



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
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10-A Linda Webb 865-389-0541 lwebb@blounttn.org
10-B David Wells 865-221-7603 dwells@blounttn.org

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

6:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 3000 9001

ROLL CALL

BE IT REMEMBERED, that a Blount County Commission Workshop meeting was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Blount County Courthouse of Maryville, Tennessee. Blount County Commission Workshop Chairman Ron French called the meeting to order. An electronic roll call was taken by Blount County Clerk Gaye Hasty. There were 17 members present, with the late arrival of Commissioner Jessica Hannah, and 4 absent. The Chairman declared that a quorum did exist. The following proceedings were held, to wit:

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

A. SETTING OF AGENDA.

The Chairman declared that item E.1. "Resolution No. 22-11-016, A Resolution to Amend the Zoning Regulations for Suburbanizing and R1 Zoning Districts of Blount County, Tennessee." would be removed from the agenda. There was no objection.

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

Yes: 16 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

B. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

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

Attachments: [Minutes 2023-Feb-07](#)

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

Yes: 16 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

D. CONSENT CALENDAR.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 16 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

1. [Resolution No. 23-03-015, A Resolution Honoring Dr. Robert Ramsey for His Exemplary Service to Blount County.](#)

Attachments: [Dr. Bob Ramsey Proclamation](#)

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

Attachments: [23-03-011 BONDS AND OATHS RESOLUTION](#)

[Oaths of Deputy Sheriff 2023-Mar-21](#)

[Notary Public Bonds Oaths 2023-Mar-21](#)

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

Attachments: [23-061 Notaries to be Elected 2023-Mar-21](#)

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

Attachments: [Minutes of Beer Board 2023-Feb-07](#)

[Minutes of Budget Comm 2023-Feb-07](#)

[Minutes of Education Comm 2023-Jan-31](#)

[Trustee Report for January 2023](#)

5. [February 2023 Financial Reports \(Information Only\).](#)

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

[ARPA Tracking 2.22.23](#)

[FY22.23 Capital Exhibit REVISED Feb 23](#)

[Feb 23 Expense Report](#)

[Feb 23 Revenue Report](#)

[YTD Expense Report](#)

[YTD Revenue Report](#)

[USBank Report Feb 23](#)

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

1. [Resolution No. 22-11-016, A Resolution to Amend the Zoning Regulations for Suburbanizing and R1 Zoning Districts of Blount County, Tennessee.](#)

Attachments: [RESOLUTION 22-11-016 - Min Lot Size](#)
[Public Notice](#)
[PCResolution_202313_Blount County Zoning Amend](#)
[Memo to Alcoa Planning Commission 2022-Dec-07](#)
[Report of Action BC Planning Commission 2022-Dec-05](#)
[DRAFT Resolution 22-11-016 Amend Zoning Regs for Suburbanizing and R1 Districts](#)

This item was removed at the setting of agenda.

F. NEW BUSINESS.**1. Budget Transfers, Increases and/or Decreases.**

- a. [Resolution No. 23-03-001. Budget Increase - Purchasing - \\$36,709.71 \(Increase pay lines to pay out retiree benefits and hire new employee from fund balance\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Purchasing Personnel Increase](#)
[Amendment Purchasing Personnel Increase \(2\)](#)
[Memo Purchasing personnel increase](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 16 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 5 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- b. [Resolution No. 23-03-002. Budget Increase - School Math Books - \\$755,000.00 \(Appropriate fund balance to increase funds for Math Text Books\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Schools 141-71100 Math Textbooks 3-2-23](#)
[Amendment Memo 141 71100 School Increase Math Textbooks](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- c. [Resolution No. 23-03-003. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$312,220.00 \(Appropriate funds for Big Springs Bridge project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution HWY Big Springs Bridge](#)
[Amendment Hwy Big Spring](#)
[Memo Big Springs Bridge Const](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Giles, 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: 17 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- d. [Resolution No. 23-03-004. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$207,125.00 \(Increase Fund Balance and Capital funds for Jones Bend Road Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Amendment Hwy Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Memo Hwy Jones Bend Rd](#)
[Back up HWY Jones Bend Rd](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Akard, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- e. [Resolution No. 23-03-005. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$308,667.00 \(Appropriate funds for Nebo Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution HWY Nebo Slip Increase](#)
[Amendment HWY Nebo Slip](#)
[Memo HWY Nebo Slip](#)
[Back up Hwy Nebo Slip](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wells, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- f. [Resolution No. 23-03-006. Budget Increase - Highway - \\$156,700.00 \(Appropriate funds for Tuckaleechee Slip project\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Old Tuckaleechee Slip Increase](#)
[Amendment HWY Tuckaleechee Slip](#)
[Memo HWY Tuckaleechee](#)
[Back up HWY Tuckaleechee Slip](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- g. [Resolution No. 23-03-007. Budget Increase - BCSO - \\$127,948.00 \(Appropriate funds for Violent Crime Intervention Grant\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution BCSO VCIF grant](#)
[Amendment BCSO VCIF grant](#)
[Memo BCSO VCIF grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- h. [Resolution No. 23-03-008. Budget Increase - Circuit Court Clerk - \\$20,000.00 \(Increase Reserve Fund Balance to purchase replacement computers and monitors\). Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Circuit Court Computers](#)
[Amendment and Memo Circuit Court Clerk \\$20,000 computers2](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

2. Other Budget Items.

- a. [Request approval for BCSO to proceed with a one-time, competitive, no match grant application for \\$48,560.00 to purchase inmate mattresses and jumpsuits to assist with Covid mitigation; control of infectious disease. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [ELC Confinement Facilities Funding Grant Information](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reagan, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the grant request 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

- b. [Request approval for Highway to proceed with a one-time, competitive grant for \\$200,000.00 \(requires \\$40,000.00 match from County\) to incorporate rubber modified asphalt for two miles of the annual overlay and paving program with the expectation of reducing maintenance costs over time. Referred to full commission with a favorable recommendation by the Budget Committee \(5-0\).](#)

Attachments: [HWY Tire Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Carver, that the grant request 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

3. Appointments.

- a. [CARES Committee Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments of Health Care Professional Jerry Vagnier, and Business Leader Chris Hurley.](#)

Attachments: [Cares Committee Memo 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carver, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

b. [Resolution No. 23-03-013, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Making an Appointment to the Board of Directors of Blount Memorial Hospital, Inc.](#)

Attachments: [23-03-013 Resolution Appointing to BMH Board of Directors](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner 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: 14 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 1 - Vice Chair Stinnett

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 2 - Commissioner Carver and Chairperson French

4. [Resolution No. 23-03-012, A Resolution Naming Two Bridges on U.S. Highway 321 in Blount County, Tennessee, The Clayton Narveson WWII Iwo Jima Survivor Memorial Bridge.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution for Clayton Edward Narveson WWII Iwo Jima Survivor Memorial Bridge](#)
[Clayton Edward Narveson Obituary 2023 - Cremation By Grandview](#)

[IMG_0909](#)

[IMG_0915](#)

[BridgeLocation](#)

[UnitedVeterans17 January 2023](#)

[VeteransCommitteeJanuary 11, 2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Reagan, 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 Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Vice Chair Stinnett, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 0

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 0

5. [Resolution No. 23-03-014, Resolution to Address the Future Operation and Management of Blount Memorial Hospital.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution to Address the Future Operation and Management of BMH](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner Bright, 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: 13 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 2 - Commissioner Bledsoe and Vice Chair Stinnett

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 2 - Commissioner Carver and Chairperson French

6. [Resolution No. 23-03-016, A Resolution of the Blount County Commission Requiring Transparency in the Making of Nominations.](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Regarding Nomination Transparency](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Akard, seconded by Commissioner 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: 15 - Commissioner Akard, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Bledsoe, Commissioner Bright, Commissioner Caylor, Commissioner Davis, Chairperson French, Commissioner Giles, Commissioner Hannah, Commissioner Lawhorn, Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Mikels, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Webb and Commissioner Wells

No: 1 - Vice Chair Stinnett

Absent: 4 - Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Bowers, Commissioner Jopling and Commissioner King

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Carver

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, March 7, 2023, at 6:51 p.m.