

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, the Monthly Session of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners began and was held in and for the aforementioned State and County on the 18th day of March 2019 A.D. at 6:30 P.M., at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Dandridge, Tennessee. Present and Presiding were Chairman, Mayor Mark Potts; County Clerk Frank Herndon; and the following County Commissioners answering to Roll Call Docket Book 4 Page 50 to-wit: Katy Huffaker, Todd Kesterson, Steve Douglas, Randy Baxley, Paul Lowe, Michael Phagan, Greg Byrd, Edna Langley, Tim Seals, Robert Blevins, Ralph "Gene" Eslinger, Randy Bales, John Neal Scarlett, Ronny Coleman, Terry Dockery, Jimmy Carmichael, Anthony "A.J." Walker, Marcus Reed, and Hilda "Heidi" Thomas. Nineteen (19) members were present, two (2) were absent: Jimmy Dale Patterson and Sammy Solomon.

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Potts. An invocation was given by Chaplain Steve Douglas, Commissioner Todd Kesterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL & CORRECTIONS OF THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Seals moved to approve the agenda as presented, Commissioner Byrd provided a second. With no objection voiced, the agenda was **approved** as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Commissioner Scarlett moved to approve the minutes of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners, January 22, 2019 Regular Quarterly Session and February 19, 2019 Special Called Session. Commissioner Carmichael seconded the motion and the minutes were **approved** with no objection voiced.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS:

Melissa Kay Climer-Deering 9th District – Spoke in favor of a Wheel Tax Waiver for the disabled and senior citizens.

Matt Bobick 8th District – Spoke in favor of the additional funding provided to CARE, requested support of **Resolution 2019-08**, and exploring the possibility of the county hiring a grant coordinator.

APPROVAL OF NOTARIES & BONDS:

Commissioner Baxley moved to approve the list of notaries, Commissioner Seals seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the motion **carried**, and the below named applicants for Notary Public were **approved** providing the proper bonds or property affidavits are filed in the office of the County Clerk.

Angela Donahoo	April L. White	Ashley Mae Fox	Carol W. Rouse
Carolyn L. Williams	Daniel Smith	Denise Jenkins	Donna Yates
Donna D. Hubbard	Donna L. Greer	James A. Barnes	Janie M. Douthat
Jennifer L. Wagner	Jodye G. Stewart	Karrie L. Foust	Kelsey Cantrell
Kevin M. Bohrer	Laura Lee Hughes	Lauren Gann	Leslie Brock
Luvern C. Miller	Melissa A. Masoner	Patricia F. Whaley	Peggy Adkins
Samantha Rivers	Tina Cribbs		

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND OTHER OFFICIALS:

A. County Mayor, Mark Potts – Mayoral Appointments

1. Jefferson County E-911 Communication Board – Appointment of Colin McRae Term March 2019 – March 2023. Moved for approval by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Reed. The appointment was **approved** with no objection voiced.
2. Jefferson County Solid Waste Regional Planning Board – Appointment of Jimmy Henry to fulfill the unexpired term of Hoagie Snodgrass through April 2021. Moved for approval by Commissioner Carmichael, seconded by Commissioner Bales. The appointment was **approved** with no objection voiced.

B. Director of Schools, Dr. Shane Johnston: Langdon Potts by request of Dr. Johnston requested that the commission suspend their rules to take action on two items for the School Board: Welding Program Funding and Capital Projects Needs Assessment. Commissioner Seals moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Commissioner Phagan. After a Roll Call vote was taken 18-1, the rules were **suspended**. (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Baxley, Lowe, Phagan, Langley, Seals, Blevins, Eslinger, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas)

1. Welding Program – The School Board approved \$160,000 toward the implementation of the welding program at Jefferson County High School from their Capital Outlay account. The total project cost after a donation from a local business is \$320,000. We are requesting a matching amount of \$160,000 from the County Commission County Economic Development Reserve. With this approval, students will be ready for Welding I when school starts this August. Commissioner Douglas made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Commissioner Huffaker. With no objection voiced, the request was **approved**.
2. Needs Assessment – The School Board is requesting permission to reallocate \$125,000 in the School Capital Fund that was originally approved for “window replacement” to a “comprehensive needs assessment”. The needs assessment will include building envelope and all aspects of the buildings, the windows will certainly be part of what is to be identified and repaired or replaced. Commissioner Phagan moved to approve the request, with a second provided by Commissioner Huffaker. With no objection voiced, the request was **approved**.

C. Finance Director, Langdon Potts

1. January 2019 Financial, presented and filed.
2. On behalf of the Audit Committee, Director Potts reported that the Committee met and elected the following officers: Chairman – Garry Jett, Vice-Chair – John Neal Scarlett, and Secretary – Phyllis Best. He stated that audits, except for the Comprehensive County Audit which is not complete, and findings were reviewed and discussed. The Landfill has a Closure/Post-Closure finding that has been on record since approximately 1996.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS, & COMMISSIONS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Commissioner Jimmy Carmichael, Second Reading, **Resolution 2019-03** – Resolution to waive the County Motor Vehicle Tax for vehicles receiving exemption under Chapter 923 of the Public Acts of 2018 for volunteer firefighters and rescue squad personnel. Commissioner Walker moved to approve Resolution 2019-03 on second reading, Commissioner Coleman provided a second. After discussion, A Roll Call vote was taken and **Resolution 2019-03 carried 14-4-1** with Commissioner Dockery abstaining with cause (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Baxley, Lowe, Phagan, Byrd, Seals, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Carmichael, Walker, and Reed).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Mark Potts, Mayor:

1. **Resolution 2019-10:** Resolution Supporting the Request for Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) to do a Transportation Safety Study of State Route 92 in Jefferson County, Tennessee from its intersection with U.S. Highway 411 (Near Bush Bros. Industrial Plant) then heading northward to its intersection of U.S. Highway 25/70. Commissioner Huffaker moved **Resolution 2019-10** for approval, Commissioner Blevins provided a second. With no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-10** was **approved**.
2. **Resolution 2019-11:** Resolution regarding local preparations related to the 2020 census for Jefferson County, Tennessee. Moved for approval by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Phagan. With no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-11** was **approved**.
3. **Resolution 2019-16:** Resolution to urge the General Assembly to adopt an equitable distribution of local sales tax revenue from out-of-state sellers. Motion to approve by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Reed, with no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-16** was **approved**.
4. Compliance letter to Americans with Disability Act (ADA): Moved for approval by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Huffaker, the compliance letter to be submitted to TDOT was **approved** with no objection voiced.

B. Assessor of Property, Susan Gass

1. **Resolution 2019-13:** Resolution authorizing a continuous five (5) year reappraisal cycle. Motion for approval by Commissioner Reed, seconded by Commissioner Coleman. With no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-13** was **approved**.

C. Finance Director – Langdon Potts

1. Approval of **Debt Policy:** Director Potts presented the debt policy for its annual approval. Moved for approval by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Carmichael. With no objection voiced the **Debt Policy** was **approved**.
2. **Local Government Agency Retiree Coverage Election (OPEB):** Direction Potts presented the election for the county to “Opt-In” or “Opt-Out” of allowing retirees to participate in the “State Insurance Plan’s pre-65 retiree health coverage”. Director Potts recommends that the county “Opt-In” and continue to offer this option, he stated that the county can elect to “Opt-Out” in the future if we so decide, however once we “Opt-Out” we cannot “Opt-In”. Commissioner Seals moved that we follow Director Potts’ recommendation and “Opt-In”, a second was provided by Commissioner Huffaker, and with no objection voiced, it was **approved** to “Opt-In” for the **Local Government Agency Retiree Coverage**.
3. **Resolution 2019-06:** Resolution to declare as surplus and to authorize the Sheriff’s Department of Jefferson County to dispose of equipment. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Kesterson and with no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-06** was **approved**.
4. **Resolution 2019-09:** Resolution to declare as surplus and to authorize the Archives of Jefferson County to dispose of said equipment. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Carmichael and with no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-09** was **approved**.
5. **Resolution 2019-12:** Resolution to declare as surplus and to authorize the Dandridge Memorial Library of Jefferson County to dispose of office equipment. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Langley, and with no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-12** was **approved**.

D. Budget Committee, Chairman John Neal Scarlett

1. The budget committee recommends allocation of \$118,000 from the ADA reserves and approval of an agreement with Partners Real Estate Development to perform an ADA evaluation of all county and school buildings and provide a plan to attain ADA compliance. **Approved** with no objection voiced.
2. County Amendments
 - a. General Fund 101, Amendment #7, Items 1-12: **Approved** on a voice vote with no objection.
 - b. Capital Fund 171, Amendment #2, Item 1: **Approved** on a voice vote with no objection.
3. School Amendments
 - a. General Purpose Fund 141, Amendment #7, Items 1-4: **Approved** on a voice vote with no objection.
 - b. General Purpose Fund 141, Amendment #8, Items 1-7: **Approved** on a voice vote with no objection.
4. Chairman Scarlett presented a request from Attorney General Dunn for an 80/20 matching grant application for an additional victim assistance grant. General Dunn stated that this new grant would allow the victim assistance employee to work with more crimes than are allowed under the current grant. General Dunn requested that both grants be funded, however the budget committee recommended to fund the new grant if awarded and if it was not awarded, they would continue to fund the existing grant. The budget committee's recommendation was **approved** with no objection voiced.
5. Sanitation Fund 207, Amendment #2, Item 1 & Amendment #3, Item 1: Class III Cell B closure, allocating \$588,217.50 from the Sanitation Fund 207 Cash Reserves to the closure project – Commissioner Carmichael provided an amendment to request a monthly report on the progression of the project for the cell closure. Commissioner Douglas provided a second. During discussion, Commissioner Douglas reminded Mr. Gaut that he had made a commitment to the budget committee to work to bring this project in under budget. Mr. Gaut stated that while this project was bid with a full scope of work, he would work diligently to save money where possible. On a voice vote the amendment **carried** with no objection voiced. Mr. Gaut requested clarification as to where he needed to submit his monthly report in the months that the Commission did not meet. Commissioner Carmichael clarified that it was his intent that the report could be in writing and presented at every regular Commission meeting, no report is requested in the months when Commission does not meet. Commissioner Scarlett provided an amendment to request an update on the re-permitting process. Commissioner Bales provided a second and the amendment **carried** with no objection voiced. A Roll Call vote was taken on Sanitation Fund 207 Amendments #2 & #3 as amended and the budget amendment **carried** 19-0 (in favor: all present).

E. Public Service Committee – Chairman Jimmy Carmichael

Resolution 2019-08: Resolution adopting regulations regarding care and restraint of dogs and cats in Jefferson County, Tennessee. Commissioner Carmichael moved **Resolution 2019-08** for approval from the Public Service Committee. Commissioner Thomas offered an amendment to the resolution by adding Article IV section (c), moving the existing Article V section (e) to section (j), and adding new language in Article V sections (e) – (i). Copies of both Resolutions are recorded for the record in the minute book, Commissioner Carmichael provided a second. After discussion, Commissioner Dockery moved to postpone this item due to the amount of the added language in the amendment to allow Commissioners time to review. Commissioner Scarlett provided a second and on a voice vote **Resolution 2019-08** was **postponed** with Commissioner Carmichael objecting.

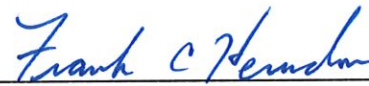
F. **Resolution 2019-14:** Commissioner Blevins and Commissioner Phagan

A Resolution in support of proposed broadband legislation to alleviate regulatory barriers to broadband expansion and to urge the general assembly of the State of Tennessee to enact new law or amend existing law to promote broadband expansion and create a competitive broadband market for consumers. **Resolution 2019-14** was moved for passage by Commissioners Blevins and Phagan, Commissioner Phagan spoke in favor and requested that the Commission pass the Resolution. On a voice vote with no objection voiced, **Resolution 2019-14** was approved.

Hearing no further business before the commission, a motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Douglas, a second was offered by Commissioner Carmichael and with no objection voiced, the meeting was **adjourned** at 7:30 PM.



County Commission Chair, Mayor Mark Potts



County Clerk, Frank C. Herndon