

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 2025**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )  
**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )

Regular Meeting  
August 20, 2025

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025, 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: --

0:15           Present and presiding was the Honorable Jeff Eversole, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles 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 Joe Graham, Commissioner Lee Helton, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner Warren Mackey, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-o Shipley, Commissioner Ken Smith, and Chairman Jeff Eversole. 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.

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Attached hereto is a copy of the Public Notice for this meeting, which was published in a local newspaper and made a matter of record of this meeting.

0:35 Commissioner Mackey introduced Ed Alexander, Stanley Heights Baptist Church, to offer the invocation. Commissioner Mackey led the pledge to the flag.

Chairman Eversole stated they have televisions on their way to be placed in the rotunda since the commission room was packed. He noted they would arrive within the next 15 minutes.

3:20 Commissioner Baker announced that today was Chairman Baker's birthday. At this time, everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

**PRESENTATION – HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL**

4:15 Hamilton County Health and Social Services Division Administrator Rebekah Bohannon introduced Crystal Howard, Director of Community Health Services, Skylar Phillips, Vice Chair of the Regional Health Council, and Steve Meyer, Chair of the Regional Health Council to give a presentation on their collaborative project with Health and Social Services, the Regional Health Council, and Hamilton County Parks and Recreation. A copy of the presentation has been filed with the Clerk's Office.

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5:05 Ms. Howard provided background on the Regional Health Council, which was established in 1997 to serve as an advisory body to the Health Department and lead community-based organizations on health matters.

8:42 Mr. Phillips discussed the council's membership structure and key initiatives, including the Step 1 program, infant mortality reduction efforts, and mental health collaborations.

12:38 Mr. Meyer presented on the Soddy Daisy Trail project, a 6-mile trail initiative that has been in development since 2017. He stated the estimated cost would be \$8 million, with plans to break it into three phases potentially. He noted a \$1 million grant was recently awarded for preliminary engineering and surveying.

15:36 Commissioner Shiplery stated he was involved in this back in 2017. He noted at that time, the County Commission did not want to participate in the Rails to Trails project. He stated this project would greatly benefit the entire community, as people would come and use it.

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**PRESENTATION – HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION**

17:17

Julian Bell, with the Home Builders Association of Greater Chattanooga, gave a presentation on behalf of the residential housing industry. He spoke about how growth was necessary and inevitable for the county's budget and revenue. He stated restricting development could lead to higher home prices and push growth to other counties. He noted the proposed amendment would reduce the allowed density to 78% of the county, and serve as a compromise to mitigate potential harm to housing prices, revenue growth, and sprawl.

25:41

Governmental Affairs Director for the Real Estate Association, Josh Branum, presented data showing that if mortgage rates ease to 6%, an estimated 9,700 additional households in the Chattanooga Metro Area would be able to afford median-priced homes. He stated Greater Chattanooga Realtors uniquely advocates for both consumers and property owners by protecting private property rights and promoting access to attainable housing for everyone. A copy of the handout was filed with the Clerk's Office.

27:53

In response to Chairman Eversole's question, the Chattanooga Metro Area encompasses three Georgia counties and three Tennessee counties. He noted their association only covers Hamilton and Sequatchee counties. Commissioner Baker

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stated the resolution being presented today has nothing to do with the three counties in North Georgia or the two other counties in Tennessee.

29:53 Commissioner Chauncey reiterated the National Association of Realtors' projections that interest rates will be lowered in the future, making housing more in demand and affordable.

30:21 In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Mr. Bell stated the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) has an average size in the unincorporated areas of three-quarters of an acre, within the City of Chattanooga, it is 0.43 acres, and in Signal Mountain, it is 1.06 acres.

33:26 Chairman Eversole announced the live television streaming in today's Regular Meeting is working in the rotunda for anyone who wants to sit down. He stated they could reenter the commission room if they plan on speaking during a resolution.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

33:57

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Smith, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of July 30, 2025, the Agenda Preparation Session of July 30, 2025, and the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2025, 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 Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**TRUSTEE REPORT**

34:51

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Report for June 2025 was submitted and made a matter of record.

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**PROCUREMENT PURCHASE ORDER REPORT**

Procurement's reports detailing purchase orders between \$25k and \$50k for July 2025 were submitted and made a matter of record.

**TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Report for July 2025 was submitted and made a matter of record.

35:12 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-18 A RESOLUTION ADVISING THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY IT IS THE WILL OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION TO CHANGE PLAN HAMILTON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFIED CHANGES.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Mackey, seconded by Commissioner Chauncey, to adopt Resolution No. 825-18.

35:54 Commissioner Shipley stated he has no ill will toward any of his colleagues on the board. He noted the commission and county are very divided on what to do with Plan Hamilton. He stated that people have told him they would rather have their taxes raised a little than have more density. He noted he believes they need to look at this a

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little more and slow down. He stated he would like to delay Resolution No. 825-18 for 60 days.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Shipley, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to delay Resolution No. 825-18 for 60 days.

40:29 Commissioner Highlander stated he agrees with the 60-day extension. He noted he received around 700 emails over a couple of days, and none of them wanted to increase density. He stated he knows Hamilton County needs growth, but it has to be responsible growth.

41:39 Chairman Eversole stated without objection that he would allow each side a total of ten minutes to speak, followed by five minutes each for rebuttal. There was no objection.

42:28 Commissioner Sharpe stated pertinent amendments can be made as this resolution moves forward and sees no reason to delay.

43:42 Commissioner Mackey stated he heard a representative say they would support a tax increase. He noted he would like to know who the people are who would like their

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taxes raised. He stated he does not believe the government should tell people what they can do with their property. He noted once this happens, then we are going down a road towards becoming a socialist form of government.

46:42 Commissioner Shipley stated he did not advocate for raising taxes in Hamilton County. He noted people have asked if it would be better to increase taxes slightly rather than flood our schools and streets.

48:26 Kurt Wells, residing on Vandergriff Road, Aaliyah, residing in District 4, Brendon Jennings, residing on 6772 Grazing Lane, Allison Williams, residing at 3400 Glendon Drive, Janet Ditzer, residing at 2413 Woodthrush Drive, Allison Williams, expressed their concerns with Resolution No. 825-18 and how it needs the 60 day delay because it is not ready and needs significant changes.

58:27 Julian Bell, with the Home Builders Association of Greater Chattanooga, stated this has been going on for several years. He noted even after today's vote, the matter will still be going back to the Planning Commission for further discussion. He stated they do not believe the uncertainty created by prolonging the commission's position on this issue needs to continue.

Time Code  
Position

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1:00:00 Commissioner Sharpe expressed his concerns about building in floodplains.

1:00:44 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Interim Administrator of the Department of Planning and the Interim Executive Director of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency, Karen Rennich, stated the plans do mention flood plains to a certain extent, but the plain is intended to be in the comprehensive plan guiding physical development so that it can be addressed in subdivisions. She noted before planning the property, zoning influences the process, and then there's the plan itself, which sets the stage. She stated the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on September 8, 2025, and she will certainly respond to the outcomes of this meeting.

1:05:47 Chairman Eversole stated that Resolution No. 825-18 informs the Planning Commission of the majority vote and the County Commission's intentions. He noted the Planning Commission must finalize and adopt the plan, then send it to the state of Tennessee for certification, before returning to the County Commission for a vote. If the resolution is amended, it will then be returned to the state of Tennessee for certification and subsequently to the County Commission for final approval.

1:07:08 Commissioner Highlander stated he would rather get it done right the first time.

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1:07:47 Commissioner Beck called for the vote.

The foregoing Motion to call for the vote failed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Nay," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Nay," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay," Commissioner Shipley, "Nay," Commissioner Smith, "Nay," and Chairman Eversole, "Nay." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 6.

Chairman Eversole announced the conversation can continue.

1:11:57 Commissioner Baker stated 92% of the people disagree with the resolution being presented. He noted he believes it needs to be done correctly the first time and will support the 60-day extension to ensure it is done right.

1:13:33 Chairman Eversole stated he is a firm believer that this needs to be broken down by districts. He noted the commissioner has to represent those who voted them into their position. He stated every district looks different, and it is okay to do something different.

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The foregoing Motion to delay failed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Nay," Commissioner Chauncey, "Nay," Commissioner Graham, "Nay," Commissioner Helton, "Nay," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Nay," Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 6.

Chairman Eversole stated extension was defeated and is now back on the original motion.

At this time, Chairman Eversole gave the opposing side ten minutes to speak.

1:17:35

Kim Helton, residing at 8618 Snow Hill Road, Jennifer Duvall, residing at 1825 Coulterville Road, Bo Duvall, residing at 1825 Coulterville Road, Glenda Pappu, residing in Birchwood, Rufus Marie, residing at 213 Dawn Street, Kelly Sullivan, 2300 Talking Leaves Drive, Ellen Abig, residing at Alpine Bluff Trail, Kathy Mendell, residing at 2247 Little Bend Road, Barbara Reynoldson, residing at 7120 McDaniel Road, and Brandon Wilhoy, residing at 4480 Wesleyan Road all spoke about there concerns with passing *Resolution No. 825-18*. They discussed flood plains, overcrowded schools,

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infrastructure, and how this vote will harm the younger generation. A copy of Kim Helton's handout was filed in the Clerk's Office.

At this time, Chairman Eversole gave those in favor of *Resolution No. 825-18* ten minutes to speak.

1:30:22

Julian Bell, with the Home Builders Association of Greater Chattanooga, Jason Farmer, a homebuilder and developer at 6005 Century Oaks Drive, and Sabrina Daniels, residing at 4410 Maryland Drive, spoke in support of passing *Resolution No. 825-18*. They spoke about how it reduces density and highlighted the importance of homeownership.

At this time, Chairman Eversole gave five minutes for a rebuttal.

1:38:31

Greg Lewis, residing at 5555 Hunter Road, Mike McHone, residing at 16681 Northstar Circle, Glynn Hodges, residing at 912 Dunsinane Road, Cathy Faulkner, residing at 5721 Island View Drive, and Tommy Farmer, residing at 7935 Mill Creek Road, all spoke about their concerns with passing *Resolution No. 825-18*. They stated the Plan needs to represent each district separately, and the sponsor of this resolution needs to recuse himself from the vote.

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1:44:43            Commissioner Highlander stated a constituent who could not attend today's meeting expressed great concern for infrastructure being fixed before more density is added.

1:46:09            Commissioner Smith stated the intent of a commissioner bringing this particular resolution forward, which is different from what was initially put into Plan Hamilton, and the amendments should be commended, not criticized. He noted there is no need or pressure for anyone to take the time to upset both the homebuilders and the realtors, as well as the community, simultaneously. The intent, although some may disagree, should not disparage the individual who is trying to do what is best in their mind for the district and the county, and instead, applaud their effort. He noted he has the utmost respect for the commissioner who brought this forward and will support him in his decision to vote or to recuse himself. He stated this is a plan for the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) to follow, and it will not stop development regardless of whether it is approved or not approved today.

1:54:13            Commissioner Highlander stated the current commission has very different opinions, but loves the respect everyone has for each other.

1:55:31            Commissioner Sharpe stated he felt compelled to disclose that he recently became a licensed realtor. He noted in no shape, form, or fashion will this ever influence his vote.

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1:57:15            Commissioner Baker reminded everyone that 63% of the county's budget goes to Hamilton County Schools, and about half of those schools are in the city of Chattanooga. He noted four commissioners do not have any unincorporated land in their district and hopes they can appreciate why some are so concerned about growth. He stated all districts are different and should be respected by all colleagues. He noted he would like to introduce an amendment to *Resolution No. 825-18*. A copy of the amendment was filed in the Clerk's Office.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to amend Resolution No. 825-18.

2:02:06            Commissioner Baker gave details of the changes he would like to be made to *Resolution No. 825-18*. He noted he presented this to the homebuilders and believes it is an excellent idea.

2:07:07            Attorney Varnell stated nowhere in the amendment does it talk about providing guidance to the RPC. She noted that it stated adopted, which brings up the legal issue we had before.

2:07:36            Commissioner Baker stated the language can be updated to guidance.

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2:08:14 Commissioner Beck stated a motion for a second was given before the amendment had been completely passed out, and questioned what conversations had been going on without the rest of the commissioners involved.

2:09:35 Commissioner Sharpe applauded Commissioner Baker for putting in the work and trying to find an opportunity to see a greater consensus. He stated none of this talks about how we are going to pay for any of this stuff. He noted that this is what density does, particularly in terms of revenue from sewer services, and how we pay for them.

2:14:31 Commissioner Highlander stated he appreciates what Commissioner Beck said and understands his perspective. He noted he did not discuss this amendment before the meeting. He stated he read it once on the dias, and no discussion was had.

The foregoing Motion to amend failed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Nay," Commissioner Chauncey, "Nay," Commissioner Graham, "Nay," Commissioner Helton, "Nay," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Nay," Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 6.

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2:19:46

Chairman Eversole stated that this resolution is far from what he intended when this process began. He noted he planned to get something in place that could stop the bleeding because District 10 is getting hammered.

The foregoing Motion to adopt Resolution No. 825-18 passed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Nay," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye", Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Nay," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Nay," Commissioner Smith, "Nay," and Chairman Eversole, "Nay." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 6. Total "Nay" votes – 5.

2:24:30

At this time, Chairman Eversole called for a ten-minute recess.

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 Lee Helton, Commissioner Joe Graham, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-o Shipley,

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Commissioner Ken Smith, and Chairman Jeff Eversole. Commissioner Warren Mackey was absent. Total present - 10. Total absent -1.

2:26:01 Chairman Eversole stated they will vote on Resolution Nos. 825-23 and 825-24.

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 825-23 and 825-24 to be read together.

2:26:20 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-23 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE, FROM TENNESSEE STATEWIDE CONTRACT SWC-209, VEHICLES TO BE UTILIZED AS UNMARKED VEHICLES FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$154,895.00 FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-24 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES FROM TENNESSEE STATEWIDE CONTRACT SWC-209 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$847,000.00 FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

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Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-23 and 825-24, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution Nos. 825-23 and 825-24.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

2:27:50

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-13 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OATHS OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 825-13.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Chairman Eversole asked for Resolution Nos. 825-14 and 825-15 to be read together.

2:28:28

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-14 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT TWO (2) MEMBERS TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE APPEALS BOARD FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM BEGINNING AUGUST 20, 2025, AND ENDING AUGUST 20, 2027.**

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This will appoint Bruce O'Neal and Kenneth Simpson.

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-15 A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ONE (1)  
COMMISSIONER TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION  
COMMITTEE, FOR A TERM BEGINNING AUGUST 20, 2025, AND ENDING AUGUST  
20, 2027.**

This will reappoint Commissioner David Sharpe.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to  
adopt Resolution Nos. 825-14 and 825-15.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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

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was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 10. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

Without objection, Chairman Eversole asked for Resolution Nos. 825-16 and 825-17 to be read together.

2:29:40 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-16 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO RED BANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT TWO, AND IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT SIX.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-17 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SODDY DAISY FOOD BANK IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT ONE.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution Nos. 825-16 and 825-17.

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There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**LATE ITEM**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-33 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE  
ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SODDY DAISY HIGH SCHOOL IN WINNING THE 2024-  
2025 TENNESSEE SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ("TSSAA")  
STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP AND AWARDED FUNDS FROM THE  
HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS' FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS.**

2:30:59

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 825-33.

There were no questions from the audience.

2:31:42 Commissioner Shipley thanked everyone for passing *Resolution No. 825-33*. He noted Soddy Daisy wrestling is going to be great.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**LATE ITEM**

2:32:37 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-34 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO EAST RIDGE NEEDY CHILD FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT EIGHT AND IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT FIVE.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 825-34.

There were no questions from the audience.

2:33:07 Commissioner Chauncey stated these funds are for the family that was tragically killed the night of the flooding. He noted the family has a GoFundMe account set up to pay for the funeral arrangements. He stated they raised over \$7,000.00, and these funds will get them to the amount desired.

2:34:11 Commissioner Beck stated he would like to amend Resolution 825-34 to add \$1,000.00 for General Fund Travel Discretionary Funds as allotted to District Five.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to add \$1,000.00 from District Five. 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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner, to adopt Resolution No. 825-34 as amended. 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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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Chief Deputy Brooke Weaver requested a revised copy be filed with the Clerk's Office.

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 825-19 and 825-20 to be read together.

2:37:17 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-19 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO SIGN A CONTINUATION GRANT-IN-AID CONTRACT FOR \$633,928.00 WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR, ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,200.00 TO PROVIDE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION AND HIV EDUCATION, PREVENTION, AND**

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**CONTROL SERVICES IN HAMILTON COUNTY FOR THE TIME PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 825-19 and 825-20, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution Nos. 825-19 and 825-20.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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2:38:41 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-21 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, TO RECEIVE \$45,000.00 TO BE USED FOR THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM (CASA) WITHIN THE HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-21 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 825-21.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye,"

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Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

2:39:23

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-22 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) VOLVO HYDRAULIC CRAWLER EXCAVATOR FROM ASCENDUM MACHINERY FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$90,938.00 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-22 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 825-22.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

2:40:11

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-25 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF BIOWASTE, LLC FOR THREE (3) YEAR CONTRACT UNIT PRICING, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR (3) ADDITIONAL TWO (2) TERMS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2025, THROUGH JULY 31, 2028, FOR MEDICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES FOR EMS AND VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-25 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 825-25.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

2:41:09

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9531 WEST RIDGE TRAIL ROAD, SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE.**

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Commissioner Helton, Chairman of the Building and Economic Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-26 and stated the Building and Economic Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Helton, to adopt Resolution No. 825-26.

There were no questions from the audience.

2:41:58 Commissioner Shipley stated he hopes everyone will support this resolution. He noted this building will make the Senior Center bigger and better for the people.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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2:43:22 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-27 A RESOLUTION ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE ZONING RESOLUTION REGULATING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, TO MINIMIZE DANGER TO LIFE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.**

Commissioner Helton, Chairman of the Building and Economic Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-27 and stated the Building and Economic Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 825-27.

2:44:20 Kim Helton, residing at 8618 Snow Hill Road, stated this resolution needs to be amended to prohibit floodplain development. She noted you are infringing on property rights when water is pushed on other people's land.

2:45:47 Chairman Eversole stated this resolution states the county will follow FEMA guidelines.

2:46:20 Director of Building Inspection Ronnie Blaylock stated this is allowing us to adopt the new maps FEMA has put in place. Once they are put in place, Hamilton County can

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amend or impose stricter requirements than those mandated by FEMA. He noted that this is merely adopting the new map that FEMA has presented to us.

2:47:17 Commissioner Highlander stated that we need stricter regulations on floodplains.

2:48:17 In response to Ms. Helton, Mr. Blaylock stated everything that FEMA has brought before us is being replaced with their new regulations.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

2:49:44 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-28 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM R-2 URBAN  
RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-5 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FOR  
THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5515 MAIN STREET.**

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Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 825-28 and stated the Zoning Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 825-28.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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 Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Chauncey asked for Resolution Nos. 825-29 through 825-31 to be read together.

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2:51:03 **RESOLUTION NO. 825-29 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND CONDITION NUMBER 1 FROM HAMILTON COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER 324-30B OF PREVIOUS CASE NUMBER 2024-0028 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9101 AMOS ROAD.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-30 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND C-5 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT WITH CONDITIONS TO A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND C-5 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT WITH CONDITIONS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9101 AMOS ROAD.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 825-31 A RESOLUTION GRANTING AN AMENDMENT TO A RESIDENTIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, AS APPROVED BY HAMILTON COUNTY RESOLUTION# 324-31 OF PREVIOUS CASE NUMBER 2024-0029, FOR PARTS OF A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9101 AMOS ROAD.**

Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 825-29 through 825-31, and stated the Zoning Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution Nos. 825-29 through 825-31.

2:52:48

Kim Helton, residing at 8618 Snow Hill Road, spoke about her concerns with passing these resolutions. She stated the community was initially told a different height than the current one. She noted this would be the tallest building around.

The foregoing Motion failed on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Nay," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Nay," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Nay," Commissioner Smith, "Nay," and Chairman Eversole, "Nay." Commissioner Beck and Commissioner Helton stepped away during the vote. Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent –3. Total "Aye" votes – 3. Total "Nay" votes – 5.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Eversole asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

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3:01:23 Commissioner Baker announced the Audit Committee will meet on August 26, 2025, at the McDaniel Building. He also suggested changing the weekly County Commission Meetings to 5:00 PM to make it more accessible to a broader audience.

3:01:56 Commissioner Smith spoke about the exciting news of the elementary school that will be built on the Dupont site. He thanked the YMCA, their board, Mayor Wamp, his staff, and everyone else who worked hard on this.

3:02:40 Commissioner Sharpe stated he would support proposing a time change for meetings.

3:03:38 Commissioner Chauncey thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers during and after the storm/floods. He stated when it comes to our emergency services, we have the best in the business by far.

3:04:28 Commissioner Highlander reminded everyone to keep in mind the students waiting at the bus stops in the morning. He noted it is a hazardous situation, especially with the time change.

3:05:29 Chairman Eversole announced the Compliance workshop is at the McDaniel Building at 3:30 PM today. He also stated he fully supports changing the meeting times. He noted it would be the right thing to do in light of the changing environment.

Time Code  
Position

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3:06:20 Attorney Varnell asked the board to consider overtime for employees, particularly the Sheriff's Office, when considering a time change to meetings.

3:06:44 Commissioner Highlander stated he agrees to the change in meeting times, for the community to have an opportunity to attend meetings.

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Eversole asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

3:07:22 Kim Helton, residing at 8618 Snow Hill Road, spoke about how the process works when a plan is adopted.

3:09:28 Commissioner Sharpe thanked Ms. Helton for trying to keep the commission within the realms of the law.

3:09:44 Monty Bell, A homeless journalist for the Grey Haired Fox, stated he resides at 727 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street and spoke about Docket Number 25C919 in Circuit Court and racist white supremacy.

3:13:05 Mike Price, residing at 7380 Appllegate Lane, stated that due to the vote taken (*Resolution Nos. 825-29 through 825-31*) on the Thrive Development, they will no

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longer implement some of the improvements on Snow Hill Road and Amos Road. He noted that the commission's actions have a negative consequence in relation to the community and its expectations.

3:14:24

Commissioner Highlander stated he would be willing to reconsider the improvements on the road if they can be separated in next week's Recessed Meeting. Chairman Eversole asked that *Resolution Nos. 825-29 through 825-31* be placed on next week's Recessed Agenda to be reconsidered.

There being no further business, Chairman Eversole declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

09-03-25

WJK

Date

Clerk's Initials