



Blount County Government

359 Court Street
Maryville, TN 37804-5906

Meeting Minutes

CARES Committee

Judge William R. Brewer, Jr.
Commissioner Nick Bright
Deputy Chief Chris Cantrell
Commissioner Richard Carver
Committee Member Thomas Cole
Chief Deputy Jeff French
Commissioner John Giles
Judge Tammy Harrington
Committee Member Chris Hurley
Committee Member Tammy Lynn, LCSW
Commissioner Tom Stinnett
Commissioner Linda Webb
Committee Member Jerry Vagnier

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

5:30 PM

Blount County Courthouse, Room 430

SPECIAL CALLED

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 845 9380 5910

ROLL CALL

- Present** 8 - Deputy Chief Chris Cantrell, Commissioner Richard Carver, Committee Member Thomas Cole, Commissioner John Giles, Committee Member Tammy Lynn, Commissioner Tom Stinnett, Committee Member Jerry Vagnier, and Commissioner Linda Webb
- Absent** 5 - Judge William R. Brewer, Commissioner Nick Bright, Chief Deputy Jeff French, Judge Tammy Harrington, and Committee Member Chris Hurley

A. CALL:

The Blount County CARES Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. in Room 430 at the Blount County Courthouse of Maryville, Tennessee. The purpose of the Special Called is discussion and possible action of the following:

- (i) To discuss the notice of awards for the funding opportunities approved and recommended by the CARES Committee at the October 24, 2023 meeting; (ii) A review of the funding and associated requirements; (iii) Discussion of the next steps to be taken; (iv) Possible recommendations to the County Mayor and Blount County Commission.

Title:

Committee Chair, Jerry Vagnier, read the call, and then began discussion:

(i) at the Oct. 24, 2023 CARES meeting, it was recommended to have McNabb apply for the available funding opportunities/grants that were available for a transition campus; McNabb received notice of award from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, as well as, the Opioid Trust Fund;

(ii) details of funding include - a) TDMHSA award of \$2.4m for the construction of a 16-bed residential treatment facility for indigent males and females, suffering from substance abuse, 18 and over, on a voluntary basis, after detox, for approximately 30-60 day terms; b) TDMHSA award of \$2.1m for the construction of an 18-bed transitional facility for previously incarcerated males, with mental health (or mental health coupled with substance abuse) issues, preferably employed or acquiring some type of education, for approximately 9mth-1yr terms; c) Opioid Abatement Trust Fund award for \$1.5m for the construction of 4 homes, housing approximately 30 people, who are in recovery, with the expectation of employment.

All of these facilities will be staffed 24/7, and all associated costs will be covered by McNabb (or funds acquired by them for this purpose). No tax dollars are to be utilized. The campus will be located on 3.5-5 of the County owned 62 acres, previously purchased, in part, for this purpose.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

A RESOLUTION TO ADVANCE APPROXIMATELY \$6 MILLION IN CAPITAL FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES AND THE OPIOID TRUST FUND TO ESTABLISH A TRANSITIONAL CAMPUS; AND TO REQUEST THE CONVEYANCE OF 3.5 TO 5.0 ACRES OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY (I.E. OLD RUSSELL FARM) TO THE MCNABB CENTER TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE GRANTS

Title:

Commissioner Stinnett, seconded by Commissioner Carver, to approve and forward the recommendation and associated resolution to Commission for consideration. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Yes: 8 - Cantrell, Carver, Cole, Giles, Lynn, Stinnett, Vagnier, and Webb

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Brewer, Bright, French, Harrington, and Hurley

Abstain: 0