

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 November 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 72 to-wit: Katy Huffaker, Todd Kesterson, Steve Douglas, Jimmy Dale Patterson, Paul Lowe, Michael Phagan, Glen Warren, Greg Byrd, Edna Langley, Tim Seals, Sammy Solomon, Robert Blevins, Randy Bales, John Neal Scarlett, Ronny Coleman, Terry Dockery, Jimmy Carmichael, Anthony "A.J." Walker, Marcus Reed, and Hilda "Heidi" Thomas. Twenty (20) members were present, one (1) was absent: Ralph "Gene" Eslinger.

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Potts. An invocation was given by Chaplain Steve Douglas, Sheriff Jeff Coffey led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Potts recognized all veterans who were present at the meeting.

APPROVAL & CORRECTIONS OF THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Carmichael moved to approve the agenda as presented, a second was provided by Commissioner Solomon, a Roll Call vote was taken, and the agenda was **approved** 20-0 (in favor: all present).

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS:

Mackey Wilson – District 6: Spoke to Commissioners expressing his interest in the vacant Constable position in his district.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Commissioner Solomon moved to approve the minutes of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners October 21, 2019 Regular Monthly Session. Commissioner Seals seconded the motion and the minutes were **approved** with a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).

APPROVAL OF NOTARIES & BONDS:

Commissioner Byrd moved to approve the list of notaries as presented, Commissioner Solomon seconded the motion. With a Roll Call vote taken, the motion **carried**, 20-0 (in favor: all present), 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.

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|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Amber Mielke | Billy W. Sartain | Carol A. Baker | Danny Meredith |
| David R. Lockhart | E. Larry Masters | Jason Slade Claiborne | Hillary Reneau |
| Jennifer Nicole West | Ladonna G Johnson | Laura Strange | Lisa G. Humphrey |
| Marissa Hollifield | Marsha S. Stroud | Mechelle Renee Dockery | Pamela W. Aldred |
| Shari L. Smith | Susan G. Stiner | Tara D. Johnson | Yvette Greene |
| Linda K. Lane | Mary Jayne Lamb | Melissa Murray | Rhonda K. Lyke |
| Shawna Cecilia Reed | | | |

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

- A. County Mayor, Mark Potts – Mayoral Appointments:
Regional Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals Appointment – Commissioner Paul Lowe – Continue the Term of Randy Baxley September 2019 – September 2023. The Mayoral appointment was moved for confirmation by Commissioner Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Phagan, with a Roll Call vote taken 18-0-2 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Patterson, Warren, Phagan, Byrd, Langley, Solomon, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas; Commissioners Lowe and Seals abstained) the appointment was **confirmed**.
- B. Commissioner Huffaker: Commissioner Huffaker presented a copy of a petition for entry into the minutes from Jefferson County residents requesting that Dollar General build their upgraded brick store design model at the Exit 424 Dandridge/White Pine site location.
- C. Director of Schools, Dr. Shane Johnston: Dr. Johnston addressed Commissioners as to several rumors he is trying to quell and would appreciate the Commissions assistance if they are questioned:
1. Heat repairs are in the works at Dandridge Elementary and White Pine Schools. He stated that while the heating systems were not up to par, no room was occupied by a child with a temperature less than 65 degrees.
 2. Dr. Johnston stated that while School Employees and Board Members did attend a recent leadership conference that they attend each year, it did not cost the quoted \$50,000 that has been rumored.
 3. Dr. Johnston stated that a recent needs assessment has been completed, however it has not been prioritized by School Board Members and they are not prepared to present a capital improvement plan.
 4. Dr. Johnston stated that he has heard the rumor that he is seeking employment elsewhere, however this rumor is false. He states he feels he is where the Lord would have him be at this time in his life.
 5. Dr. Johnston stated that due to either a lack of compaction at the tennis courts or soil failure after the prior courts were installed, there was an overage of \$42,653 in that phase of the project. He stated at the current time, there is enough contingency to complete the project, however he fears that as the Softball Complex phase of the project is completed, if there is an unexpected overage there will not be enough contingency to complete that phase of the project and due to the upcoming start of the softball season, the project would need to be completed before Commission is scheduled to meet again. He stated that due to the tennis courts being a shared community park and the school system using a grant to upgrade the lighting that was outside the scope of the project he asked that the Commission consider allocating funds to cover the overage if needed for the completion of the project. Commissioner Phagan made a motion to suspend the rules to address the request to fund the tennis court repairs. Commissioner Huffaker provided a second. A Roll Call vote was taken, the motion **carried** 19-1 and the rules were **suspended** (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Patterson, Warren, Lowe, Phagan, Byrd, Langley, Seals, Solomon, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas). Commissioner Phagan made a motion to allow the Director of Finance to allow \$42,653 from the General Fund to be used should they be needed to cover the cost of the tennis court repair to be the last dollars spent. Commissioner Langley provided a second. Commissioner Kesterson amended the motion to direct that the funds come from the Hospital Fund, Commissioner Lowe provided a second. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Bales called for the question, with no objection to the call, a Roll Call vote was taken, and the amendment **failed** 5-15 (in favor: Kesterson, Lowe, Phagan, Langley, and Dockery). A Roll Call vote was taken on the original motion and it **carried** 13-7 (in favor: Huffaker, Warren, Lowe, Phagan, Langley, Seals, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).
- D. Solid Waste Director, David Gaut – Cell Construction, Closure, and Permitting report presented and filed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS, & COMMISSIONS:

A. Nominating Committee Appointments:

1. Industrial Development Board: Appointment – Eddie Woods to continue term of Curt Evans – Term September 2019 – September 2025. Hearing no further nominations from the floor, a Roll Call vote was taken on the appointment of Eddie Woods as presented by the nominating committee and it was **approved** 20-0 (in favor: all present).

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Mark Potts, Mayor:

1. Jefferson County Constable Vacant Seat District 6: Mayor Potts announced the need to fill a vacancy for the office of Constable of the 6th District due to the resignation of James W. "Jim" Baldwin. Mayor Potts requested for the names of those who have filed the required Affidavit for Election to the Office of Constable be announced to Commission. County Clerk Frank Herndon announced the names of Mackey E. Wilson, Dusty Fisher, and Brian Millington. Mayor Potts opened the floor for nominations, Commissioner Blevins nominated Mackey Wilson, Commissioner Walker nominated Brian Millington. Hearing no further nominations, Commissioner Scarlett moved that nominations cease, Commissioner Byrd provided a second. Hearing no objections, nominations were **closed**. A Roll Call vote was taken Millington 6 – Wilson 13, and Mackey E. Wilson was **appointed** to the Office of Constable for the 6th District to complete the term of James W. "Jim" Baldwin.

Millington: Douglas, Byrd, Seals, Scarlett, Carmichael, and Walker.

Wilson: Huffaker, Kesterson, Patterson, Warren, Lowe, Phagan, Langley, Blevins, Bales, Coleman, Dockery, Reed, and Thomas (Commissioner Solomon abstained from the vote).

2. Change to Rules of Procedure – Page 1, Line 13, Rule I – Meetings, A, (Change on Line 17). "The June Meeting date be scheduled for Fiscal Year-end Budget Process." Commissioner Scarlett moved to approve the rule change, Commissioner Dockery provided a second. A Roll Call vote was taken, and the motion **carried** 20-0 (in favor: all present).
3. 2020 Jefferson County Commission Regular Session Schedule: A motion to approve the schedule as presented was provided by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Coleman. A Roll Call vote was taken, and the schedule was **approved** 20-0 (in favor: all present).

B. Compliance Officer, Commissioner Tim "Pop" Seals

1. **Resolution 2019-52**, Resolution of Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission Agreeing to Release Relinquish, and Cede the Jurisdiction of Jefferson County Growth Plan dated September 21, 2015 as being a part of the Urban Growth Boundaries of the Town of Dandridge, the City of Jefferson City, and the Town of White Pine to each municipalities' Planning Commission. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Solomon, seconded by Commissioner Carmichael. With a Roll Call vote taken, **Resolution 2019-52** was **approved** 17-1-2 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Patterson, Lowe, Phagan, Langley, Solomon, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed and Thomas, Commissioners Seals and Warren abstained).

2. **Resolution 2019-53**, Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Jefferson County Adopting and Approving the Regional Planning Area and the Territorial Jurisdiction of Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Solomon, seconded by Commissioner Carmichael. With a Roll Call vote taken, **Resolution 2019-53** was **approved** 18-0-2 (in favor: Huffaker, Kesterson, Douglas, Patterson, Lowe, Phagan, Byrd, Langley, Solomon, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas, Commissioners Seals and Warren abstained).

C. Finance Director – Langdon Potts

1. **Resolution 2019-58**, Resolution to declare as surplus and to authorize the Archives of Jefferson County to surplus said equipment. A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Solomon, seconded by Commissioner Scarlett, a Roll Call vote was taken, and **Resolution 2019-58** was **approved** 20-0 (in favor: all present).
2. State of Tennessee Official Statutory Bond for County Public Official: Office of Finance Director – A motion to approve was provided by Commissioner Seals, seconded by Commissioner Phagan, with a Roll Call vote taken the Finance Director’s Bond was **approved** 20-0 (in favor: all present).

D. Budget Committee, Chairman John Neal Scarlett

1. County Amendments
 - a. General Fund 101, Amendment #7: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).
 - b. General Fund 101, Amendment #8: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).
 - c. General Fund 101, Amendment #9: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).
2. School Amendments
 - a. General Purpose Fund 141, Amendments #7: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).
 - b. Food Service Fund 143, Amendment #2: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 20-0 (in favor: all present).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Potts excused the audience for a scheduled executive session with the County Attorney. At the completion of the Executive Session, Mayor Potts invited the audience to return to the gallery.

Hearing no further business before the commission, a motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Solomon, a second was offered by Commissioner Kesterson and with no objection voiced, the meeting was **adjourned** at 8:13 PM.



County Commission Chair, Mayor Mark Potts



County Clerk, Frank C. Herndon