



Time Code  
Position

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

0:50 **PRESENTATION – CHATTANOOGA SCHOOL FOR THE LIBERAL ARTS (CSLA) –  
CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS**

Commissioner Boyd presented Certificates of Congratulations to students from the Technology Team at Chattanooga School for the Liberal Arts (CSLA). The team won first place in the National Technology Student Association (TSA) Medical Technology Challenge Event in Dallas, Texas in June of 2011. He expressed his appreciation to the school for being a model of excellence to others in the system.

4:05 Commissioner Boyd recognized School Superintendent Rick Smith, School Board Member David Testerman, Principal Krystal Scarborough, and Technology Coach Rodney Massengale. Each of these individuals spoke regarding this achievement.

Members of the Technology Team were personally congratulated and shook hands with the Commission at this time.

Time Code  
Position

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

16:48 **PRESENTATION – SIGNAL MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL LADY EAGLES GOLF  
TEAM**

Commissioner Fields presented Certificates of Congratulations to the Signal Mountain High School Lady Eagles Golf Team in recognition of their winning the 2011 TSSAA Class A-AA State Championship. He pointed out that this golf team had achieved this honor for the third year in a row.

17:35 Principal Tom McCullough and Coach Rodney Mitchell thanked the Commission for their show of support for this achievement. Principal McCullough emphasized that the three seniors on the golf team had an average ACT score of 23. The national ACT score average is 21.

Commissioner Fields also presented Certificates of Congratulations to Coach Mitchell and the school at this time.

22:41 Commissioners Mackey and Skillern, Chairman Henry, and Mayor Coppinger made congratulatory remarks.

Commissioner Skillern stated that in the past the Commission had honored students who score 30 or higher on the ACT test. He noted that the previous school

Time Code  
Position

## HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION NOVEMBER 10, 2011

administration had only recognized this achievement once or twice. He shared a hope that the new Superintendent would begin providing this information to the Commission again for future recognition.

Members of the team were personally congratulated and shook hands with Commissioners at this time.

### 29:22 **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Chairman Henry indicated the upcoming agenda items would be considered as follows:

- Resolution No. 1111-17 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- A Fee Officials Report would be submitted for the record.
- A Quarterly Investment Report would be submitted for the record.
- Resolutions No. 1111-18 through 1111-21 were assigned to the Finance Committee chaired by Commissioner Skillerm.  
Resolution No. 1111-22 was assigned to a Committee of the Whole.
- Resolution No. 1111-23 is a board appointment requiring no committee assignment.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

Time Code  
Position

30:16 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - RESOLUTION NO. 1111-22**

Chairman Henry spoke regarding this Resolution, which would appropriate \$75,000 to the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, as previously allocated to the Multi-Cultural Chamber of Commerce. The funds would be used for the solicitation, inclusion, and continuing participation, as well as the dissemination of information to minority and economically disadvantaged businesses within Hamilton County.

Members of the Commission praised the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce and its President and CEO Tom Edd Wilson for being a leader in the southeast in business development. Mr. Wilson was recognized as being in attendance for today's meeting.

34:25 Commissioner Graham commended the Chamber of Commerce for also assisting with the Young Professionals Group.

Commissioner Beck clarified that the entity known as the Multi-Cultural Chamber of Commerce still remains in existence. He stated that the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce would be implementing a division of diversified marketing. He noted that this division would have its own Executive Director, who had not yet been selected. He

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

Time Code  
Position

expressed a desire to see an aggressive nationwide search for an appropriate individual to fill that role.

36:20 **DISCUSSION RE: RESOLUTION NO. 1111-23**

Chairman Henry spoke regarding this Resolution, which required no committee assignment. He stated that it would confirm the appointment of Chuck Baker and Matthew Vandergriff to the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Commission to serve three year terms ending November 16, 2014.

Commissioner McClure shared his belief that both of these individuals were tremendous assets to the community and looked forward to them serving in this capacity.

37:30 **PRESENTATION – SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT RICK SMITH – S.T.E.M.  
INITIATIVE**

School Superintendent Rick Smith addressed the Commission and announced an initiative within the school system involving the local business and industry, higher education, and philanthropic communities. He noted that these groups have been contacted to invest in an initiative called the Science Technology Education Math

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

(STEM) Education Coalition. He informed the Commission that a grant received by the State three years ago required that a minimum of two STEM schools were to be built. These schools are located in Nashville and Knoxville.

Superintendent Smith reported that his office had been notified by the State Department of Education in June that there was interest to build a STEM school in southeast Tennessee. Hamilton County filed a letter of intent three weeks ago, with a proposal due by the end of the year. If Hamilton County was selected for a STEM school, the school would have to be in operation by next August, which he stated was a very aggressive timeline. He shared his support of this project. He noted that the sustainability of this initiative would depend on continued commitments by the business, education, and philanthropic communities.

47:28 Commissioner McClure thanked Superintendent Smith for his leadership since beginning his service as Superintendent.

50:20 **REQUEST FOR RFP ON ARCHITECTURAL SELECTION PROCESS**

Superintendent Smith requested that the Commission authorize the selection of an architect to begin the process of replacing Ooltewah Elementary School. He noted that as growth in east Hamilton County continued, the new school's location would

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

enhance the ability to meet the demands of student enrollment in the area. He looked forward to working with the Commission on school construction projects now and in the future.

Upon questioning by Commissioner Graham, Public Works Administrator Dan Wade responded that a Resolution was not required to begin the process. He indicated that he would begin the process immediately. Once an architect was selected, a Resolution would be brought before the Commission to consider approval of the architect.

51:46

Commissioner Beck requested that Superintendent Smith share his vision for actions to assist underachieving schools. Superintendent Smith responded that the State Department of Education had made a number of changes that would affect how things were done. During the last legislative session, significant changes to collective bargaining, tenure, and the evaluation process were made. He stated his belief that these changes would alter the dynamics in local education for underachieving schools.

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding the teacher's recent loss of the right to collectively bargain. He shared a concern that teachers often encountered challenges without feeling supported by the administration. He stated that these teachers needed an increase in protection.

Time Code  
Position

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

1:05:25 Commissioner Skillern and Chairman Henry thanked Superintendent Smith for the positive impact he was having on the County school system.

1:09:25 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Henry asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

1:09:43 Commissioner McClure reported that his town hall meeting at Loftis Middle School earlier this week had gone very well and was well attended. He stated that he conducted a non-scientific polling of the group in attendance and found that no one present desired to be annexed by the City of Chattanooga or become a part of a metropolitan government.

1:10:51 Commissioner McClure reported that he was recently contacted by Julian Bell, with Bell Development. Mr. Bell informed him that over 100 new housing units were being built at Stonewall Farms and 68 new units at Sedman Hills. He noted that as growth occurred throughout the County, local developers were installing sewers, fire hydrants, and other things that were beneficial for growth. He noted that these housing units were also added to the tax rolls.

Time Code  
Position

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Henry asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

Being no further business, Chairman Henry declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

12-07-11  
Date

W.F.K.  
Clerk's Initials