

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 4, 2021**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )           Regular Meeting

**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )           August 4, 2021

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, 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:--

Present and presiding was the Honorable Sabrena Smedley, Chairman Pro Tempore. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Highlander, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent –2.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of the Mayor's administrative staff, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor, and County Auditor Jenneth Randall.

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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.

Commissioner Geter invited County Clerk Bill Knowles to offer the invocation.  
Commissioner Geter led in the pledge to the flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of July 14, 2021, the Agenda Preparation Session of July 14, 2021, the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2021, 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Trustee Excess Fee Report for June 2021, and The Trustee Monthly Report for February, March, April, and May 2021, were submitted and made a matter of record.

**REVISED TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Revised Trustee's Monthly Report for January 2021, was submitted and made a matter of record.

**ORDER OF DESIGNATION**

An Order was recorded designating Todd Leamon to sit as the County Mayor's representative on the Planning Commission for the meeting of August 9, 2021.

**APPOINTMENT TO FILL DISTRICT 9 SCHOOL BOARD SEAT**

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley read a statement into the record outlining the process for appointing a District 9 School Board member to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Steve Highlander. Steve Highlander resigned from the School Board when he was appointed by the County Commission on June 9, 2021 to fill District 9

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County Commission vacancy. She noted the notice of the intent to fill the vacancy at today's meeting was publicized in the local newspaper giving the public at least seven days' notice. County Clerk Bill Knowles confirmed that prescribed Public Notice had been published.

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley explained the individual appointed today would serve the unexpired term of former District 9 School Board member Steve Highlander. She reported eight individuals, all residents of District 9, submitted their names for consideration. Those who responded are as follows: Patrick D. Lee II, James Brent Walker, Patrick Hampton, Pamela Lynn Womack, Roddy M. Coe, Charles Kenneth Lawson, Gary Kuehn, and William A House III.

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley explained a nominee must receive five votes in order to be appointed; should no candidate receive five votes on the first ballot, the individual receiving the lowest number of votes would be eliminated and subsequent ballots would take place following the same process of elimination until there are two candidates left. She added should it become evident no candidate would receive the necessary five votes; it is her intent to recess the appointment until the next scheduled meeting. There was no objection to this procedure.

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At this time, Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley asked if any member of the audience wished to nominate an individual for the appointment. There was none.

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley opened the floor for nominations for the District 9 School Board Seat.

Commissioner Geter nominated Gary Kuehn.

Commissioner Boyd nominated James Brent Walker.

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

County Clerk Knowles called the roll on the nominations of Gary Kuehn and James Brent Walker to fill the Hamilton County School Board District 9 vacancy. Commissioners voted as follows: Commissioner Boyd, “Walker”, Commissioner Geter, “Kuehn”, Commissioner Highlander, “Walker”, Commissioner Mackey, “Kuehn”, Commissioner Martin, “Walker”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Kuehn”, and Chairman Pro

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Tempe Smedley, "Walker". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent.

Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total votes for Gary Kuehn – 3. Total votes for James Brent Walker – 4.

Chairman Pro Tempore announced since no nominee received the necessary five votes to be appointed, the matter would be taken up at the August 11<sup>th</sup> Recessed Meeting using the same procedure.

08:09

**PRESENTATION – HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – HISTORY  
BOOK**

Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Hammond presented each member of the Commission, Mayor Coppinger and Clerk Knowles a copy of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department hardbound history book commemorating 200 years of service (1819-2019). Sheriff Hammond recognized Mr. Geno Bennett, Chief of Staff with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, who headed up this project along with Public Information Officer Rachel Fizzle, Graphic Design Specialist Brad Hartman, Finance Director Ron Bernard, Chief Deputy Austin Garrett, and Public Relations Manager Matt Lea. Sheriff Hammond stated with more than 400 pages, the book was written and

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created by the Sheriff's Office and paid for by private funds. The book is to honor the men and women for their service in the Hamilton County Sheriff's office.

In response to Commissioner Geter's question, Sheriff Hammond stated the Ed Johnson Project was mentioned and highlighted in the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department history book. It was also noted by Sheriff Hammond this project was a part of his legacy.

At this time several Commissioner's thanked Sheriff Hammond and his staff for the gift of the history book and taking the time to put this history book together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 821-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, THE OATHS OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS, THE OATHS OF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERKS, AND THE CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE BY THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 821-1. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with

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the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:

Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 821-2 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY  
THE COUNTY MAYOR OF DANNY MAYFIELD TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR A TERM ENDING AUGUST 4, 2027.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adopt Resolution No. 821-2. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-3 A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE CERTIFIED TAX RATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH TCA SECTION 67-5-1701 AND ADOPTING A RATE AS THE TAX LEVY FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 821-3.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mayor Coppinger and Administrator of Finance Lee Brouner, verified if your property assessment went up more than 23.6% you would have a property tax increase.

Commissioner Mackey stated the importance of this resolution and asked for it to be delayed until all Commissioners were present.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to defer Resolution No. 821-3.

The foregoing Motion to defer failed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Boyd, "Nay", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Nay", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner

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Sharpe, “Nay”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Nay”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 2. Total “Nay” votes – 5.

24:14 In response to Commissioners Boyd’s question, County Trustee Bill Hullander stated the revenue to the county as a whole is net neutral. Hamilton county residents should expect a higher tax bill if their assessment increased more than 23.6% when compared to their previous assessment. Trustee Hullander also stated as of June 30 2021, 98% of Hamilton County residents have paid their 2020 taxes. He reported many residents used their stimulus money to pay their tax bill.

The foregoing Motion to adopt Resolution No. 821-3 was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Highlander, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-4 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS TO PROVIDE GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION SERVICES FOR THE MCDONALD FARM PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 821-4. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

31:04

**RESOLUTION NO. 821-5 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM KS WARE & ASSOCIATES, LLC TO PROVIDE HYDROLOGIC DETERMINATION, WETLAND IDENTIFICATION, AND REGULATORY CONSULTATION FOR THE MCDONALD FARM PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 821-5. 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 Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Highlander, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

32:21

**RESOLUTION NO. 821-6 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR BALLISTIC HELMETS FROM HIGHCOM ARMOR SOLUTIONS INCORPORATED FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$43,148.00 FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-6, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 821-6. The foregoing Motion 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 Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Highlander, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

33:26

**RESOLUTION NO. 821-7 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PURCHASE OF GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-7, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 821-7. 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 Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Highlander, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-8 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF FLU VACCINE FROM NOVARTIS, SANOFI-PASTEUR, CSL/MERCK, MEDIMMUNE, MCKESSON MED-SURG MN SUPPLY AND FFF ENTERPRISES AT STATEWIDE CONTRACT PRICING AND, IF NECESSARY, OTHER FIRMS AT THE LOWEST AND BEST AVAILABLE PRICING QUOTE FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-8, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 821-8. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-9 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION CONTRACT WHICH WAS APPROVED BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF A TOBACCO USE PREVENTION PROGRAM, USING FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$183,900.00 FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2020, ENDING APRIL 30, 2023, AND AMENDING THE REVENUE AND EXPENSE BUDGET BY ADDING \$32,400.00.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-9, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 821-9. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-10 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) WEILER FORCE FEED LOADER FROM STOWERS MACHINERY CORPORATION FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$229,003.33 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-10, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 821-10. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-11 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) LEEBOY MOTOR GRADER FROM POWER EQUIPMENT COMPANY FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$210,806.64 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-11, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 821-11. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-12 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) TEREX XT PRO 70 FORESTRY BUCKET TRUCK FROM CUSTOM TRUCK ONE SOURCE FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$176,881.00 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-12, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 821-12. 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 Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Highlander, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 821-13 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF LANDMARK TRUCKS LLC FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) TANDEM AXLE ALUMINUM FRAME STEEL BODY DUMP TRAILER AMOUNTING TO \$66,250.00 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Sharpe, provided details regarding Resolution No. 821-13, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 821-13. 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Highlander, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Fairbanks and Chairman Baker were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

41:01

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Commissioner Martin announced in Hamilton County today we are celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the local nonprofit “Bible in the Schools”. “Bible in the Schools” presented Hamilton County Schools with its annual community gift of almost 1.8 million dollars for the 2020-2021 countywide Bible History elective program. Over 4000 Hamilton County public school students have access to Bible History elective courses.

Commissioner Highlander also spoke highly of “Bible in the Schools” and stated he has been involved with the local nonprofit organization for many years. Commissioner Highlander stated the organization is 100 percent in compliance and encouraged donations to this organization.

In response to Commissioner Mackey’s question, Health Department Director of Administration Becky Barnes stated Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations are increasing. Vaccinations are up, but not enough. She shared some of the nonscientific beliefs she has heard throughout the community.

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Commissioner Geter stated two local major hospitals have reported they are overwhelmed with virus cases. She encouraged everyone in the community to wear face masks and social distance. She reiterated our community cannot go through what we went through last March.

In response to Commissioner Geter's question, Health Department Director of Administrator Becky Barnes noted flu vaccinations have not been finalized but would most likely be given through a drive thru parallel with the Covid-19 Vaccine. She added the state would have a "Flu Day" in which Flu vaccines would be free that day.

Commissioner Geter recognized Dr. Mary Lambert who has moved back to Chattanooga and took a position with Mayor Tim Kelly as Head of Community Health.

Commissioner Sharpe encouraged the public to get vaccinated, wear a mask, wash their hands, and social distance. He reminded everyone to think about how to keep our community safe. Commissioner Sharpe also thanked Becky Barnes and her staff for being incredibly intelligent, helpful, kind, and patient.

Commissioner Boyd announced that on CBS News this morning it was stated Covid-19 cases rose 500 percent last week in Tennessee.

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Commissioner Highlander stated Covid-19 is very real and urged people to take precautions.

1:08:19

Mayor Coppinger thanked Health Department Director of Administrations Becky Barnes and her staff for their hard work and dedication. He spoke about current Covid-19 vaccination data and local hospitalizations. He added many health professionals are leaving the medical field because they are stressed to the max. He stressed vaccination is the only way out of this pandemic.

The Mayor also mentioned he had met recently with the top executives of the three local hospitals pertaining to the pandemic.

Administrator of Finance Lee Brouner announced a Public Records Commission meeting will take place next Wednesday at 8AM in the Mayor's conference room 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the court house.

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

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There being no further business, Chairman Pro Tempore Smedley declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

08-18-21



Date

Clerk's Initials