

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 19, 2015**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**                    )  
Regular Meeting

**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**                )  
August 19, 2015

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015, 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:--

0:32

Present and presiding was the Honorable Jim Fields, 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 Fairbanks, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Haynes, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Fields. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of his administrative staff, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor, 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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0:52 Commissioner Smedley introduced Mitch McClure, Pastor of Middle Valley Church of God and former County Commissioner, who gave the invocation. Pastor McClure asked everyone to continue to pray for the families of the fallen soldiers that were affected by the July 16<sup>th</sup> attacks. He also invited everyone to the groundbreaking ceremony of the new Dallas Bay #2 fire hall scheduled for September 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Commissioner Smedley led in the pledge to the flag.

3:39 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of July 29, 2015, the Agenda Preparation Session of July 29, 2015, and the Regular Meeting of August 5, 2015, be approved, treat same as read, made a matter of record and filed.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman

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Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

4:12

**TRUSTEE'S AMENDED REPORTS**

The Trustee's amended and second amended excess fee reports for June 2015 were submitted and made a matter of record.

**TRUSTEE'S UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Trustee's unaudited financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 was submitted and made a matter of record.

**TRUSTEE'S UNPAID REAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

The Trustee's 2014 unpaid real property tax levy was submitted and made a matter of record.

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**FEE OFFICE REPORTS**

Fee reports for the following constitutional officers were submitted as a matter of record:

Clerk & Master – April 2015 through June 2015  
Circuit Court Clerk – April 2015 through June 2015  
Register of Deeds – April 2015 through June 2015  
County Clerk – April 2015 through June 2015

**ORDER OF DESIGNATION**

An order was submitted for the record designating Todd Leamon to sit as the County Mayor's representative on the Planning Commission for the meeting of August 10, 2015.

4:44

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-34 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, THE OATH OF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK, AND TO FILE THE BONDS OF SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Haynes, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 815-34.

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Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Chairman Fields reported that Resolution Nos. 815-35 through 815-37, 815-41, 815-42, and 815-47 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

5:33      **RESOLUTION NO. 815-35 A RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO SERVE A SIX (6) YEAR TERM BEGINNING AUGUST 19, 2015 AND ENDING AUGUST 19, 2021.**

This resolution reappoints Leroy Grant and Lamar McDaniel to the Hamilton County Industrial Development Board for terms ending August 19, 2021.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 815-35.

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Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

6:13

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-36 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT  
BY THE COUNTY MAYOR OF ONE MEMBER TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY BEER  
BOARD WITH TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 15, 2018.**

This resolution reappoints Dean Moorehouse to the Hamilton County Beer Board for a term ending August 15, 2018.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 815-36.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

6:58

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-37 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT  
BY THE COUNTY MAYOR OF THREE MEMBERS TO THE SCENIC CITIES  
BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION WITH TERMS ENDING AUGUST 17, 2018.**

This resolution reappoints Deborah Noel-Maddox, Greather Tinker, and Heather Bruggink for terms ending August 17, 2018.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 815-37.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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:

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Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Beck, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-40 WAS NOT USED.**

Chairman Fields noted that Resolution No. 815-40 was not used.

7:50

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-41 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT NINE.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 815-41.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:



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Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Beck, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Nay", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 1.

8:35

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-42 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF TWENTY TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$22,370.00) FROM DISCRETIONARY BOND FUNDS (AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT FOUR) TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR A SIGN AT BROWN MIDDLE SCHOOL.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 815-42.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman

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Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-46 WAS NOT USED.**

Chairman Fields noted that Resolution No. 815-46 was not used.

9:20

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-47 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ENTERING INTO OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE AND THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE PARTIAL FUNDING OF CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE AT AND AROUND THE EXIT ONE INTERCHANGE OF INTERSTATE 75, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS NECESSARY THERETO.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 815-47.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion. There was none.

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:

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Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Beck, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Graham, “Aye”, Commissioner Haynes, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fields, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

10:29 Chairman Fields asked that Resolution Nos. 815-38, 815-39, and 815-43 through 815-45 be considered together at this time.

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-38 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE “2015 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT” WITH A TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 AND AMENDING THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET BY \$39, 914.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-39 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID FROM GT DISTRIBUTORS OF GEORGIA, INC. FOR NEW GLOCK 22-GEN 4 WEAPONS VIA A WEAPONS EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-43 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BIDS OF SHIELDS ELECTRONICS SUPPLY, INC. AND COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLY CORPORATION FOR A SIX (6) MONTHS CONTRACT UNIT PRICING, BEGINNING AUGUST 19,**

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**2015, THROUGH FEBRUARY 18, 2016, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR SIX (6) ADDITIONAL MONTHS, FOR COMMUNICATIONS CABLE FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-44 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF CHATTANOOGA TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT FOR ONE (1) COMPACT TRACTOR WITH FRONT END LOADER AND BACKHOE AMOUNTING TO \$29, 900.00 FOR THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 815-45 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF ASA ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING, INC. TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING INSPECTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF OOLTEWAH-RINGGOLD ROAD AND STANDIFER GAP ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF OOLTEWAH-RINGGOLD ROAD AND EAST BRAINERD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$349, 615.74.**

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Commissioner Graham provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 815-38, 815-39, 815-43 through 815-45 and stated that the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval. He requested that Resolution No. 815-45 be voted on separately.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution Nos. 815-38, 815-39, 815-43, and 815-44.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any further discussion. There was none.

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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

In anticipation of comments and questions arising about yesterday's incident in General Sessions Court Commissioner Beck requested that Sheriff Jim Hammond remain present during the duration of the meeting.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 815-45.

Chairman Fields asked if there was any discussion.

16:18

Commissioner Boyd pointed out that the engineering fees for the two East Brainerd road improvement projects were approximately 20% of the total cost of the improvements. He added that standard engineering fees for these types of projects range between 4% and 12%. It was noted that the fees are calculated based on time and materials needed. Commissioner Boyd stated that he would be supporting the Resolution. In closing, he reiterated that the purpose of his comments was to make the Commission aware of the exorbitant fees

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Todd Leamon, Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer, explained that there has been an increase in construction costs over the last several months.

In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Commissioner Boyd stated that the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is not required to bid out professional services for these types of projects. He added that the County and the engineering department do not have much control over the state's contracting process,

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and he will continue to look into the amount being paid to ASA Engineering and Consulting.

Commissioner Mackey suggested that voting on Resolution No. 815-45 be delayed until further investigation is completed.

20:19

Commissioner Smedley requested that the Commission move forward with voting on Resolution No. 815-45. She explained that she receives calls weekly from constituents about the dangerous intersections. She went on to say that both of these projects are much needed and long overdue.

21:05

Commissioner Graham added that Finance Committee reviewed this Resolution thoroughly after last week's Agenda Session. He reiterated Commissioner Boyd's point that the County has little control over the engineering fees. He added that he appreciated Commissioner Boyd investigating the situation further, but the Commission should not wait to vote on the projects.

Commissioner Beck called for the question. Commissioner Mackey seconded. There being no further discussion, Chairman Fields asked the Clerk to call the roll on the Motion to adopt the resolution.

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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 Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye", Commissioner Haynes, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fields, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

23:00      **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Fields asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

23:03      Commissioner Boyd began by thanking the Commission and the County Mayor for their support of the improvements at Exit 1 in East Ridge. He also spoke about the soccer game between the World Champion U.S. Women's National Team and Costa Rica, taking place today at Finley Stadium, 6:30 p.m. He encouraged everyone to be safe and patient at the event.

Commissioner Boyd also reminded members of the Commission and the audience about the community meeting called by Carol Berz, Chairman of the City Council, on August 28<sup>th</sup> at The Pointe at the University of Phoenix. He indicated there would be exciting announcements regarding District 8 projects made at that meeting.



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Commissioner Boyd spoke about meeting with the wife, Angie Smith, and three children of Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Randall Smith, one of the five service members killed during the July 16<sup>th</sup> Navy Operational Support Center shootings in Chattanooga. He emotionally described the experience and personally thanked everyone who assisted in facilitating the Memorial Service held Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Vice President of the United States Joe Biden, United States Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, and the United States Secretary of the Navy were principal speakers at the Memorial attended by family members of the deceased and the general public.

The lives of Gunnery Sergeant Thomas Sullivan, Staff Sergeant David Wyatt, Sergeant Carson Holmquist, Petty Officer 2nd Class Randall Smith, and Lance Corporal Squire K. Wells were honored with military traditions.

Several Commissioners spoke about attending the Memorial Service that was held at the McKenzie Arena. They specifically mentioned the Roll Call of the heroes as a solemn part of the memorial.

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27:20

Commissioner Graham announced that a young man in his district was afforded the opportunity to board Vice President Joe Biden's presidential airplane on Saturday to deliver lunch from Hillbilly Willy's, a barbeque restaurant in Lookout Valley where he works.

Commissioner Graham spoke of recent newspaper articles quoting student population numbers. He asked the Education Committee to look into the accuracy of said figures as they didn't correspond with the numbers he had received from the State.

Mayor Coppinger reminded the Commission about an employee benefits meeting taking place after the August 26<sup>th</sup> Agenda Session.

30:55

Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Beck spoke regarding a fight that broke out yesterday during a murder hearing in Judge Gary Starnes General Sessions courtroom. They each voiced their support for video hearings and encouraged the Commission to move forward with implementing video conferencing capabilities.

36:14

Mayor Coppinger recognized that Marc Gravitt, Vice Mayor of East Ridge and State Representative, was in the audience. The Mayor responded to the concerns about incorporating video hearings in Hamilton County courtrooms. It was noted that in order to allow video conferencing in Sessions Court, legislation would need to be changed.

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Mr. Gravitt added that he would be happy to sponsor legislation regarding video conferencing.

38:32      **DELEGATIONS**

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

There being no further business, Chairman Fields declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

09-02-15  
Date

W.F.K.  
Clerk's Initials