

Time Code

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2011**

Position

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )           Regular Meeting

**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )           December 7, 2011

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011, a Regular Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was begun and held at the Courthouse, in the City of Chattanooga, in the County Commission Room, when the following proceedings were held, to wit:--

0:23           Present and presiding was the Honorable Larry Henry, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Beck, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Fields, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner McClure, Commissioner Skillern, and Chairman Henry. Total present - 9. Total absent – 0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of his administrative staff, Assistant County Attorney David Norton, and County Auditor Bill McGriff.

Attached hereto is a copy of the Public Notice of this meeting, which was published in a local newspaper and made a matter of record of this meeting.

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0:36 Commissioner Boyd introduced his Sunday school teacher Mike Hendrix, who gave the invocation. Commissioner Boyd led in the pledge to the flag.

Commissioner Boyd presented Mr. Hendrix with a commemorative paperweight in recognition for his years of service in the community.

2:57 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of November 10, 2011, the Agenda Preparation Session of November 10, 2011, and the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2011, be approved, treat same as read, made a matter of record and filed. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:

Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**3:35      PRESENTATION – CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION – HAMILTON COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Mayor Coppinger presented Certificates of Appreciation to Myron Schroefer, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Paramedic, and Kelly Turnow, EMT. These individuals responded to a 911 call in July to find a woman in active premature labor at 22 weeks. They provided on-site delivery, caring for the baby and mother until both were transported to Erlanger Children’s Hospital for further assessment and care.

Mayor Coppinger, Chairman Henry, and EMS Chief Ken Wilkerson extended their appreciation to these individuals for their selfless dedication to the citizens of Hamilton County.

**12:57      Commissioner McClure also congratulated Chief Wilkerson, who was recently selected as the Tennessee Homeland Security Responder of the Year for District 3.**

**13:42      RESOLUTION NO. 1211-1    A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE OATH OF JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER, AND THE OATH OF DEPUTY SHERIFF.**

Clerk Knowles indicated there were no additions or deletions to the Resolution.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner McClure, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-1. The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

14:17

**ORDER OF APPOINTMENT**

County Mayor Coppinger submitted for the record an Order appointing Thomas J. Reavley for a four-year term as a Commissioner of Sale Creek Utility District, said term expiring December 7, 2015.

14:38

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-2 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE COUNTY MAYOR OF ONE MEMBER TO THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 7, 2015.**

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Resolution No. 1211-2 confirms the appointment of Michael J. Griffin to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Hospital Authority Board of Trustees, to serve a four year term ending December 7, 2015.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fields, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-2. The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

15:17 **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-3 A RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT ONE MEMBER TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT COMMISSION TO SERVE A THREE (3) YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 7, 2011.**

Resolution No. 1211-3 confirms the reappointment of Carl William Willis to the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Commission, to serve a three year term ending December 7, 2014.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner McClure, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-3. The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Chairman Henry asked that Resolutions No. 1211-4, 1211-5, and 1211-7 be considered together, unless a Commissioner desired to hear a Resolution separately. There was no objection to combining the Resolutions.

16:09 **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-4 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PURCHASE OF GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2011, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2011, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-5 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE RENEWAL OFFER FOR THE VOLUNTARY LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2012, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2012, FROM TOTAL INSURANCE SOLUTION THROUGH MUTUAL OF OMAHA AND TO**

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**AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-7 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF INTERACTIVE TERRORISM BRIEFINGS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY FROM THE WEXFORD GROUP INTERNATIONAL AMOUNTING TO \$17,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Skillern stated that the Finance Committee reviewed Resolutions No. 1211-4, 1211-5, and 1211-7 and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Skillern, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolutions No. 1211-4, 1211-5, and 1211-7. The foregoing Resolutions were unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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18:49 **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-6 A RESOLUTION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL BY THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WIDENING OF SR-29 (US 27) OLGATI BRIDGE OVER TENNESSEE RIVER BRIDGE IN HAMILTON COUNTY.**

Commissioner Bankston stated that the Roads Committee reviewed Resolution No. 1211-6 and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner McClure, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-6. The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

19:47 **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-8 A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.**

Commissioner Skillern stated that the Finance Committee reviewed Resolution No. 1211-8 and recommended approval. He noted that this policy had been prepared in

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order to meet State required provisions relative to transparency, professionals, and conflicts.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Skillern, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-8. The motion was not voted on at this time.

21:00

Finance Administrator Louis Wright pointed out that the Commission had received a new attachment to this Resolution which contained two changes. The front page of the attachment was now labeled as "Exhibit A". Additionally, language on page 7 relating to interest rate swaps and options had been deleted.

The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Chairman Henry requested that Clerk Knowles replace the previous attachment with the one that had been distributed.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-9 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BY-LAWS OF THE  
CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL.**

Commissioner Fields stated that the Legal Committee reviewed Resolution No. 1211-9 and recommended approval. He stated that this amendment would clarify the terms for membership appointment to four years, in keeping with recent practices.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fields, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-9. The foregoing Resolution was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Aye"; Commissioner Fields, "Aye"; Commissioner Graham, "Aye"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Aye"; Commissioner Skillern, "Aye"; and Chairman Henry, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Chairman Henry asked that Resolutions No. 1211-10, 1211-11, and 1211-13 be considered together, unless a Commissioner desired to hear a Resolution separately. There was no objection to combining the Resolutions. He noted that Resolution No. 1211-12 had been approved at the December 1<sup>st</sup> Recessed Meeting.

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23:09   **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-10   A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF A RAPE PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAM USING FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000 FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 2011, ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2012.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-11   A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO RENEW THE LEASE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,800 ANNUALLY WITH CHATTANOOGA CHURCH MINISTRIES, INC. D.B.A., CHATTANOOGA COMMUNITY KITCHEN FOR SPACE FOR USE BY HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S HOMELESS HEALTH CARE CENTER, FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2012.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-13   A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A STATE OF TENNESSEE, GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE GRANT FOR THE "SAFE JOURNEY" PROJECT WITH A TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2012 AND**

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**AMENDING THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE OPERATING BUDGET BY ADDING \$75,000  
TO REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.**

Commissioner Skillern stated that the Finance Committee reviewed Resolutions No. 1211-10, 1211-11, and 1211-13 and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Skillern, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolutions No. 1211-10, 1211-11, and 1211-13. The foregoing Resolutions were unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”; Commissioner Beck, “Aye”; Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”; Commissioner Fields, “Aye”; Commissioner Graham, “Aye”; Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”; Commissioner McClure, “Aye”; Commissioner Skillern, “Aye”; and Chairman Henry, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

(Resolution No. 1211-12 was heard at the recessed meeting of December 1, 2011.)

26:28

**RESOLUTION NO. 1211-14 A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THIS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY’S DISAPPROVAL WITH THE PASSAGE OF TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 2-2-141 ET SEQ., RELATIVE TO THE REQUIREMENT OF ALL VOTERS IN ELECTIONS POSSESS A STATE-ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION, AND TO REQUEST THE HAMILTON COUNTY**

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**LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION TO INITIATE STEPS IN THE 107<sup>TH</sup> TENNESSEE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REPEAL SAID ACT.**

Chairman Henry reported that this Resolution had been considered by a Committee of the Whole.

Commissioner Mackey noted that during last week's Committee of the Whole discussion, it seemed as though it was the sentiment of the Commission to not approve this Resolution. He stated his opinion that it was often a hardship on senior citizens to coordinate transportation and other means to visit an office where these IDs were issued. He questioned whether the Commission would be agreeable to amending the Resolution that individuals 55 and older be exempt from this State law.

Commissioner Beck indicated his agreement with Commissioner Mackey's comments.

Commissioners Boyd and Graham spoke in opposition to the Resolution indicating their support of the State initiative designed to decrease the amount of fraudulent and illegal voting.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 1211-14. The foregoing Resolution was rejected on a Roll Call

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vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Nay"; Commissioner Beck, "Aye"; Commissioner Boyd, "Nay"; Commissioner Fields, "Nay"; Commissioner Graham, "Nay"; Commissioner Mackey, "Aye"; Commissioner McClure, "Nay"; Commissioner Skillern, "Nay"; and Chairman Henry, "Nay". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 2. Total "Nay" votes – 7.

37:32 **RESOLUTION NO. 1211-15 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF PINK DUMPSTERS ON HAMILTON COUNTY PROPERTIES IN SUPPORT OF THE "SCRAP FOR THE CURE FOR CANCER" CAMPAIGN AS SPONSORED BY THE JUNKYARD MAFIA.**

Chairman Henry reported that Resolution No. 1211-15 had been withdrawn.

37:52 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Henry asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

37:56 Commissioner Boyd spoke regarding an event he had recently been invited to attend at Bessie Smith Hall involving a proposed mural project in Chattanooga. He noted how refreshing it was to hear members of the community express positive comments about Hamilton County and why they enjoy living there.

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40:10            Commissioner Graham reported that he had been involved in the recent community event Main Times 24 (MainX24) in downtown Chattanooga. He stated that the activities and parade had gone very well and gave thanks to all who had contributed. He noted that Lookout Valley would be having a Christmas parade at 12:00 PM on Browns Ferry Road on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Chattanooga would also have a parade later that evening at 6:00 PM.

40:58            Commissioner McClure made comments regarding a recent spelling bee held at Loftis Middle School. He commended the students on their hard work, noting the high participation and involvement of their parents and teachers in their academics.

                  Mayor Coppinger noted that he and the Commission would be honored at the Christmas at the Courthouse event held in the Courts Building on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

42:35            Mayor Coppinger announced that on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Urban Growth Coordinating Committee would reconvene for a meeting to be held in the Commission Room at 6:00 PM. Clerk Knowles reported that a legal advertisement regarding this meeting had already run in two different media sources.

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43:31 Chairman Henry spoke regarding today's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the surprise attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base. He stated that a special documentary would be televised on The History Channel tonight and invited anyone interested to watch.

45:39 Commissioner Mackey announced that the Hamilton County Council of PTAs would be holding a meeting at 11:00 AM today at Hixson Middle School and had invited all Commissioners to attend.

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Henry asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

46:20 A group of residents addressed the Commission regarding today's vote on Resolution No. 1211-14, which would have expressed the Commission's disapproval with the State law requiring all voters in elections to have a State-issued photo identification. The Resolution was rejected. These residents included Paul Smith, Chairman of the Hamilton County Democratic Party; Frank Eaton, a Hixson resident; and Phil Phillips, a Harrison resident. Each individual expressed their belief that this law created an additional hurdle for voters to participate in the democratic process.

There being no further business, Chairman Henry declared the meeting in recess until Thursday December 15, 2011 at 9:30 AM.

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Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

12-21-11  
Date

WJK  
Clerk's Initials