



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Final

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
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4-A Robbie Bennett 865-806-8869 rbennett@blounttn.org
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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

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 838 1205 1948

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 6:30 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 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, Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Brad Bowers, Nick Bright, Richard Carver, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Jeff Jopling, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Steve Mikels, Tom Stinnett and David Wells

Absent: 4 - Mike Caylor, Scott King, Dawn Reagan and Linda Webb

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes for November 7, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes 2023-Nov-7](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

D. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Vice Chair Bowers, that the 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 23-12-016, A Proclamation Honoring Retired Navy War Veteran Captain John \(Jack\) F. Gillooly the Oldest Living Annapolis Naval Academy Graduate and Football Player.](#)

Attachments: [Proclamation CaptJackGillooly](#)

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

Attachments: [23-12-011 BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION](#)

[Oaths of Sheriff Deputies 2023-Dec-14](#)

[Notary Public Bonds and Oaths 2023-Dec-14](#)

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2023-Dec-14](#)

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Budget Committee 2023-Nov-07](#)

[Minutes of CARES Committee 2023-Jul-25](#)

[Minutes of Human Resources Committee 2023-Jul-18](#)

[Minutes of Insurance Committee 2023-Jul-18](#)

[Trustee Report for October 2023](#)

- a. [November 2023 Financial Reports. \(Information Only\)](#)

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

[ARPA Tracking 11.30.23](#)

[FY23.24 Capital Exhibit Master](#)

[NOVEMBER 2023 EXPENSE REPORT](#)

[NOVEMBER 2023 REVENUE REPORT](#)

[YTD EXPENSE REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30 2023](#)

[YTD REVENUE REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30 2023](#)

[US BANK REPORT NOVEMBER 2023](#)

5. [Refund for Occupancy Tax.](#)

Attachments: [Whispering River Resort Refund](#)

6. [2024 Schedule of Blount County Commission Committee Meetings.](#)

Attachments: [Public Notice - 2024 Committee Meetings](#)

7. [Budget Calendar for FY24-25. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Blount County Budget Process Calendar FY 2024-2025](#)

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.

- a. [Resolution No. 23-12-001. Budget Increase - Other General County Government - \\$6,632,720.00 \(Accept and appropriate Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation \(TDEC\) grant fund for the completion of the Tuckaleechee Utility District Water Transmission Improvement project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution TDEC Grant for TUD Water Project](#)
[Amendment TDEC Grant for TUD Water Project](#)
[Memo TDEC Grant for TUD Water Project](#)

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, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 23-12-002. Budget Increase - BCSO, Motor Vehicles - \\$97,556.40 \(Reappropriate funds from a prior year purchase order that was closed due to non-availability of vehicles\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution BCSO Vehicle Re-appropriation](#)
[Amendment BCSO Vehicle Re-appropriation](#)
[Memo BCSO Vehicle Re-appropriation](#)
[Backup 20231637_001 - Truckers PO backup](#)
[Backup 20231660_014 - TT of Murfreesboro backup](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that items F.1.b, F.1.c, F.1.d, F.1.e, and F.1.f be combined and forwarded to full commission. There was no objection to combine the items into a single vote. An electronic vote was to forward the resolutions to full commission. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- c. [Resolution No. 23-12-003. Budget Increase - Development, Stormwater Permit - \\$27,870.00 \(Appropriate additional funds for the new State of Tennessee Stormwater Permit; The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation updated the requirements for the MS4 permit, increasing costs\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution-Development Services MS4 Permit](#)
[Amendment-Development Services MS4 Permit](#)
[Memo-Development Services MS4 Permit](#)

This Resolution was forwarded to full commission according to the action taken in item F.1.b above.

- d. [Resolution No. 23-12-004. Budget Increase - Central Services Capital - \\$51,216.00 \(Appropriate capital funds to replace the HVAC system in the dog kennels at the Animal Center\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Animal Center HVAC](#)
[Amendment Animal Center HVAC](#)
[Memo Animal Center HVAC](#)

This Resolution was forwarded to full commission according to the action taken in item F.1.b above.

- e. [Resolution No. 23-12-005. Budget Increase - Central Services Capital - \\$49,200.00 \(Appropriate capital funds to replace six toilets in the medical center for the jail\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Jail Medical Center Capital Project](#)
[Amendment Jail Medical Center Capital Project](#)
[Memo Jail Medical Center Capital Project](#)

This Resolution was forwarded to full commission according to the action taken in item F.1.b above.

- f. [Resolution No. 23-12-006. Budget Increase - Central Services Capital - \\$27,450.00 \(Appropriate capital funds to replace the Justice Center Garage Roof\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Justice Center Garage Roof](#)
[Amendment Justice Center Garage Roof](#)
[Memo Justice Center Garage Roof](#)

This Resolution was forwarded to full commission according to the action taken in item F.1.b above.

2. Other Budget Items.

- a. [Resolution No. 23-12-007. Request approval for acquisition of assets and operations of the Blount Memorial Transitional Care Center and MorningView Village Senior Community to Ocoee Foundation Inc. in the amount of \\$22,825,000.00. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution to propose sale of Blount Memorial MorningView](#)
[Exhibit A Asset Purchase Agreement \(APA\) for 2 Facilities](#)
[Letter of Intent MVV & TCC](#)
[Letter to Ocoee Foundation Inc.](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 23-12-008, A Resolution to authorize Blount County to participate in the Food City Opioid Settlement and any future opioid payments resulting from litigation. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Food City Opioid Settlement](#)
[Memo Food City Opioid Settlement](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

3. Appointments.

a. [County Medical Examiner \(5-Year Term\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointment of Michael D. Teague, M.D.](#)

Attachments: [Blount County Medical Examiner 2023](#)
[Michael Teague MD Curriculum Vitae](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Giles, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

b. [Solid Waste Authority \(6-Year Term\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments of Jeff Headrick, Blount County Rep. and Sara Slovak, Industry Rep.](#)

Attachments: [Solid Waste 2023](#)
[S. Slovak Resume 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Wells, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 23-12-012, A Resolution That Approves an Agreement Term Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year for the Stop Loss Insurance Carrier for Blount County, TN.](#)

Attachments: [23-12-012 Resolution for Stop Loss Vendor effective 01 01 2024](#)
[Skyward Proposal Great Midwest BlountCountyGovernment](#)
[Insurance Committee Minutes 2023-Nov-14](#)
[H.R. Committee Minutes 2023-Nov-14](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Giles, 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, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 23-12-013, A Resolution That Approves an Agreement Term Which Extends Beyond the End of the Fiscal Year for Group Organ & Tissue Transplant Insurance for Blount County, TN.](#)

Attachments: [23-12-013 Resolution for Transplant Policy effective 01 01 2024](#)
[QBE renewal policy](#)
[Insurance Committee Minutes 2023-Nov-14](#)
[H.R. Committee Minutes 2023-Nov-14](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

6. [Resolution No. 23-12-014, A Resolution to Amend the Zoning Resolution of Blount County, Tennessee, by Modifying Article 13 to Revise the Definition of Daycare Center.](#)

Attachments: [23-12-014 Resolution Modifying Article 13 - Daycare Center Def](#)
 [Daycaredraft to CC 102423](#)
 [Public Notice for ZPH](#)

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, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

7. [Resolution No. 23-12-015, A Resolution to Allow Safe Passage in Blount County, Tennessee, for a Certain Visitor From the North Pole. \(This Resolution is Introduced in Memory of the Late Commissioner Richard Williams, Jr.\)](#)

Attachments: [23-12-015 Santa Resolution 2023-Dec-14](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, 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, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Vice Chair Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Stinnett and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner King, Commissioner Reagan and Commissioner Webb

Abstain: 0

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion was made that the meeting be adjourned. The Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Commission Workshop meeting adjourned on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 6:48 p.m.