

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE****Friday, January 8, 2021 – 9:00 AM – Conference Room, Board of Education, Dresden, TN****Public Safety Committee Members Present:** Commissioners Jack Vincent, David Bell, David Hawks, Eric Owen, James Roy Pope, and Steven Totty**Public Safety Committee Members Absent:** None

The Weakley County Public Safety Committee met on Friday, January 8, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education in Dresden. Others present included County Mayor Jake Bynum, Emergency Management Director Ray Wiggington, Sheriff Mike Wilson, Youth Services Director Keith Jones, Captain Terry McDade, Dispatch Director Christy Fulcher, and three representatives of the media.

I.-II. CALL TO ORDER – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Vincent called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called for the consideration of the minutes from the meeting that was held November 5, 2020. Commissioner Pope made the motion to approve, and with a second by Commissioner Bell, the motion passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Bynum was recognized and told the committee that the county attorney is working on researching issues of property rights for the citizen who addressed the committee at the Public Safety meeting held in November 2020. He commented that there is no current remedy or resolution for the situation and that the citizen may have to file a claim in Chancery Court to initiate the process.

IV. NEW BUSINESS**A. RESOLUTION**

1. Resolution No. 2021-26: This resolution receives \$18,828 in revenue as a grant awarded through the State of Tennessee for the Weakley County Sheriff's Department, and designates those monies into account and line 54110-399 [Sheriff's Department – Other Contracted Services] for expenditure in the General Fund Budget. Sheriff Wilson was recognized and told the committee that his department was awarded the grant for the transport of inmates with mental health emergencies and explained that he planned to contract with a company, AmeriMed, to assist in the transfer process. After stating that the grant required no local match and some discussion about the details, Commissioner Owen made the motion to approve and recommend the resolution to the full county commission. With a second by Commissioner Hawks, the motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS WITH SHERIFF MIKE WILSON

Sheriff Wilson was recognized and told the committee that he would like to purchase an electronic monitoring system for the detention center that will allow for a more efficient hourly check process on inmates. Commissioner Pope made the motion to approve the expenditure out of the Sheriff's existing FY department budget, and with a second by Commissioner Hawks, the motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Wilson expressed concern that his department was in need of an updated document with formal policies and procedures for the detention center and Sheriff's Department. He relayed that most attorneys do not perform that kind of work and went on to relay that certain companies can take care of it, but that the revision is very costly. There was some discussion on recurring costs, liabilities, implementation measures, and how entities in various areas handle the situation.

Commissioner Hawks made the motion to table the issue and ask Attorney Whitlege to research the matter to see if another option might be more feasible and less costly. With a second by Commissioner Pope, the motion to table the matter passed unanimously.

C. DISCUSSION OF INDIGENT BURIAL FEE

Mayor Bynum relayed that his office had been contacted by a funeral home in regard to the increase in frequency as well as the growing costs of indigent burial and/or cremation. Mayor Bynum said that the representative of the funeral home stated that the \$200 contribution provided by the county was now only a small part of the growing expenses associated with cremation and other matters required in regard to settling an indigent individual. Commissioner Owen made the motion to increase the county's indigent burial contribution from \$200 to \$300 per instance, and with a second by Commissioner Pope, the motion passed unanimously.

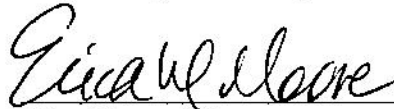
V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Bynum provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic in Weakley County.

VI. ADJOURN

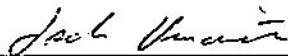
Having no other business, Commissioner Owen made the motion to adjourn, and with a second by Commissioner Pope, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary
Public Safety Committee

Approved:



Jack Vincent, Chairperson
Public Safety Committee

Date: 10/01/21