



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Draft

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, July 20, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 837 6363 7039

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 20, 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 was 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 Scott King, Commissioner Staci Martin, Commissioner Earl McMahan, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, Commissioner Linda Webb, and Commissioner David Wells

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Jeff Jopling

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Commissioner Wells, that the agenda be set.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mikels, seconded by Vice Chair French, that Resolution No. 23-07-017, "A Resolution by the Blount County Board of Commissioners to Support the Veterans Affairs Office Need for an Additional Veterans Service Officer/Office Assistant." be added pursuant to local Rule 6 to be considered directly by the Board of Commissioners without prior submission to the Workshop. 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

With no objection, the Chairman declared that item F.6 would be moved to the front of F. New Business.

An electronic vote was taken to set the agenda as amended. 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

B. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Vice Chair French, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that the Consent Calendar 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 23-06-014, A Proclamation Honoring High School Senior Grant Campbell for Record Breaking High Jump.](#)

Attachments: [proclamation Grant Campbell State-record setting high jump](#)

The Chairman recognized Commissioner Bennett to read the proclamation out loud. The adopted proclamation was presented to Grant Campbell.

2. [Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting on June 15, 2023.](#)

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes2023-June-15](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

Attachments: [OATHS AND BONDS RESOLUTION 23-07-011](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2023-Jul-11](#)

[Notary Public Bonds and Oaths 2023-Jul-20](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2023-Jul-20](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Beer Board Meeting 2023-May-18](#)

[Minutes of Budget Committee 2023-June-05](#)

[Minutes of BZA Meeting 2023-May-04](#)

[Minutes of Human Resources Committee 2022-Nov-15](#)

[Minutes of Insurance Committee 2022-July-19](#)

[Minutes of Planning Commission 2023-Apr-27](#)

[Trustee Report May 2023](#)

[Trustee Report June 2023](#)

[County Clerk FY2023 Financial Report](#)

[Register of Deeds FY2023 Financial Report](#)

The reports were received and filed.

6. [June 2023 Financial Reports. \(Information Only\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update June 2023](#)
[ARPA Tracking 6.30.23](#)
[FY23.24 Capital Exhibit](#)
[June 2023 Expense Report](#)
[June 2023 Revenue Report](#)
[YTD Expense Report as of June 30 2023](#)
[YTD Revenue Report as of June 30 2023](#)
[US BANK REPORT JUNE 2023](#)

The reports were received and filed.

7. [Blount County Government Purchasing Department Policies and Procedures. \(Information Only\) Referred to full commission by the Purchasing Commission with a favorable recommendation \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Commission Memo Re Updated Purchasing Policy](#)
[Blount County Government Purchasing Policy 2023](#)
[MinutesPurchasingComm2023-June-29](#)

The policies and procedures were received and filed.

8. [Fiscal Confirmation Letter - ThreeStar Program. \(Information Only\)](#)

Attachments: [Three Star 2023 Packet](#)

The information was received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**D. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.****1. [Public Building Authority \(6-Year Term\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments of Jerry Cunningham and Jason Emert.](#)**

Attachments: [PBA Board July 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

F. NEW BUSINESS.

6. [Resolution No. 23-07-004. Budget Increase - Schools - \\$4,218,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for synthetic turf athletic fields at both Heritage and William Blount High Schools\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(3-1\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution school turf for WBHS HHS](#)

[Amendment & memo school turf for WBHS HHS](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, that the Resolution be adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Hannah, that the rules be suspended to divide the question in order to consider 1) the re-appropriation of \$3,604,000.00 that was approved and appropriated in FY2022-23; and 2) an additional appropriation of \$614,000.00. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Akard, Carver, Caylor, Giles, Hannah, King, McMahan, and Mikels

No: 12 - Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Davis, French, Martin, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner King, that called for previous question. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 14 - Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, Caylor, French, King, Martin, McMahan, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 6 - Akard, Bright, Davis, Giles, Hannah, and Mikels

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken on the motion that the Resolution be adopted. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Martin, McMahan, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 2 - Akard, and Hannah

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

Did Not Vote: 1 - Mikels

Meeting went into recess

Meeting reconvened

1. [Request Approval for BCSO Grant Application - \\$25,000.00, No Match \(To apply for non-inmate Emergency Mental Health Transport Program Funds\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [MHT Grant Information Worksheet 2023-2024](#)

[Memo- Purpose and Eligibility of MHT grant](#)

[FY24 MHT Solicitation Grant](#)

[MHT solicitation PPT 2024](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the grant request 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

2. [Request Approval for BCSO Grant Application - \\$22,147.00, No Match \(To apply for Edward Byrne Memorial Grant; to fund Motorola Interoperable radios, software, hardware and programming\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [BCSO Grant Information Worksheet JAG](#)

[Memo-email detailing JAG grant](#)

[jag-program-fact-sheet](#)

[fy23-jag-local-allocations-TN \\$22,147](#)

[JAG grant solicitation O-BJA-2023-171790](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the grant request 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 23-07-001. Budget Transfer - FY 23-24 County Wide Compensation Adjustment - \\$5,193,197.00 \(Re-appropriate funds to the proper pay and benefit lines for the FY23-24 Budget Year\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Compensation Adjustment 24](#)
[Amendment Compensation Adjustment](#)
[Memo Compensation Appropriation](#)
[Exhibit A](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Vice Chair French, 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution No. 23-07-002. Budget Transfer - Schools - \\$2,124,200.00 \(Transfer to cut fund 141 appropriations to balance with FY23-24 Commission adopted budget\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 141-Various Balance Cuts with Adopted 7-11-23](#)
[Amendment and memo School 141 Budget Transfer to Balance FY24](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair French, 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 23-07-003. Budget Increase - Schools - \\$215,000.00 \(Appropriate funds for occupational and physical therapy services for special education students\).](#) [Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution school fund 141-PT and OT](#)
[Amendment & Memo schools Fund 141 PT and OT](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

7. [Resolution No. 23-07-005. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$120,483.00 \(Appropriate funds for salary and benefits for an Assistant Highway Engineer\).](#) [Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Hwy Assistant Engineer](#)
[Amendment Hwy Assistant Engineer \(2\)](#)
[Memo Hwy Assistant Engineer](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

8. [Resolution No. 23-07-006. Budget Increase - Library - \\$76,319.99 \(Re-appropriate capital equipment funds donated from the Foundation to purchase the Automatic Materials Handler\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Library Automation Handler.docx](#)

[Amendment and Memo Library Automation Handler \(1\)](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

9. [Resolution No. 23-07-007. Budget Increase - Library - \\$5,400.00 \(Re-appropriate capital building improvement funds donated from the Foundation for architectural drawings for Automatic Handler design project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Library Architect](#)

[Amendment and Memo Library Architect \(2\)](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

10. [Resolution No. 23-07-008. Budget Increase - General Administration - \\$200,000.00 \(Receive insurance recovery payment of \\$200,000.00 for the loss of fire truck and appropriate funds to the Blount County Fire Protection District\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(4-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Insurance Recovery](#)
[Amendment Request Insurance Recovery](#)
[Memo Insurance Recovery](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

11. [Resolution No. 23-07-012. Ordinance Providing for the Regulation of Dogs and Cats and the Regulation, Capture, Impounding and Humane Disposition of Stray Dogs, Stray Cats and Other Stray Animals. Referred to full commission by the Animal Center Advisory Board with a favorable recommendation.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 23-07-012 Ordinance for Regulation of Dogs and Cats and Stray Animals 2023](#)
[BC Animal Control Ordinance 2023-Jul-20](#)
[MeetingMinutes10-Jul-2023-02-38-46](#)

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

No: 4 - Bowers, Bright, Mikels, and Stinnett

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

12. [Resolution No. 23-07-013, A Resolution to Enter Into a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee for Water and Sewer Infrastructure Projects.](#)

Attachments: [TDEC Grant Contract Resolution 23-07-013](#)

[Grant Contract between TDEC and Blount County Ready for Signature](#)
[TDEC Grant Contract Memo July 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, 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: 20 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

13. [Resolution No. 23-07-014, Resolution to Approve Utility Easement Agreement Relative to Public Improvements.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution to Approve Utility Easement 2023](#)

[Permanent Utility Easement at Hubbard School 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

14. [Resolution No. 23-07-015, A Resolution to Terminate the Lease Agreement with Eagleton Ballpark, Inc., a Tennessee Not-For-Profit Corporation.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Suspending Lease Agreement of Eagleton Ballfield](#)

[Lease Agreement Eagleton Page 4](#)

[Memo Lease Agreement Suspension 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, 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: 19 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 1 - Wells

15. [Resolution No. 23-07-016, A Resolution by the Blount County Board of Commissioners Recommending the Property Assessor Pursue Designating Nightly Rental Housing as Commercial.](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION Nightly Rental Housing Deemed Commercial 2023-May-17](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, seconded by Vice Chair French, 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, Bright, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, King, Martin, McMahan, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 2 - Bowers, and Mikels

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

16. [Setting of a Zoning Public Hearing to Amend the Zoning Resolution of Blount County, Tennessee by Modifying Article 7 to add a new Section which Further Defines and Regulates Cluster Development.](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION 7.20 cluster - DRAFT Cluster7.20draft to CC_052523](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that the Zoning Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Jopling

Abstain: 0

17. [Resolution No. 23-07-017, A Resolution by the Blount County Board of Commissioners to Support the Veterans Affairs Office Need for an Additional Veterans Service Officer/Office Assistant.](#)

Attachments: [VSO OfficeAsst RESOLUTION 23-07-017](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair French, seconded by Commissioner Bright, that the Resolution be adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Caylor, seconded by Commissioner Stinnett, that the Resolution be postponed for one month.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bledsoe, seconded by Commissioner Mikels, that called for the previous question on the motion to postpone. A roll call vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Anderson, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 2 - Akard, and Bright

Absent: 2 - Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken on the motion that the Resolution be postponed for one month. The Chairman declared the motion to have failed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Anderson, Carver, Caylor, Giles, King, McMahan, and Stinnett

No: 12 - Akard, Bennett, Bledsoe, Bowers, Bright, Davis, French, Martin, Mikels, Reagan, Webb, and Wells

Absent: 2 - Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

An electronic vote was taken on the motion that the Resolution be adopted. 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, King, Martin, McMahan, Mikels, Reagan, Stinnett, Webb, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Hannah, and Jopling

Abstain: 0

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

H. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

With no objection, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Blount County Board of Commissioners having met in regular session adjourned on Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 9:27 p.m.