



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

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- 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
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- 3-B Mike Caylor 865-323-3143 mcaylor@blounttn.org
- 4-A Robbie Bennett 865-806-8869 rbennett@blounttn.org
- 4-B Dawn Reagan 865-567-5415 dreagan@blounttn.org
- 4-C John Giles 865-250-0438 jgiles@blounttn.org
- 5-A Jared Anderson 865-272-9455 janderson@blounttn.org
- 5-B Rick Carver 865-964-9945 rcarver@blounttn.org
- 6-A Nick Bright 865-254-0637 nbright@blounttn.org
- 6-B Misty Davis 865-363-1001 mddavis@blounttn.org
- 7-A Quentin Caldwell 865-603-3922 qcaldwell@blounttn.org
- 7-B Staci Martin 865-719-6765 slawhorn@blounttn.org
- 8-A Brad Bowers 865-659-7711 bbowers@blounttn.org
- 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

Thursday, January 15, 2026

6:00 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Blount County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Blount County Courthouse of Maryville, Tennessee. The meeting was called to order by Blount County Commission Chairman Jared Anderson. An electronic roll call was taken by Blount County Clerk Chief of Staff Brad Bryant. There were 17 members present, and 4 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum was present. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

- Present:** 17 - Commissioner Mike Akard, Commissioner Jared Anderson, Commissioner Robbie Bennett, Commissioner Brad Bowers, Commissioner Nick Bright, Commissioner Quentin Caldwell, Commissioner Richard Carver, Commissioner Mike Caylor, Commissioner Misty Davis, Commissioner Ron French, Commissioner John Giles, Commissioner Jessica Hannah, Commissioner Jeff Jopling, Commissioner Scott King, Commissioner Staci Martin, Commissioner Earl McMahan, and Commissioner David Wells
- Absent:** 4 - Commissioner Dyran Bledsoe, Commissioner Steve Mikels, Commissioner Dawn Reagan, and Commissioner Linda Webb

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

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

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

B. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner McMahan, seconded by Commissioner Davis, that the General Consent Calendar be adopted. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote.

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

1. [Approval of Minutes](#)

Attachments: [Minutes 2025-12-18](#)

The minutes were approved.

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

Attachments: [Resolution bonds and oaths](#)
[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2026-Jan-15](#)
[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2026-Jan-15](#)

The Resolution was adopted.

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

Attachments: [Notaries to be Elected 2026-Jan-15](#)

The notaries were elected.

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

- Attachments:** [Jail Inspection Report 2025-Dec-3](#)
[Budget Committee Minutes 2025-Nov-13](#)
[2071 M Animal Center Advisory Board 25-05-27 Meeting Minutes](#)
[Record Request Report 4thQuarterly Oct-Dec 2025](#)
[Trustee Report for October 2025](#)
[Trustee Report for November 2025](#)

The reports were received and filed.

C. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

D. BUDGET CONSENT CALENDAR.

E. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS.

1. [Board Member Appointment for the Smoky Mountain Tourism Development Authority. The Smoky Mountain Tourism Development Authority requests the appointment of two candidates, to fill two open seats, each one is a six-year term on the Board of Directors.](#)
- [Stephen Deucker, Vice President & General Manager, Cirrus Vision Center](#)
 - [Hamilton Martinez, General Manager, Hilton Knoxville Airport](#)
 - [Jewell Overton, Director of Support Services and Radiation Effects, ProNova Solutions](#)
 - [Bryan Cable, former General Manager, Hilton Knoxville Airport](#)
- [The above-mentioned candidates are ranked in order of preference, but you may either:](#)
1. [Accept the recommended ranking as-is;](#)
 2. [Reorder the above-mentioned candidates; or](#)
 3. [Select recommended candidate/s](#)

Attachments: [Blount County Commission Request - 12-2025](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner French, that the recommended ranking be accepted as-is. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

2. [Budget Committee \(1-Year Term\) Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments of Commissioners Jared Anderson, Nick Bright and Mike Caylor, and Ms. Sharon Hannum.](#)

Attachments: [Budget Committee 2026](#)

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

Yes: 14 - Akard, Bennett, Bowers, Caldwell, Carver, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 3 - Anderson, Bright, and Caylor

3. [Jail Inspection Committee \(1-Year Term\) Reappointments of Mr. Keith Brock, Ms. Sharon Hannum, and Dr. Bob Ramsey.](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

G. NEW BUSINESS.

1. [Resolution No. 26-01-012, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Opposing the Removal of Peery's Mill Dam.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Dams](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, 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: 16 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 1 - Giles

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

2. [Resolution No. 26-01-013, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Forwarding Revisions to the Proposed Comprehensive Plan.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Amending Proposed Comprehensive Plan](#)
[EXHIBIT B - Resolution Revised Goals and Policies](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bright, 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: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

3. [Resolution No. 26-01-014, A Resolution to Provide Liability Insurance for the Fifth Judicial District Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force Vehicles.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution 5JDTF liability ins](#)

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

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

4. [Resolution to Amend the Zoning Map of Blount County Tennessee, From R-1\(Rural District 1\) to RAC \(Rural Arterial Commercial District\) for a 4.615 Acre Portion of a 7.263 Acre Tract Located at 5220/5226 U.S. Highway 411S. The Property is Identified as Part of Tax Map 100, Parcels 009.00 and 009.01.](#)

- Attachments:** [Memo to Request ZPH for 5220 US 411S](#)
[Draft Resolution 5220 US Hwy 411S](#)
[Report of Action by Planning Commission 2025-Dec-1 for 5220 US 411S](#)
[Staff Memo for 5220 US 411S R-1 to RAC](#)
[Zoning Request Application for 5220 US 411S](#)
[Public Notice for 2026-02-12 Hearing - 5220 US Hwy 411S](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the Zoning Public Hearing be set for Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 5:45 p.m. An electronic vote was taken. The Chairman declared the motion to have passed by the following vote:

Yes: 17 - Akard, Anderson, Bennett, Bowers, Bright, Caldwell, Carver, Caylor, Davis, French, Giles, Hannah, Jopling, King, Martin, McMahan, and Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Bledsoe, Mikels, Reagan, and Webb

Abstain: 0

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS.

I. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

J. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business and hearing no objection, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned. The Board of Commissioners, having convened in regular session on Thursday, January 15, 2026, adjourned at 6:34 p.m.