



# Blount County Government

359 Court Street  
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Board of Commissioners

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Thursday, February 16, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 840 1748 9042

## ROLL CALL

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 16, 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 20 members present, and 1 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 20 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Chairperson Jared Anderson, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, 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 Jessica Hannah, Commissioner Jeff Jopling, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Staci Lawhorn, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Tom Stinnett

**A. SETTING OF AGENDA.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair French, that the agenda be set.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the rules be suspended to add an item to take nominations from the floor to fill Robert Redwine's vacancy on the Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - French

**An electronic vote was taken to set the agenda as amended with addition of item D.5 "Nomination to Fill the Vacancy by Robert Redwine on the Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors." The Chairman declared the amended agenda to have been set by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR.**

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

**Yes:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - Bright

1. [Resolution No. 23-02-014, Proclamation Honoring the Alcoa Tornados for Eighth Consecutive High School Football State Championship Wins.](#)

**Attachments:** [Alcoa HS Football Recognition 2022](#)

The Resolution was adopted. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Bledsoe to read the proclamation out loud.

2. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on January 19, 2022.](#)

**Attachments:** [Regular Commission Meeting Minutes 2023-Jan-19](#)

The minutes were approved.

3. [Minutes of Zoning Public Hearing on January 10, 2023.](#)

**Attachments:** [Zoning Public Hearing Minutes 2023-Jan-10](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

**Attachments:** [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 23-02-011](#)  
[Oaths of Deputy Clerk 2023-Feb-16](#)  
[Oaths of Deputy Sheriffs 2023-Feb-16](#)  
[Notary Public Bonds and Oaths 2023-Jan-16](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

**Attachments:** [Notaries to be Elected 2023-Feb-16](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

**Attachments:** [Minutes of Budget Comm 2023-01-10](#)  
[Minutes of BZA 2022-Sep-01](#)  
[Minutes of Education Comm 2022-Nov-29](#)  
[Minutes of Planning Comm 2022-Dec-05](#)  
[Jail Facility Inspection Report for December 2022](#)  
[Records Requests Report for 2022\\_Q4](#)  
[Trustee Report for December 2022](#)

The reports were received and filed.

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

- Attachments:** [ARPA Utility Project Update February 2023](#)  
[ARPA Tracking 1.30.23](#)  
[FY22.23 Capital Exhibit REVISED Jan 23](#)  
[Jan 23 Expense Report](#)  
[Jan 23 Revenue Report](#)  
[YTD Expense Report](#)  
[YTD Revenue Report](#)  
[US BANK REPORT JAN 23](#)

The reports were received and filed.

**C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

Meeting went into Recess

Meeting Reconvened

**D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.**

1. [Agriculture Extension Committee \(2-Year Term\) of Commissioner Steve Mikels, Farm Man Steve Myers, Farm Women Lyssa McKenry and Rachel Hall.](#)

- Attachments:** [Ag Committee appointments February 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, 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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - Mikels

2. [CARES Committee - 4 Commissioners: Nick Bright, Rick Carver, John Giles, Tom Stinnett and Linda Webb.](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Jopling, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, that the appointments 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, Caylor, Davis, French, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 4 - Bright, Carver, Giles, and Webb

**3.** [Jail Inspection Committee \(1-Year Term\) Mr. Keith Brock, Mr. James Ferguson and Ms. Sharon Hannum.](#)

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

**Yes:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

**4.** [Solid Waste Authority \(3-Year Term to fill J.C. Franklin vacancy\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment - Ms. Britney Whipple.](#)

**Attachments:** [Recommendation Memo - Solid Waste Authority](#)

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

**Yes:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

5. [Nomination to Fill the Vacancy by Robert Redwine on the Blount Memorial Hospital Board of Directors.](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Jopling, that the floor be opened for nominations. Commissioner Wells nominated Chris Flynn. That was seconded by Commissioner Bright. Commissioner Bennett nominated Trevis Gardner. That was seconded by Commissioner Bowers. A motion was made by Commissioner Akard that nominations cease. With no objection, the Chairman declared nominations to be ceased.

A roll call vote was taken on the nominations. The Chairman declared Chris Flynn appointed by the following vote:

Chris Flynn: 13 - Akard, Anderson, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, King, Lawhorn, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

Trevis Gardner: 6 - Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, French, Jopling, and McMahan

Absent: 1 - Stinnett

Abstain: 1 - Carver

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**F. NEW BUSINESS.**

1. [Resolution No. 23-02-001. Budget Increase - School Capital - \\$1,002,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for ECCA capital classroom and athletic facility projects\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution School Capital Amendment and Memo School Capital ECCA](#)

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:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

2. [Resolution No. 23-02-002. Budget Increase - School Capital - \\$105,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for HHS CTE classroom furniture\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution HHS CTE Capital](#)  
[Amendment and memo School Capital HHS CTE](#)

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

**Yes:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

3. [Resolution No. 23-02-003. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$3,800,000.00 \(Appropriate fund balance to increase funds for asphalt hot mix to pave additional roads\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution HWY Asphalt](#)  
[Amendment HWY Asphalt](#)  
[Memo HWY Asphalt](#)  
[Supporting Document HWY](#)

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

**Yes:** 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

4. [Resolution No. 23-02-004. Budget Increase - 5th Judicial - \\$2,312,706.67 \(Appropriate funds for new Drug Task Force building project using multiple funding sources.\)](#).  
[Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution DTF Building Project](#)

[Amendment 1 DTF](#)

[Amendment 2 DTF](#)

[Supporting Documents DTF](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Webb, 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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 0

**Did Not Vote:** 1 - French

5. [Resolution No. 23-02-012, A Resolution that Approves an Agreement with Shi-Government Solutions, Inc. \("Shi"\) for the Asana Software Subscription Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution Asana beyond fiscal yr 1.25](#)

[SHI Quote-22776703 \(1\)](#)

**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:** 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - Mikels

6. [Resolution No. 23-02-013, Resolution Regarding Blount Memorial Hospital, Inc. Lawsuit Against Blount County, Tennessee.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution BMH lawsuit](#)

**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:** 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 1 - French

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - Carver

7. [Resolution No. 23-02-015, A Resolution Requesting the Members of the Tennessee General Assembly Representing Blount County, Tennessee, Introduce and Seek Passage of an Amendment to Chapter 187 of the Private Acts of 1945 of the State of Tennessee, as Amended.](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution and Draft Public Charter Amendment written notice by chairman anderson](#)

**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:** 18 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Caylor, Davis, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Lawhorn, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

**No:** 1 - French

**Absent:** 1 - Stinnett

**Abstain:** 1 - Carver

**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 Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10:20 p.m.