

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )            Recessed Meeting  
**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )            April 1, 2026

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026 at 5:00 PM, 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:--

Present and presiding was the Honorable Ken Smith, Chairman. Chief Deputy County Clerk Brooke Weaver called the roll of the County Commission, and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Chip Baker, Commissioner Greg Beck, Commissioner Mike Chauncey, Commissioner Jeff Eversole, Commissioner Joe Graham, Commissioner Lee Helton, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner Warren Mackey, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-o Shipley, and Chairman Ken Smith. Total present - 11. Total absent -0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Weston Wamp, members of his administrative staff, County Attorney Janie Varnell, and County Auditor Chris McCollough.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

0:50

Commissioner Shipley introduced Pastor Scott McCurdy, Church of the Highlands, to offer the invocation. Commissioner Shipley led the pledge to the flag.

**PRESENTATION – HONORING SUSAN BEDWELL FOR 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY TRUSTEE’S OFFICE**

3:05

Commissioner Helton introduced a presentation honoring Susan Bedwell for her 50 years of service to the Hamilton County Trustee’s Office and invited Hamilton County Trustee Bill Hullander to speak.

3:51

Trustee Hullander spoke regarding Ms. Bedwell’s career and contributions to the Trustee’s Office.

7:31

At this time, Trustee Hullander requested Deputy County Clerk Macey Mahaffey read the certificate congratulating Ms. Bedwell into the record. A copy of the certificate has been filed with the Clerk’s Office.

A round of applause and standing ovation were given.

9:10

Mayor Wamp commended Ms. Bedwell’s dedication to public service and contributions to Hamilton County government.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

10:01 Ms. Bedwell expressed appreciation for the recognition and reflected on her 50 years of service with the County.

**PRESENTATION – CHATTANOOGA TOURISM COMPANY**

11:53 Susan Harris, interim CEO of the Chattanooga Tourism Company, presented an overview of a sports facilities study evaluating opportunities to expand tournament-ready venues in Hamilton County. She noted the demand for sports events exceeds current capacity and emphasized the need for centralized, upgraded facilities to support tourism and economic growth. A copy of the presentation has been filed with the Clerk's Office.

17:28 John Di Meglio, Vice President of Kemper Sports, spoke about key findings from the study. He noted the need for a large indoor sports facility and expanded, centralized outdoor fields to meet demand and increase tourism. He also outlined potential improvements to existing venues and emphasized next steps, including detailed planning, site selection, and funding strategies to advance the projects. A copy of the summary has been filed with the Clerk's Office.

23:11 In response to Chairman Smith's question, Ms. Harris confirmed the summary and full study would be emailed to him.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

25:22           **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Eversole, seconded by Commissioner Graham, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of March 11, 2026, the Agenda Preparation Session of March 11, 2026, and the Regular Meeting of March 18, 2026, be approved, treated the 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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for February 2026 were submitted and made a matter of record.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**TRUSTEE UNCOLLECTED DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES REPORT**

The Trustee's annual Uncollected Delinquent Tax report for the 2024 levy was submitted as a matter of record.

**NOTICE OF ORDER – NORTH WEST UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS - SEAT 1**

A Notice of Order rejecting the certified list of nominees for Commission Seat 1 of the North West Utility District.

**NOTICE OF ORDER – NORTH WEST UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS - SEAT 2**

A Notice of Order rejecting the certified list of nominees for Commission Seat 2 of the North West Utility District Board of Commissioners.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT**

**APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS AND THE BONDS AND OATHS  
OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander,  
to adopt Resolution No. 426-1.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-2 A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF  
MARY ANDREWS AND THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF SKYLER PHILLIPS AND  
ANTHONY WATKINS TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL.**

26:25

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 426-2.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

Without objection, Chairman Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 426-3 and 426-4 to be read together.

27:04

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-3 A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ALICE CANNELLA BY THE COUNTY MAYOR TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY WATER & WASTEWATER TREATMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A TERM ENDING APRIL 7, 2031.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-4 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ONE (1) MEMBER TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD FOR RECREATION FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2026, AND ENDING APRIL 1, 2028.**

Resolution No. 426-4 will appoint Tom Marshall.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 426-3 and 426-4.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-5 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTINUATION CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2026 - MARCH 31, 2027, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000.00 TO PROVIDE MEDICAL CASE MANAGEMENT TO PEOPLE INFECTED WITH HIV/AIDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S RYAN WHITE PART B CORE MEDICAL SERVICES.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 426-5.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-6 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF ONE NEW HOLLAND BACKHOE FROM CHATTANOOGA TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT, INC. FROM THE TENNESSEE STATEWIDE CONTRACT AMOUNTING TO \$78,200.00 FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 426-6.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-7 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000.00 FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS RECREATION FACILITIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO EAST HAMILTON, MIDDLE VALLEY, SHACKLEFORD RIDGE, AND SNOW HILL FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 426-7.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-8 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM C.L. BURKS FROM THE OMNIA PARTNERS PUBLIC SECTOR PURCHASING COOPERATIVE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING ROOF AT THE MCDANIEL BUILDING, AMOUNTING TO A TOTAL OF \$1,041,747.00 FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 426-8.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Chairman Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 426-9 and 426-10 to be read together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-9 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN AN APPLICATION FOR THE GOOGLE.ORG IMPACT CHALLENGE: AI FOR GOVERNMENT INNOVATION FOR AN AMOUNT OF UP TO \$3,000,000 OVER THREE YEARS, REQUIRING NO COUNTY MATCH, AND TO SIGN ANY AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.**

31:06

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR UP TO \$1,000,000 IN CDBG FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADA PLAYGROUND AT MCDONALD FARM PARK AND COMMIT TO PROVIDING 19% IN LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS AND ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution Nos. 426-9 and 426-10.

32:11 In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Hamilton County Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Folz confirmed the required 19% local match for the CDBG application would be provided from the Recreation Fund.

There were no questions from the audience.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith,

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

“Aye.” Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 11. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 426-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE IN REGARDS TO FIELD IMPROVEMENTS AT CAMP JORDAN.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Helton, to adopt Resolution No. 426-11.

Director of Economic and Community Development Alexa LeBoeuf explained the project is associated with disaster grant funding from the 2020 tornadoes and was brought forward to avoid further delays.

In response to Commissioner Eversole’s question, Hamilton County Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Folz stated the Standifer Gap project has not yet been approved and remains in process. Mayor Wamp further clarified funding for this project would not impact other pending projects.

There were no questions from the audience.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Smith asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

36:36 Commissioner Shipley announced a Building and Economic Development Committee meeting scheduled for April 8, 2026, at 9:30 AM in the Commission Conference Room.

37:08 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's questions, Chairman Smith explained this would be the final recessed meeting under the current Commission schedule. He noted the schedule change was due to the recent transition to 5:00 PM meeting times.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

38:29 Commissioner Eversole announced the budget hearings scheduled for April 15, 2026, will begin at 4:00 PM, with Chattanooga Tourism and the 911 Center scheduled to present.

39:03 Commissioner Graham expressed appreciation to volunteers who assisted with community cleanup efforts in the St. Elmo business district and Alton Park.

39:50 County Attorney Varnell announced a legal meeting scheduled for April 15, 2026, to be held following the budget hearing or after the Agenda Preparation Meeting.

40:08 Mayor Wamp expressed appreciation to the Commission, Hamilton County Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Folz, and the Parks and Recreation Department for the restoration of a pocket park at Fountain Square, highlighting the improvements made.

41:29 Chairman Smith reminded the audience this was the first 5:00 PM Commission meeting under the new format (*Resolution No. 326-14*). He noted, going forward, votes would occur at the initial meeting, followed by an Agenda Preparation session for items to be considered at the next regular meeting.

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Smith asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

42:12

Monty Bell, a homeless journalist for the Gray-Haired Fox, stated he resides at 727 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street. He shared concerns regarding school budget priorities and spoke about Docket Number 25-C-919 in Circuit Court.

45:42

Arthur Kuchinski, residing at 317 Wygoda Circle, expressed appreciation for moving Commission meetings to 5:00 PM to improve accessibility. He also requested all agenda items allow time for public comment to improve transparency.

47:30

Kathy Lennon, residing at 401 Crisman Street, encouraged expanding tourism efforts to include large-scale music events, noting their community and economic benefits.

48:35

Adrian Turner, residing at 4006 Deermont Court, spoke regarding the proposed purchase of the Boy Scouts of America parcel. He urged the County to preserve the

**RECESSED MEETING  
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 1, 2026**

land due to its location within protected parkland. A copy of the handout has been filed with the Clerk's Office.

There being no further business, Chairman Smith declared the Recessed Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

04-15-26      W.F.K

Date              Clerk's Initials