



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Commission Workshop

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Thursday, May 8, 2025

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 884 6072 4395

## ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, 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 17 members present, with the late arrival of Jeff Jopling, and 4 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 17 - Mike Akard, Jared Anderson, 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:** 4 - Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Mike Caylor and Scott King

**A. SETTING OF AGENDA.**

The Chairman declared that with no objection Resolution No. 25-05-016, "A Proclamation Recognizing Pastor Doug White for Interim Pastor Services at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church" would be added to D. General Consent Calendar. There was no objection.

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

**Yes:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.****C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.****1. [Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2025.](#)**

**Attachments:** [Minutes 2025-Apr-10](#)

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

**Yes:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**D. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner French, 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

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

**Attachments:** [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 25-05-011](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2025-May-15](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2025-May-15](#)

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

**Attachments:** [Notaries to be Elected 2025-May-15](#)

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

**Attachments:** [JailFacilityInspectionReport 2025-Apr-2](#)

[Minutes of Beer Board 2025-Mar-11 Meeting](#)

[Minutes of Budget Committee 2025-Mar-11 Meeting](#)

[Minutes of CARES Committee 2024-Oct-22 Meeting](#)

[Minutes of Education Committee 2025-Mar-04 Meeting](#)

[Tellico Reservoir Annual Report 2024](#)

[Trustee Report March 2025](#)

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

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

[ARPA Tracking 4.30.25](#)

[FY24.25 Capital Plan Exhibit](#)

[April 2025 Expense Report](#)

[April 2025 Revenue Report](#)

[YTD Expense Report as of April 30, 2025](#)

[YTD Revenue Report as of April 30, 2025](#)

[US Bank Report April 2025](#)

4. [Blount County Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners \(4-Year Term\) Reappointment of Tom Daffron, Seat 2. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

**Attachments:** [Fire Protection Appointment 2025-Daffron](#)

5. [FY25-26 Budget Recommendation. \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

a. [FY25-26 Tax Rate Resolution. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [FY25.26 Tax Levy Resolution Recommended](#)  
[FY25.26 Tax Levy Exhibit Revenue Report](#)  
[FY25.26 Tax Levy Exhibit Revenue Report Capital](#)

b. [FY25-26 Appropriation Resolution. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [FY25.26 Appropriation Resolution Recommended](#)  
[FY25.26 Appropriation Budget Exhibit Recommended](#)  
[FY25.26 Appropriation Budget Exhibit Capital Recommended](#)

c. [FY25-26 Resolution to Establish Capital Outlay Priorities. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [FY25.26 Resolution Capital Outlay Prioritization Resolution Recommended](#)  
[FY25.26 Capital Outlay Exhibit](#)

6. [Resolution No. 25-05-016, A Proclamation Recognizing Pastor Doug White for Interim Pastor Services at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.](#)

**Attachments:** [Doug White PGBC Interim Pastor](#)  
[Doug White Proclamation](#)

## **E. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner McMahan, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, that the Budget 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 25-05-003, Budget Increase – General Services Capital - \\$35,808.00 \(Appropriate funds for the painting of the stairwells at the Blount County Justice Center\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution - Gen Svcs Justice Center Stairs paint](#)  
[Amendment - Gen Svcs Justice Center Stairs Paint](#)  
[Memo - Gen Svcs Justice Center Stairs Paint](#)  
[Backup - Gen Svcs Justice Center Stairs quotes](#)

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

## F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

## G. NEW BUSINESS.

### 1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.

- a. [Resolution No. 25-05-001, Budget Increase – Schools - \\$2,185,501.60 \(Appropriate funds for the purchase of new science textbooks for grades K through 12\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution - Schools Science Text Books](#)  
[Amendment - Schools Science Text Books](#)  
[Memo - Schools Science Text Books](#)  
[Backup - Science Adoption Quotes 2025](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**2. Other Budget Items.****3. Appointments.****a. [Agriculture Extension Committee \(2-Year Term\) Appointment of Farm Women Salena Waters.](#)**

**Attachments:** [Ag Committee appointment April 2025](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner McMahan, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the appointment be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**b. [Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees \(3-Year Term\) Re-appointment of Shawn Graham.](#)**

**Attachments:** [BCPL trustee applications and resumes for County Commission consideration](#)

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

**Yes:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

- c. [Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees \(3-Year Term\) Appointment of 2 Members: Anna Graham \(educational and leadership experience, served on the Director search committee\); Megahn Womack \(fund raising experience\); Kathleen Christy \(retired reference librarian - BCPL\); and Dawn Russell \(educator\).](#)

**Attachments:** [BCPL trustee applications and resumes for County Commission consideration](#)  
[Graham Trustee Info](#)  
[Womack Trustee Info](#)  
[Christy Trustee Info](#)  
[Russell Trustee Info](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Carver, 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

- d. [Sheriff's Merit Board \(3-Year Term\) Appointment of Troy Galyon to Fill vacancy of Richard Julian.](#)

**Attachments:** [Galyon Resume](#)  
[Blount County Government Mail - FW: Galyon Resume](#)

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

**Yes:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**4.**      [Resolution No. 25-05-012, A Resolution Supporting the Dissolution of the Blount County CARES \(Corrections And REcovery Saves\) Committee.](#)

**Attachments:**    [Resolution to Dissolve CARES](#)

[April 22, 2025 CARES Committee Minutes](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner 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 Commissioner Giles, 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:** 16 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

**No:** 0



**Absent:** 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

6. [Resolution No. 25-05-014, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Requesting a Review of Certain State Laws Related to the Safety of Children by the Tennessee General Assembly.](#)

**Attachments:** [Criminal Statute Review Resolution](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, 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:** 17 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, 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:** 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

7. [Resolution No. 25-05-015, A Resolution by the Blount County Board of Commissioners Expressing its Extreme Concern, Displeasure, and Disappointment with the Local Justice System Regarding Recent Decisions Concerning a Former Teacher's Admitted Crimes Against Children.](#)

**Attachments:** [Post Dalton Sentencing AMENDED May-08-25](#)

[Post Dalton Sentencing](#)

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the Resolution be amended with a clause inserted that requests the Blount County Mayor's office mail a letter and copies of the newspaper articles relating to this incident to the other 94 county mayors in Tennessee advising them of this person. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 17 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, 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:** 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hannah, seconded by Commissioner Davis, that the Resolution be amended by striking "the local justice system" and insert "local institutions". An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 17 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, 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:** 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

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

**Yes:** 17 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, 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:** 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Caylor and Commissioner King

**Abstain:** 0

## **H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.**

## **I. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

## **J. ADJOURNMENT.**

**The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Commission Workshop meeting adjourned on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 7:02 p.m.**