

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, September 10, 2020 – 10:00 AM – Conference Room, Board of Education, Dresden, TN**

**Public Works Committee Members Present:** Commissioners Dennis Doster, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Beth VanCleave, Roger Donaldson, and Larry Taylor

**Public Works Committee Members Absent:** Commissioner Colton Nanney

The Weakley County Public Works Committee met on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education in Dresden. Others present included Finance Director John Liggett, Road Supervisor Charles Ross, Cary Henson of Henson Construction, Commissioner Eric Owen, and two representatives of the media.

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

Chairperson Doster called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and called for the consideration of the minutes from the meeting that was held on March 5, 2020. Commissioner Donaldson made the motion to approve, and with a second by Commissioner VanCleave, the motion passed unanimously.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution**

**1. Resolution 2021-05:** This resolution amends the budget in the amount of \$1,000 for the highway fund budget as revenues were underestimated and expected to be collected in excess of the original budgeted revenues. Finance Director Liggett explained that the resolution was recommended by CTAS relative to Maintenance of Effort. Commissioner Donaldson made the motion to approve and recommend the transfer to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, and with a second by Commissioner Westbrook, the motion passed unanimously.

**B. Discussion of Chapter 585 Public Acts of 2020 and the Creation of a Procedure for Opening, Changing, and Closing of Public Roads in Weakley County**

Commissioner Westbrook was recognized and said that Chapter 585 Public Acts of 2020 included new language regarding road opening, changing, and closing. He explained that the new wording included the need for the adoption of an application process to open, close, or change a road, and he said that in the absence of a regional planning commission, the creation of a five (5) person standing committee comprised of members from the legislative body is necessary. He went on to say that additional requirements were outlined in the acts, and the committee discussed details about the committee, tax collection, and the tax roll.

**C. Discussion of Wages and Hiring and Maintaining Employees**

Supervisor Ross was recognized and relayed to the committee that he was struggling to obtain and retain quality employees at the highway department. He stated that he was making the committee aware of the issue and went on to say that he believed a competitive approach to hiring may be necessary. He said that he planned to perform a regional wages study for highway department personnel.

**D. Update on Current Bridge Projects and Road Work**

Supervisor Ross talked about the road depth reclamation process and successes he has found on the roads where the process has been performed. He stated that the operation is tedious and slow, but ultimately worthwhile. He gave a status update on a few other ongoing road and bridge projects.

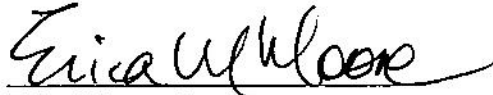
**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson Doster recognized Cary Henson of Henson Construction who provided to the committee a document with a post-bid budget revision and for the highway and school bus garage additions and renovations as of September 10, 2020. He mentioned some highlights of the document and relayed that the entire project is a bit behind the projected timeline due to COVID-19.

**VI. ADJOURN**

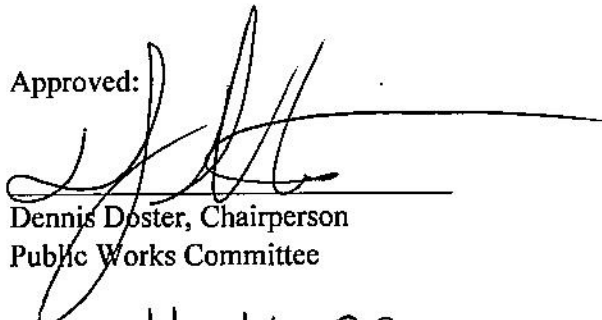
Having no other business, Commissioner Donaldson made the motion to adjourn, and with a second by Commissioner Taylor, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary  
Public Works Committee

Approved:



Dennis Doster, Chairperson  
Public Works Committee

Date: 11-4-20