

## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT**, the Special Called Session of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners began and was held in and for the aforementioned State and County on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023 A.D. at 6:30 P.M., at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Dandridge, Tennessee. Present and Presiding were Chairman Jimmy Carmichael; County Clerk Frank Herndon; and the following County Commissioners answering to Roll Call Docket Book 4 Page 182 to-wit: Katy Huffaker, Janet Norton, Joe Coleman, Jimmy Dale Patterson, Austin Brooks, Jim Snodgrass, Greg Byrd, John Johnson, Tim Seals, Robert Blevins, Randy Bales, John Neal Scarlett, Ronny Coleman, Terry Dockery, A.J. Walker, Marcus Reed, and Heidi Thomas. Eighteen (18) members were present, three (3) were absent: Paul Lowe, Sammy Solomon, and Ransom Douglas.

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Carmichael at 6:30 P.M. An invocation was given by Chaplain Joe Coleman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Jimmy Carmichael.

**APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

David Seal 9<sup>th</sup> District – Spoke against the use of Eminent Domain by Jefferson City.

Mike Foley 1<sup>st</sup> District – Spoke against the use of Eminent Domain by Jefferson City.

**APPROVAL OF NOTARIES AND BONDS**

County Clerk Frank Herndon requested to add the name of Bailey Beth Sovine to the list for approval. Commissioner Seals moved to approve the list of notaries as presented with the mentioned addition, Commissioner Byrd seconded the motion. The motion **carried** on a Roll Call vote 18-0 (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.

Claire Lieggi

Jessica E. Gray

Julia V. Lawson

Jacquelyn Nicole Ester

Vince Lee Smith

Sara Lynn Hubbard

Ted Sayer

Cheyenne S. Martin

Melissa Erbaugh

McKenzie Tucker

Bailey Beth Sovine

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Chairwoman Heidi Thomas – The nominating committee recommends Austin Brooks for the agriculture extension committee. Hearing no further nominations from the floor, Commissioner Dockery provided a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Blevins. Commissioner Brooks was **approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-0 (in favor: all present).

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

A. Budget Committee – Chairman John Neal Scarlett

1. County Amendments

a. General Fund 101 – Amendment #11 Items 1-19: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-0 (in favor: all present).

b. General Fund 101 – Amendment #12 Item 1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-0 (in favor: all present).

- c. Tennessee Opioid Abatement Fund 121 – Amendment #3 Item 1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 18-0 (in favor: all present).
  - d. Capital Fund 171 – Amendment #2 Items 1-2: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 16-2 (in favor: Huffaker, J. Coleman, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Byrd, Johnson, Seals, Blevins, Bales, R. Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).
2. School Amendments
- a. General Purpose Fund 141 – Amendment #7 Item 1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 13-5 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Bryd, Johnson, Bales, Scarlett, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).
  - b. General Purpose Fund 141 – Amendment #9 Items 1-7: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 13-5 (in favor: Huffaker, Patterson, Brooks, Byrd, Johnson, Seals, Bales, Scarlett, R. Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, and Thomas).
  - c. Federal Fund 142 – Amendment #4 Item 1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 15-3 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Byrd, Johnson, Seals, Bales, Scarlett, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).
  - d. Federal Fund 142 – Amendment #5 Items 1-3: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 14-4 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Byrd, Johnson, Bales, Scarlett, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).
  - e. Education Capital Fund 177 – Amendment #4 Item 1: **Approved** on a Roll Call vote 11-7 (in favor: Huffaker, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Johnson, Bales, Scarlett, Carmichael, Walker, Reed, and Thomas).

**General Purpose Fund 141 – Amendment #8 Item 1:** Commissioner Scarlett stated that this item failed in budget committee, however he requested to move it for approval from the floor, a second was provided by Commissioner Bales. After discussion, the amendment **failed** on a Roll Call vote 7-11 (in favor: Huffaker, Byrd, Johnson, Bales, Scarlett, Carmichael, and Thomas).

**RESOLUTION 2023-55 INTERFUND CAPITAL OUTLAY NOTE FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS ENERGY PROJECT**

Resolution of the Governing Body of Jefferson County, Tennessee, authorizing the issuance, sale, and payment of general obligation interfund capital outlay note in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000). Commissioner Scarlett announced that this item had been **withdrawn** by the School Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Resolution 2023-53** – A Resolution opposing Jefferson City’s Abuse of Eminent Domain against Tennova Jefferson Memorial Hospital and its parent company and urging the Tennessee General Assembly to amend Eminent Domain Law, part definition, to exclude recreational facilities from the “Public Use” definition under T.C.A. §29-17-102 and to include additional provisions as described herein. Resolution 2023-53 was moved for approval by Commissioner R. Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Byrd. A Roll Call vote was taken, and **Resolution 2023-53** was **approved** 17-1 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, J. Coleman, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Byrd, Johnson, Seals, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, R. Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, and Reed).
- B. **Rule Suspension** – Commissioner Dockery moved to suspend the rules to present two funding requests that had not been presented to the budget committee. Commissioner Scarlett provided a second. A Roll Call vote was taken 18-0 in favor: all present), and the rules were **suspended**.

- C. Commissioner Dockery – Funding Request to oppose the acquisition of land owned by Tennova Jefferson Memorial Hospital. Commissioner Dockery moved “that we provide up to \$25,000 of funding for our county attorneys to represent Jefferson County in the eminent domain proceedings that Jefferson City Council has initiated and assist in every way to get the eminent domain request made by Jefferson City Council denied”. Commissioner Bales provided a second. After discussion, a Roll Call vote was taken 17-1 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, J. Coleman, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Byrd, Johnson, Seals, Blevins, Bales, Scarlett, R. Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, and Reed) and the funding request was **approved**.
- D. Commissioner Dockery – Funding Request to reimburse David Seal for travel expenses incurred travelling to Nashville to lobby for Eminent Domain law changes. Commissioner Dockery moved that we fund up to \$3,000 from fund balance to reimburse David Seal for Mileage, Food, Lodging, and Parking, for travel to Nashville to lobby for law changes as related to Resolution 2023-53. A second was provided by Commissioner R. Coleman. A Roll Call vote was taken 14-4 (in favor: Huffaker, Norton, J. Coleman, Patterson, Brooks, Snodgrass, Seals, Bales, Scarlett, R. Coleman, Dockery, Carmichael, Walker, and Reed) and the funding was **approved**.
- E. **Daryl Brady** - Commissioner Reed requested to allow Daryl Brady to speak on the eminent domain issue stating that he was not present during the citizen comment time due to a prior engagement. Mr. Brady addressed the body and applauded them for their passage of Resolution 2023-53 stating that he was unaware of any time that eminent domain had been used in Jefferson County for Retail, Industrial, or Recreational purposes and he thanked the commission for their support of the issue.
- F. **Grateful Nation Project** – Commissioner Reed presented information on the Grateful Nation Project and requested the Commissions support Commissioner Brooks provided a second, a voice vote was taken, and support of the project was approved with no objection voiced.

There being no further business of the called agenda before the Commission, on a motion by Commissioner Scarlett, seconded by Commissioner Bales, the meeting was **adjourned** with no objection voiced, at 7:55 PM.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Commission Chair, James E. Carmichael

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk, Frank C. Herndon