



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes - Final

Commission Workshop

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Thursday, July 10, 2025

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 886 0200 1153

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Thursday, July 10, 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 18 members present, with the late arrival of Robbie Bennett, and 3 were absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

Present: 18 - Mike Akard, Jared Anderson, Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Brad Bowers, Nick Bright, Quentin Caldwell, Richard Carver, Mike Caylor, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Scott King, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Linda Webb and David Wells

Absent: 3 - Jeff Jopling, Steve Mikels and Dawn Reagan

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Vice Chair 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, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. [Commission Workshop Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2025.](#)

Attachments: [Minutes of Workshop for 2025-Jun-12](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Giles, that the Minutes 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

D. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

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

Attachments: [BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION 25-07-011](#)
[Oaths of Board of Equalization 2025-Jul-17](#)
[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2025-Jul-17](#)
[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2025-Jul-17](#)

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2025-Jul-17](#)

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

Attachments: [JailFacilityInspectionReport 2025-May-7](#)
[JailFacilityInspectionReport 2025-Jun-4](#)
[Minutes of Animal Center Advisory Board 2025-Feb-25](#)
[Minutes of Beer Board 2025-May-15](#)
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2025-Apr-10](#)
[Minutes of Budget Committee 2025-May-8](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2025-Apr-24](#)
[Records Requests Quarterly Report OCT-DEC 2024](#)
[Trustee Monthly Report May 2025](#)

4. [June 2025 Financial Reports \(INFORMATION ONLY\)](#)

Attachments: [ARPA Utility Project Update June 2025](#)
[ARPA Tracking 6.30.25](#)
[FY24.25 Capital Plan Exhibit](#)
[June 2025 Expense Report](#)
[June 2025 Revenue Report](#)
[YTD Expense Report as of June 30, 2025](#)
[YTD Revenue Report as of June 30, 2025](#)
[US Bank Report June 2025](#)

E. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Budget Consent Calendar be forwarded to full commission. A request by Commissioner Akard was made that items E.1, E.2 and E.4 be considered separately. The Chairman declared those items to be acted on separately from the Budget Consent Calendar. An electronic vote was taken to forward Budget Consent Calendar items E.3 and E.5 to the full commission. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 25-07-001, Budget Increase - BCSO -\\$230,000.00 \(Appropriate one-time general county funds for already supported items including K-9s, AEDs, Drones and Battery Backup for the Jail.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - BCSO Capital Items for FY25-26 Budget](#)
[Amendment - BCSO Capital Items for FY25-26 Budget](#)
[Memo - BCSO Capital Items for FY25-26 Budget](#)
[Backup - BCSO Capital Items for FY25-26 Budget](#)
[Backup - Additional Request Memo](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Vice Chair Anderson, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

2. [Resolution No. 25-07-002, Budget Adjustment – BCSO -\\$72,453.00 \(Appropriate general county funds to recognize the total expense incurred for the Real Time Crime position approved in this year's budget. This increase is currently offset by reimbursements from Maryville, Alcoa and 911 Operations.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Real Time Crime Position](#)
[Amendment - Real Time Crime Position](#)
[Memo - Real Time Crime Position](#)
[Backup - Additional Request Memo](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Webb, 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: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 25-07-003, Budget Increase – Heritage Center - \\$25,000.00 \(Appropriate one-time general county funds for already supported increase in contribution to the Heritage Center.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution - Heritage Center](#)
[Amendment - Heritage Center](#)
[Memo - Heritage Center](#)
[Backup - Additional Request Memo](#)

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

4. [BCSO Grant Application – \\$74,000.00 – \(To apply for FY26 Litter Grant; no matching funds are required.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Memo - BCSO Litter Grant](#)

[Backup - BCSO Litter Grant Budget](#)

[Backup - BCSO Litter Grant Work Plan](#)

[Backup - BCSO Litter Grant Education Plan](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Webb, that the grant application request be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

5. [BCSO Grant Application – 20,000.00 – \(To apply for FY26 Mental Health Transport Grant; no matching funds are required.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Grant Worksheet - Mental Health Transport](#)

[FY26 Mental Health Transport](#)

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.
2. Other Budget Items.

- a. [BCSO Grant Application – \\$1,575,000.00 – \(To apply for FY26 School Security Officer Grant for 21 SROs at \\$75,000.00 each; no matching funds are required.\) Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Memo - BCSO SRO Grant](#)
[Grant Worksheet - BCSO SRO Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner French, seconded by Commissioner Akard, that the grant application request be forwarded to full commission. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 18 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bowers, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

Abstain: 0

3. Appointments.

4. [Resolution No. 25-07-012, To Amend the Zoning Resolution of Blount County, Tennessee, by Modifying Section 7.20.C to Revise the Open Space Requirement of Cluster Developments.](#)

Attachments: [25-07-012 Resolution 7.20.C Open Space Requirements](#)
[Memo Re Amendment to Zoning Regs - Sec7.20.C Open Space Requirement of Cluster Developments](#)
[Resolution Draft open space](#)
[Minutes of Planning Commission 2025-Mar-27](#)
[Alcoa Regional Planning Commission Resolution](#)
[Public hearing notice cluster devt open space](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, 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: 12 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner King, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 6 - Commissioner Akard, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Chairperson Bright, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Hannah

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Jopling, Commissioner Mikels and Commissioner Reagan

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, July 10, 2025, at 6:44 p.m.