

**RECESSED MEETING
HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AUGUST 27, 2014**

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| STATE OF TENNESSEE |) | Recessed Meeting |
| COUNTY OF HAMILTON |) | August 27, 2014 |

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 27th day of August, 2014, a Recessed 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: --

0:10 Present and presiding was the Honorable Fred Skillern, 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 Fields, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Haynes, Commissioner Henry, and Chairman Skillern. Commissioners Boyd and Mackey were absent. Total present - 7. Total absent – 2.

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

Chairman Skillern later reported that Commissioners Boyd and Mackey would not be in attendance for today’s meeting.

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0:35 Commissioner Graham welcomed Pastor Clay Thomas, Rivermont Presbyterian Church, who gave the invocation. Commissioner Graham led in the pledge to the flag.

Chairman Skillern welcomed his wife Betty, District 1 Commissioner-elect Randy Fairbanks, District 7 Commissioner-elect Sabrena Turner-Smedley, and former City of Chattanooga Mayor Jon Kinsey to the meeting.

3:30 **TENNESSEE STATE REPRESENTATIVE VINCE DEAN RESIGNATION LETTER**

Clerk Knowles requested that letters of resignation, effective August 31, 2014, from Tennessee State Representative Vince Dean addressed to Clerk Knowles and Governor Bill Haslam be submitted for the record.

Upon questioning by Chairman Skillern, Attorney Taylor informed the Commission that the intent to fill the vacancy for the State Representative position would need to be legally advertised. His understanding of the law was that the advertisement process could not begin until the resignation became effective August 31, 2014.

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7:45

DISCUSSION RE: CITY OF CHATTANOOGA POLICE FIRING RANGE

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding morning news reports that City and County officials had abandoned East 12th Street plans to relocate the law enforcement firing range from Moccasin Bend. He noted that the Commission had not voted to abandon these plans.

Mayor Coppinger stated that he met Monday with Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke and representatives from the Sheriff and Police Departments. During the meeting, it became evident that the feedback from local law enforcement was to remain at the current site. Their response had indicated that the proposed design of the new facility would not adequately meet all training needs.

Mayor Coppinger reported that the Commission had previously approved an appropriation of up to \$1,500,000 for this project. He noted that the funds would no longer be needed for this purpose.

Chairman Skillern questioned whether the County had paid any money towards this project. Mayor Coppinger responded that the City of Chattanooga had paid an architect for the design of the proposed facility. There had been no request by the City for reimbursement by the County.

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Commissioner Haynes noted that the Friends of Moccasin Bend organization had been making preparations for the property where the firing range was currently located. He asked if there had been any plans made on how that issue would move forward.

Mayor Coppinger responded that in a month, Friends of Moccasin Bend anticipated to receive federal funding for their plans to build a museum and visitors center. He noted that before the City and County could have given the site to the National Park Service, a costly remediation of the property would have been necessary.

13:00

**PRESENTATION – TRUSTEE BILL HULLANDER – UNPAID REAL PROPERTY
TAXES**

Trustee Bill Hullander reported statistical figures regarding 2013 unpaid real property taxes as of July 30, 2014. A packet had been made available to each member of the Commission reflecting their respective district amounts. The packet and a one-page summary of these reports was also submitted to the Clerk's office for the record.

Chairman Skillern asked Commissioners if there was any additional business to be brought before the Recessed Meeting.

Hearing none, Chairman Skillern declared the meeting adjourned.

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Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

09-17-14
Date

WJK
Clerk's Initials