



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Commissioners

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- 1-B Earl McMahan 865-216-3160 emcmahan@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

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 813 8262 7118

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 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 18 members present, and 3 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 18 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Chairperson Jared Anderson, Commissioner Dyran Bledsoe, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Nick Bright, Commissioner Richard Carver, Commissioner Mike Caylor, Commissioner Misty Davis, Vice Chair Ron French, Commissioner John Giles, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Staci Lawhorn, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 3 - Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Jessica Hannah, and Commissioner Jeff Jopling

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

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

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

1. [Minutes of Called Commission Meeting on February 16, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [BOC Special Called Minutes 2023-Feb-16](#)

The minutes were approved.

2. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on February 16, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [BOC Regular Session Minutes 2023-Feb-16](#)

The minutes were approved.

3. [Resolution No. 23-03-015, A Resolution Honoring Dr. Robert Ramsey for His Exemplary Service to Blount County.](#)

Attachments: [Dr. Bob Ramsey Proclamation](#)

The Resolution was adopted. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Reagan to read the proclamation out loud. The Mayor presented the proclamation to Dr. Bob Ramsey.

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

Attachments: [23-03-011 BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2023-Mar-21](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2023-Mar-21](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [23-061 Notaries to be Elected 2023-Mar-21](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Beer Board 2023-Feb-07](#)

[Minutes of Budget Comm 2023-Feb-07](#)

[Minutes of Education Comm 2023-Jan-31](#)

[Trustee Report for January 2023](#)

The reports were received and filed.

7. [February 2023 Financial Reports \(Information Only\).](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update March 2023](#)

[ARPA Tracking 2.22.23](#)

[FY22.23 Capital Exhibit REVISED Feb 23](#)

[Feb 23 Expense Report](#)

[Feb 23 Revenue Report](#)

[YTD Expense Report](#)

[YTD Revenue Report](#)

[USBank Report Feb 23](#)

The reports were received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.****1. [CARES Committee Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments of Health Care Professional Jerry Vagnier, and Business Leader Chris Hurley.](#)**

Attachments: [Cares Committee Memo 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Lawhorn, that the appointments be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

2. [Resolution No. 23-03-013, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Making an Appointment to the Board of Directors of Blount Memorial Hospital, Inc.](#)

Attachments: [23-03-013 Resolution Appointing to BMH Board of Directors](#)

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

The Chairman declared the floor opened to receive nominations for the Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors. Commissioner Akard nominated Amber Krupacs. That was seconded by Commissioner Bright. There were no additional nominations. An electronic vote was taken on the nomination. The Chairman declared Amber Krupacs to be nominated by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Webb, and Wells

No: 6 - Bledsoe, French, Giles, Mikels, Reagan, and Stinnett

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 1 - Carver

An electronic vote was taken to adopt the Resolution as amended with Amber Krupacs name inserted in the clause "NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Blount County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints _____ to the Blount Memorial Hospital, Inc. Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of Denny Mayes, which term runs from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2024." The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Webb, and Wells

No: 6 - Bledsoe, French, Giles, Mikels, Reagan, and Stinnett

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 1 - Carver

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

1. [Request approval for BCSO to proceed with a one-time, competitive, no match grant application for \\$48,560.00 to purchase inmate mattresses and jumpsuits to assist with Covid mitigation; control of infectious disease. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [ELC Confinement Facilities Funding Grant Information](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the request to apply for the grant be approved. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

2. [Request approval for Highway to proceed with a one-time, competitive grant for \\$200,000.00 \(requires \\$40,000.00 match from County\) to incorporate rubber modified asphalt for two miles of the annual overlay and paving program with the expectation of reducing maintenance costs over time. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [HWY Tire Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Stinnett, seconded by Vice Chair French, that the grant application request as well as items F.5. (Resolution No. 23-03-003), F.6. (Resolution No. 23-03-004), F7. (Resolution No. 23-03-005) and F.8. (Resolution No. 23-03-006) be adopted. There was no objection. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 23-03-001. Budget Increase - Purchasing - \\$36,709.71 \(Increase pay lines to pay out retiree benefits and hire new employee from fund balance\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Purchasing Personnel Increase](#)
[Amendment Purchasing Personnel Increase \(2\)](#)
[Memo Purchasing personnel increase](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 23-03-002. Budget Increase - School Math Books - \\$755,000.00 \(Appropriate fund balance to increase funds for Math Text Books\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Schools 141-71100 Math Textbooks 3-2-23](#)
[Amendment Memo 141_71100 School Increase Math Textbooks](#)

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

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 23-03-003. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$312,220.00 \(Appropriate funds for Big Springs Bridge project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution HWY Big Springs Bridge](#)
[Amendment Hwy Big Spring](#)
[Memo Big Springs Bridge Const](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.2 above.

6. [Resolution No. 23-03-004. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$207,125.00 \(Increase Fund Balance and Capital funds for Jones Bend Road Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Amendment Hwy Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Memo Hwy Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Back up HWY Jones Bend Rd](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.2 above.

7. [Resolution No. 23-03-005. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$308,667.00 \(Appropriate funds for Nebo Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution HWY Nebo Slip Increase](#)
[Amendment HWY Nebo Slip](#)
[Memo HWY Nebo Slip](#)
[Back up Hwy Nebo Slip](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.2 above.

8. [Resolution No. 23-03-006. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$156,700.00 \(Appropriate funds for Tuckaleechee Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Old Tuckaleechee Slip Increase](#)
[Amendment HWY Tuckaleechee Slip](#)
[Memo HWY Tuckaleechee](#)
[Back up HWY Tuckaleechee Slip](#)

The Resolution was adopted per the action taken in item F.2 above.

9. [Resolution No. 23-03-007. Budget Increase - BCSO - \\$127,948.00 \(Appropriate funds for Violent Crime Intervention Grant\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution BCSO VCIF grant](#)
[Amendment BCSO VCIF grant](#)
[Memo BCSO VCIF grant](#)

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

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

10. [Resolution No. 23-03-008. Budget Increase - Circuit Court Clerk - \\$20,000.00 \(Increase Reserve Fund Balance to purchase replacement computers and monitors\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Circuit Court Computers](#)
[Amendment and Memo Circuit Court Clerk \\$20,000 computers2](#)

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

Yes: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

11. [Resolution No. 23-03-012. A Resolution Naming Two Bridges on U.S. Highway 321 in Blount County, Tennessee, The Clayton Narveson WWII Iwo Jima Survivor Memorial Bridge.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution for Clayton Edward Narveson WWII Iwo Jima Survivor Memorial Bridge](#)
[Clayton Edward Narveson Obituary 2023 - Cremation By Grandview](#)
[IMG_0909](#)
[IMG_0915](#)
[BridgeLocation](#)
[UnitedVeterans17 January 2023](#)
[VeteransCommitteeJanuary 11, 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, 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: 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

12. [Resolution No. 23-03-014, Resolution to Address the Future Operation and Management of Blount Memorial Hospital.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution to Address the Future Operation and Management of BMH](#)

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

Yes: 11 - Akard, Anderson, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Webb, and Wells

No: 5 - Bledsoe, French, Mikels, Reagan, and Stinnett

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 2 - Bowers, and Carver

13. [Resolution No. 23-03-016, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Requiring Transparency in the Making of Nominations.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Regarding Nomination Transparency](#)

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

Yes: 14 - Akard, Anderson, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

No: 2 - Bledsoe, and Stinnett

Absent: 3 - Bennett, Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 2 - Carver, and French

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners meeting in regular session adjourned on Tuesday, March 22, 2023, at 8:17 p.m.