of Disabled American Veterans Chapter #76 Representative Jene Thompson to Fulfill the Vacancy of Michael Ray Kennedy \(Term to Expire in June 2026\).](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Disabled American Veterans 09-Sep-2024](#)
[JeneThompsonBlo](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

1. [BCSO Grant Application - \\$17,567.00 \(To apply for FY25 Justice Assistant Grant to support purchase of law enforcement equipment; no matching funds are required\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Information Worksheet BCSO 2024-25 JAG Local Solicitation](#)
[Back up BCSO JAG local-allocations-tn](#)
[Back up BCSO JAG Solicitation](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner King, seconded by Commissioner Akard, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

2. [Central Services Grant Application - \\$79,600.00 \(To apply for an Energy Efficient Program Voucher to allow purchase of additional HVAC units for County Buildings; no matching funds are required\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Information Worksheet Central Svs EECBG](#)

[Back up EECBG Program Allocations](#)

[Back up EECBG Request for Consideration](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner McMahan, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 24-10-001. Budget Increase – Schools - \\$250,000.00 \(Appropriate funds from General Purpose School Fund to allow more time for reimbursement to Federal Projects Grant fund to cover cash deficits\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution School Transfer 141 for 142](#)

[Amendment School Transfer 141 to 142](#)

[Memo School Transfer 141 to 142](#)

[Back up Resolution BOE School Transfer 141 to 142](#)

[Back up Signed Corrective Action Plan](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Akard, 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, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 24-10-002. Budget Increase – Recovery Court - \\$159,600.00 \(Appropriate funds from Opioid Funds for training materials, in-person training of staff and a third Treatment Specialist to aid in recovery of opioid and substance abuse\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Recovery Court Opioid Funds](#)
[Amendment Recovery Court Opioid Funds](#)
[Memo Recovery Court Opioid Funds](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Wells, 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, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 24-10-003. Budget Decrease – Recovery Court - \\$35,000.00 \(Decrease funds originally budgeted during FY25 to partially support an additional treatment specialist; the contract for these services will be sourced from the State Opioid Fund\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Recovery Court Budget Decrease](#)
[Amendment Recovery Court Budget Decrease](#)
[Memo Recovery Court budget decrease](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

6. [Resolution No. 24-10-004. Budget Increase – Register of Deeds - \\$16,844.08 \(Appropriate funds from Data Processing Reserve fund balance to purchase a new printer to replace an existing model that parts are no longer available to support repairs\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Register of Deeds Reserve Fund Printer](#)
[Amendment Register of Deeds Reserve Fund Printer](#)
[Memo Register of Deeds Reserve Fund Printer](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

7. [Resolution No. 24-10-005. Purchasing requests a multi-year contract for the Blount County Sheriff Department for four and a half years with Turn Key Health Inmate Medical Services to provide health care to Blount County Jail. This Contract will secure pricing over the life of the contract and is currently budgeted to support this request. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Purchasing BCSO Multi yr contract TKHealth Inmate Med Care](#)
[Memo Purchasing BCSO TKHealth Inmate Medical Care](#)
[Back up Draft Contract TK Inmate Medical Care](#)
[Back up TK Inmate Med Care Schedule of Events 2024-0127](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner McMahan, that the Resolution be adopted. The Chairman declared that the redline version of the contract would be incorporated. There was no objection. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 15 - Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 1 - Akard

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

8. [Resolution No. 24-10-013, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission to Establish the Rules Committee as a Permanent Committee.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Establishing the Rules Committee](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

9. [Resolution No. 24-10-014, A Resolution Updating and Revising Regulations to Protect Water Quality in the Unincorporated Areas of Blount County by Prohibiting, Suppressing, and Preventing the Contamination of Storm Water by Illicit Discharge of Pollutants.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 24-10-014 Revising Illicit Discharge Ordinance mchalley tracked](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner King, that the Resolutions in items F.9 (24-10-014), F.10 (24-10-015), F.11 (24-10-016), and F.12 (24-10-017) be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Bennett, French, Giles, Martin, and Wells

No: 11 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, Hannah, Jopling, King, McMahan, Mikels, and Reagan

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

10. [Resolution No. 24-10-015, A Resolution Updating and Revising the Water Quality Buffer and Related Regulation of Streams, Rivers, Wetlands, Ponds and Lakes in Blount County Previously Established.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 24-10-015 Revising Water Quality Buffer mhalley tracked](#)

The Resolution failed to be adopted per the action taken above in item F.9.

11. [Resolution No. 24-10-016, A Resolution Updating and Revising the Stormwater Quality Management Criteria in the Urbanized Area of Blount County.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 24-10-016 Revising Stormwater Quality Management mhalley tracked](#)

The Resolution failed to be adopted per the action taken above in item F.9.

12. [Resolution No. 24-10-017, A Resolution Updating and Revising Regulations to Protect Water Quality in the Urbanized Area of Blount County by Prohibiting, Suppressing, and Preventing the Contamination of Storm Water by Grading, Erosion, and Sedimentation.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 24-10-017 Revising Sediment and Erosion Control mhalley tracked](#)

The Resolution failed to be adopted per the action taken above in item F.9.

13. [Resolution No. 24-10-018, A Resolution of the Blount County Legislative Body Requesting the Tennessee General Assembly to Consider the Enactment of Legislation that if a Teacher or Public Servant is Found Guilty, Pleads Guilty or "Nolo Contendere" \(No Admission of Guilt\) to any Charges Related to Misconduct of a Sexual and/or Abusive Nature Against Children will Lose their State Certification or Licensure, and Forfeiture of \(Lose\) their TCRS Retirement Funds.](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION 24-10-018 Misconduct of a Sexual or Abusive Nature Against Children](#)

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the Resolution be amended as follows: 1) in the 2nd Whereas clause, after the word "funds", change the period to a comma, and insert the words "except the actual money the teacher or public servant has contributed."; and 2) add a 3rd Whereas clause stating, "the teacher or public servant may have children, or a spouse, with no knowledge of the misconduct, and could benefit from the individual's contributions to TCRS and should be recipients of that money." An electronic vote was taken on the motion to amend the Resolution. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Jopling, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 3 - Giles, Hannah, and King

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Mikels, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, that the amended Resolution be amended by adding the words "in a legal trust (if minor children are involved)." to the end of the 3rd Whereas clause.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mikels, seconded by Commissioner King, that the amendment to the amended Resolution be further amended by striking the words "or a spouse". Hearing no objection, the Chairman declared that words "or a spouse" to be stricken from the Resolution.

An electronic vote was taken to amend the amended Resolution. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken to adopt the Resolution as amended. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Bright, Caylor, Davis, Stinnett, and Webb

Abstain: 0

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners having met in regular session on Thursday, October 17, 2024, adjourned at 8:17 p.m.