

**RECESSED MEETING
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 24, 2020**

STATE OF TENNESSEE) Recessed Meeting
COUNTY OF HAMILTON) June 24, 2020

0:01

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 24th day of June, 2020, a Recessed Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was conducted electronically pursuant to Executive Order No. 16 issued by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee on March 20, 2020 and Executive Order No. 34 issued on May 6, 2020 in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), when the following proceedings were held, to wit:--

Present and presiding was the Honorable Chairman Randy Fairbanks. Chief Deputy County Clerk Brooke Weaver called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Baker, Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Fairbanks. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger and County Attorney Rheubin Taylor.

Chairman Fairbanks asked County Attorney Rheubin Taylor to offer the invocation. Commissioner Bankston led in the pledge to the flag.

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Chairman Fairbanks read a statement into the record regarding today's electronic meeting. He stated the Governor's directive allows local governmental bodies to conduct their meetings without its members being physically assembled together in order to reduce exposing the general public, members of those local governmental bodies, and governmental staff to the possibility of contracting COVID-19. Chairman Fairbanks reported each Commissioner, staff member, or member of the public participating in today's meeting is doing so from his or her own home or outside office, and none is gathered together in any one place.

Chairman Fairbanks explained prior to the conclusion of today's meeting, all viewers would be advised how they may call in; identify themselves; and address the Commission on matters other than zoning. He added the meeting would be livestreamed for public access on County's YouTube page, which can be found by visiting www.youtube.com/hamiltoncountyttn.

Chairman Fairbanks announced that without objection, the Commission's present Rules of Procedure would be suspended in order to conduct today's meeting in conformance with the Governor's directive. There was no objection.

After a brief discussion regarding the expiration on June 30th of Governor Lee's directive (Executive Orders No. 16 and 34), which allowed electronic meetings, Chairman Fairbanks stated several items on the agenda would be discussed and voted

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on during today's Recessed Meeting. He announced he would then adjourn today's Recessed Meeting and open an Agenda Session to discuss the remaining items on the agenda, which would be voted on at next week's regular Commission Meeting. He noted next week's meeting would be conducted in the Hamilton County Courthouse.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON MOTION of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of June 10, 2020 and the Recessed Meeting of June 17, 2020 be approved, treat same as read, made a matter of record and filed. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Baker was not present for the roll cal. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for May 2020 were submitted and made a matter of record.

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ORDER OF REAPPOINTMENT

County Mayor Coppinger submitted for the record an Order reappointing Jeff Davis to the Hixson Utility District Board of Commissioners to serve a four-year term expiring June 14, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-25 A RESOLUTION GRANTING A SPECIAL PERMIT FOR AN OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGE FOR PART OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10335 HIGHWAY 58.

It was noted Resolution No. 620-25 was initially presented on June 10, 2020 at which time it was deferred to June 24, 2020.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to reject Resolution No. 620-25. The foregoing Motion to reject was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 2.

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RESOLUTION NO. 620-36 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO HARRISON RURITAN FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT NINE.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 620-36. 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 Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-37 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MOUNTAIN EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT TWO.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 620-37. 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 Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-38 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE FRIENDS OF THE CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT SIX.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 620-38. 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 Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley,

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“Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-39 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MENTAL HEALTH COURT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$238.65 FROM GENERAL FUND DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT SIX, AND TO AMEND THE GENERAL FUND EXPENSE BUDGET FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH COURT BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL \$238.65 TO EXPENDITURES FROM PREVIOUSLY UNBUDGETED FUNDS.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 620-39. 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 Baker, “Aye”, Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

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RESOLUTION NO. 620-44 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AND SETTING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE YEAR 2020 FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-45 A RESOLUTION MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO NONPROFIT CHARITABLE AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2021.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 620-44.

Commissioner Boyd read a statement into the record regarding the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget. He stated he was concerned that certain supported agencies funded in the county budget have drifted from their core missions. He offered an amendment to the budget that would reduce funding for supported agencies by \$810,000 and increase the budget for the Board of Commissioners by \$810,000. He stated the reallocated funds to the Board of Commissioners would be divided equally among the nine County Commissioners for use in support of community projects throughout Hamilton County by way of grants issued to non-profits residing in Hamilton County. A copy of Commissioner Boyd's statement was filed in the Clerk's Office.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Mackey to amend Resolution No. 620-44 to reduce funding for supported agencies by \$810,000 and increasing the Commission's budget by \$810,000 to be divided equally among Commissioners and used for various community projects in Hamilton County.

At Mayor Coppinger's request, Commissioner Boyd read his suggested list of budget adjustments to supported agencies, which totaled a reduction of \$810,000. A copy of the list was filed in the Clerk's Office.

At this time, a lengthy discussion took place between Commissioners and Mayor Coppinger regarding Commissioner Boyd's proposed amendment. Several Commissioners questioned the term "mission drift" and voiced concerns about reducing funding for supported agencies as well as the timing of the amendment. Other topics discussed included discretionary funds and addressing community projects in Hamilton County.

Several Commissioners thanked Commissioner Boyd for his proposed amendment and voiced support for further conversation regarding funding for needed community projects at a later time.

Commissioner Martin called for the question, seconded by Commissioner Baker.

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The foregoing Motion to Move the Previous Question was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

The foregoing Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Mackey to amend Resolution No. 620-44 was rejected on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Nay", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Nay", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay", Commissioner Smedley, "Nay", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Nay". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 3. Total "Nay" votes – 6.

The foregoing Motion to adopt Resolution No. 620-44 was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner

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Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0.

Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 620-45. 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 Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 620-43 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 WITH THE URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA TO PROVIDE CERTAIN CONTRACT COMPLIANCE SERVICES FOR A CONTRACT PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2021.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 620-43.

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In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Mayor Coppinger explained the contract compliance services the Urban League provides to Hamilton County.

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 Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Mayor Coppinger thanked Commissioners for adopting the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget today. He also thanked the Finance Department staff for their work in putting together the budget. He noted Hamilton County continues to hold a AAA bond rating from the top three bond rating agencies.

Time Code
Position

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Being no further business Chairman Fairbanks declared the Recessed Meeting
adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved

07-15-20
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials