

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT**, the Quarterly Session of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners began and was held in and for the aforementioned State and County on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018 A.D. at 5:00 P.M., at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Dandridge, Tennessee. This meeting was postponed from the original scheduled date of 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018 due to winter weather. Present and Presiding were Chairman Robert Tucker; County Clerk Frank Herndon; and the following County Commissioners answering to Roll Call Docket Book 4 Page 25 to-wit: Katy Huffaker, Todd Kesterson, Steve Douglas, David Gaut, Rita Musick, Donnie Tabor, John McGraw, Russell Turner, Tim Seals, Sammy Solomon, Robert Blevins, Ralph "Gene" Eslinger, Randy Bales, Terry Dockery, David Seal, Bob Beeler, and Barbara Sheets. Eighteen (18) members were present, Three (3) were absent.

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Tucker. An invocation was given by Chaplain Donnie Tabor, Chairman Tucker recognized the Jefferson County High School leadership class and Miss Kendall Jensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*(Commissioner Scarlett arrived at this time)*

**APPROVAL & CORRECTIONS OF THE AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Dockery requested to roll Resolution 2018-04 to the March meeting due to some requesting to speak to the issue not able to be in attendance because of the scheduled meeting time.
2. Commissioner Seals requested to roll the Patriot Hills traffic study to the March meeting.
3. Commissioner Kesterson requested to strike Rules and Procedure, Rule IX from the agenda.
4. Commissioner Dockery requested to strike his Animal Shelter topic from the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

County Clerk requested to change Page 2, Heading A, Item 2 "Planning Commission Term October 2017-October 2020" be changed and recorded in the permanent record as "Planning Commission Term October 2017-October 2021" in the permanent record. Commissioner Solomon moved to approve the minutes of Regular Monthly Session November 20, 2017 as amended, Commissioner Bales provided a second, the minutes were **approved** as amended with no objection voiced.

Commissioner Solomon moved to approve the minutes of the Jefferson County Beer Board Hearing, November 20, 2017. Commissioner Seals seconded the motion and the minutes were **approved** with no objections voiced.

**APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS:**

Chairman Tucker stated that due to the 6PM scheduled budget meeting and he had received 12 citizen forms, he wished to restrict speaking to 1 minute per citizen who had turned in a form. Stating that citizens were welcomed to return to the next regularly scheduled meeting and they would be able to speak for a full three minutes.

Kris Spencer 1<sup>st</sup> District – Spoke in favor of open admission by the Jefferson County Humane Society.

Pascal Robin 2<sup>nd</sup> District – Spoke in favor of open admission by the Jefferson County Humane Society.

Scott Lubas – Passed stating that he needed more than 1 minute to speak.

Jeanne Ringe 7<sup>th</sup> District – Spoke in favor of open admission by the Jefferson County Humane Society.

Bruce S. Dalglish – Refused to speak stating he needed more than 1 minute to express his point.

Honey Miller 8<sup>th</sup> District – States that she had worked on an action plan to return the Humane Society to an open admission policy, she stated the board of directors had approved the plan then they changed their mind and are not operating on an open admission policy.

Shirley Hammond – Declined to speak if she could not speak for more than 1 minute.

Janet Lubas – Passed on speaking stating she needed more than 1 minute.

Gail Farzanegan 4<sup>th</sup> District – Refused to speak stating she didn't have enough time in the 1 minute allotted.

Scott Lubas – The chairman yielded Mr. Lubas 1 minute for himself and 1 minute for the 3 others who declined to speak. Mr. Lubas spoke to the reasons the Humane Society has stopped its open admission policy.

Linda McSmith – Refused to speak stating she needed more than 1 minute.

Matthew Bobick – Declined to speak stating he would make his presentation at the March meeting.

Chairman Tucker relinquished the Chair to Chairman Pro Tempore Kesterson, Robert Tucker took the podium as a citizen and stated that he is a candidate for County Mayor and hopes the County Mayors office will have a good relationship with the County Commission so that great things can happen for Jefferson County. Chairman Tucker resumed the chair at this time.

#### **APPROVAL OF NOTARIES & BONDS:**

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

A Cameron	Amanda K. Howard	Andrea B. Hance	Annie Daniels
Carol Mink	Deborah L. Stepp	Donna Jean Hutchins	Gwen H. Lowery
Hitesh Patidar	Jana C. Ragan	Johnny Wayne Farris	Kara N. Thurman
Leah F. Ailey	Lisa H. Alexander	Lora Marie Hayes	Mark W. Slagle
Mary Jo Cherry	Miranda Frazier	Molly Larrance	Paula Ausmus
Patsy F. Berry-Lawson	Regina Seale	Roger L. Mynatt	Timothy H. Welch
Ronnie Gene Batson	Stephine Elaine Gregg	Teresa L. Malone	Vickie S. Kowalsky
Chesney B Coffey	Dorothy Sittton	Gerald Lee Jackson Jr.	June L. Bolden
Shae Marie Childs	Tori Cox McCoy	Vickie Ann Fowler	

#### **ELECTION TO FILL VACANCY – COUNTY CONSTABLE 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT:**

Commissioner Scarlett nominated Don Armor of the 1<sup>st</sup> District to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Jerry Colbert. Commissioner Solomon provided a second. With no objection Don Armor was **elected** 1<sup>st</sup> District Constable.

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

##### **A. County Mayor, Alan Palmieri**

1. Mayor Palmieri wanted to make the commission aware that his office had fielded a complaint from a citizen who stated they had unable to get minutes from a meeting of the Humane Society of Jefferson County after a proper request had been made.
2. Mayor Palmieri stated that he has received a letter from District Attorney James B. Dunn referencing the lawsuit that the D.A.s office has filed concerning the Opioid crisis. He states that local attorney Richard Talley has signed on to a federal lawsuit. He stated that Mr. Talley would be available to make a presentation to the commission if they so desired. It was mutually agreed that Mr. Talley could present that the next scheduled work session.

3. Mayor Palmieri stated that the Parrot's Chapel group has been some of the most cordial citizens he has dealt with in his tenure. He further stated that he is opposed to any Jefferson County property being given to another county, but he feels that the Parrot's Chapel citizens are entitled to the same services as all other citizens in the county. He stated that each year the budget committee drives departments to cut their budget, and departments are unable to provide adequate services to the county. If this means the county should place another EMS substation in the community, it should be considered and fully funded.

B. Finance Director, Langdon Potts

1. County & Schools Summary Financial Statements for October 2017 & November 2017: Presented and Filed.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS, & COMMISSIONS:**

A. Budget Committee Vice-Chairman, Commissioner McGraw – Budget Committee recommendations

1. Commissioner McGraw presented the following motion: "The budget committee passed a motion by a vote of "7 yes, 1 no" to freeze the remaining county funds commitment of \$35,000 to the Humane Society until their board returns with an acceptable plan to resolve current personnel and open surrender concerns." Commissioner Scarlett proposed an amendment to state that the plan must be implemented before funds would be released. Commissioner Bales provided a second and the amendment **passed** on a vote by show of hands 18-1. A vote was taken on the motion as amended and the motion **carried** on a voice vote 18-1.
2. Budget Amendments
  - a) County General Fund 101, Amendment #6, Items #1-8: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-1 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Gaut, Tabor, McGraw, Turner, Seals, Solomon, Blevins, Eslinger, Bales, Scarlett, Dockery, Tucker, Seal, Beeler, Sheets).
  - b) County General Fund 101, Amendment #7, Item #1: **Approved** with no objection voiced.
  - c) County Capital Fund 171, Amendment #2, Items #1 & 2: **Approved** with no objection voiced.
  - d) County Highway Fund 131, Amendment #1, Item #1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 19-0 (in favor: all present).
  - e) Schools General Purpose Fund 141, Amendment #11, Items #1-4: **Approved** with no objection voiced.
  - f) Schools Federal Purpose Fund 142, Amendment #6, Item #1: **Approved** with no objection voiced.
  - g) County General Fund 101, Amendment #8, Item #1: After discussion, Commissioner Scarlett called for the question, Commissioner Huffaker objected to the call, a vote was taken by show of hands on the call and the call **stood** 12-7. A Roll Call vote was taken on 101-8 and the amendment **failed** 10-9 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Musick, Tabor, McGraw, Bales, Scarlett, Dockery, and Sheets).
  - h) County Capital Fund 171, Amendment #3, Item #1: **Withdrawn** due to 101-8 failing.
  - i) County Sanitation Fund 116, Amendment #1, Item #1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-0-1 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Musick, Tabor, McGraw, Turner, Seals, Solomon, Blevins, Eslinger, Bales, Scarlett, Dockery, Tucker, Seal, Beeler, and Sheets; Abstain: Gaut).

- B. Conservation Board Chairman, Commissioner Tucker – The Conservation Board met and is on pace to complete the park without utilizing Jefferson County tax dollars. He stated that land donations from the IDB and Safespace will count as Jefferson County's in-kind contributions to match the grant dollars.

C. Finance Committee Chairman, Commissioner McGraw

1. 7 of the 10 properties have sold that we in the County's possession after the recent tax sale. He stated that 3 properties that were for sale did not reach the minimum bid and the Finance Committee wished to refer this to the County Commission to set an acceptable minimum price. Commissioner Seal amends the recommendation to seek the advice of Property Assessor Susan Gass on setting the price. Commissioner McGraw provided a second, and the amendment **carried** with no objection voiced. Chairman Tucker **agreed** to place this item on the March agenda.

*(Commissioner Carmichael arrived at this time)*

2. Commissioner McGraw states that one property located on Hensley Hollow Rd that didn't sale in an old tax sale has had an offer on it by a citizen through the mayor's office. Property procedures will be followed to sell this property and return it to the tax roll.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Finance Director Langdon Potts

1. **Resolution 2018-01** – Resolution to declare equipment surplus and to authorize the county buildings of Jefferson County to donate said equipment to Kings Academy in Seymour, TN. The resolution was moved for approval by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Seals and **Resolution 2018-01 carried** with no objection voiced.
2. **Resolution 2018-02** – Resolution to declare equipment surplus and to authorize the Sheriff's Department of Jefferson County to donate to the Blount County Training Academy said equipment. The resolution was moved for approval by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Tabor and **Resolution 2018-02 carried** with no objection voiced.

B. Chairman Robert Tucker – Hiring a County Commission Secretary: Chairman Tucker announced the resignation of Commission Secretary Peggy Mitchell, with that he questioned if the Commission wanted to hire a full time or part time secretary. With discussion, it was agreed that this item should be referred to the personnel committee to hire a secretary without making any changes. Commissioner Dockery stated that he would like to publicly thank Mrs. Mitchell for her hard work and wish her well in her future endeavors. She received a standing ovation from the commission.

C. Budget Committee Calendar – Commissioner McGraw as a recommendation of the budget committee moved for the approval of the Budget Committee Calendar set for the 2018-2019 Budget Process. Hearing no objections, the calendar was **approved**.

D. Commissioner David Seal – Mountain View Academy for Young Men: Commissioner Seal made the following motion: "I make a motion that the County Attorney be authorized to enter into negotiations with the State of Tennessee and any other interested party or entity, regarding a resolution of the issues described in Resolution 2017-17 and provide the County Legislative Body with recommendations on a resolution of these issues." Commissioner Douglas provided a second, and with no objection the motion **carried**.

Hearing no further business before the commission, Chairman Tucker **adjourned** the meeting at 6:15 PM.