

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
RULES COMMITTEE  
September 4, 2013**

ORIGINAL

**Members Present:** Commissioners Tommy Jones, Eric Owen, Roger Stewart, James H. Westbrook, Jr., John Salmon, Larry Taylor, Bob Bell., Sam Sinclair, and Earl Wright.

The Rules Committee met on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at the Weakley County Department of Finance in the conference room. Others present included Houston Patrick-County Mayor.

Chairman Westbrook called the Rules Committee meeting to order.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Owen made the motion to approve the May 20, 2013 Rules Committee minutes and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Rule Changes**

Chairman Westbrook distributed a proposed change to rule 7ethics committee. This rule has previously been approved by the Commission; however it needs to be added to the Commission rules, copy attached. Commissioner Stewart made the motion to approve the change and with a second by Commissioner Salmon the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding the commission compensation and benefits was discussed. Commissioner Owen made the motion to leave the commission compensation and benefits the same as the prior fiscal year. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**County Commission Chairman**

Vice-Chairman Wright presided over the nomination of the county commission chairman. Commissioner Owen made the motion nominating Commissioner Westbrook to serve as County Commission Chairman and with a second by Commissioner Stewart the motion passed unanimously.

**County Commission Pro-Tempore**

Commissioner Owen made the motion nominating Commissioner Stewart to serve as County Commission Pro-Tempore and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

**Standing Committees**

The committee was provided a listing of the proposed standing committees. There are no changes from the prior fiscal year. Commissioner Sinclair made the motion to approve the standing committees and with a second by Commissioner Taylor the motion passed unanimously.

**Other Boards & Appointments.**

The committee was provided a listing of the proposed other boards and committees. There are no changes from the prior fiscal year. Commissioner Stewart made the motion to place the proposed standing committees on the floor and with a second by Commissioner Bell the motion passed.

**County Safety Officer**

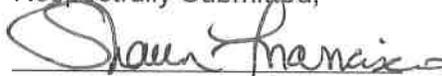
Commissioner Salmon made the motion for Jamison Peevyhouse to serve as the County Safety Officer and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed.

**County Service Officer**

Commissioner Owen made the motion for Ron Cheatman to serve as the County Service Officer and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed.

Commissioner Sinclair made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Owen the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shawn Francisco, Recording Secretary  
Rules Committee

Approved:

  
James H. Westbrook, Jr., Chairman  
Rules Committee

Date: 6/30/14

**7. Ethics Committee:** A County Ethics Committee (the Ethics Committee) consisting of five members shall be appointed to one-year terms by the County Mayor with confirmation by the county legislative body, to be appointed each year at the same time as internal committees of the county legislative body. At least three members of the committee shall be members of the county legislative body; one member shall be a constitutional county officer or, should no constitutional county officer be willing to accept appointment, an additional member of the county legislative body; and the remaining member may be either a member of a board, committee, commission, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality governed by this policy, or an additional member of the county legislative body. The Ethics Committee shall convene as soon as practicable after their appointment and elect a chair and a secretary. The records of the Ethics Committee shall be maintained by the secretary and shall be filed in the office of the county clerk, where they shall be open to public inspection.

Questions and complaints regarding violations of this Code of Ethics or of any violation of state law governing ethical conduct should be directed to the chair of the Ethics Committee. Complaints shall be in writing and signed by the person making the complaint, and shall set forth in reasonable detail the facts upon which the complaint is based.

The County Ethics Committee shall investigate any credible complaint against an official or employee charging any violation of this Code of Ethics, or may undertake an investigation on its own initiative when it acquires information indicating a possible violation, and make recommendations for action to end or seek retribution for any activity that, in the Committees judgment, constitutes a violation of this Code of Ethics. If a member of the Committee is the subject of a complaint, such member shall recuse himself or herself from all proceedings involving such complaint.

The Committee may:

(1) refer the matter to the County Attorney for a legal opinion and/or recommendations for action;

(2) in the case of an official, refer the matter to the county legislative body for possible public censure if the county legislative body finds such action warranted;

(3) In the case of an employee, refer the matter to the official responsible for supervision of the employee for possible disciplinary action if the official finds discipline warranted;

(4) in a case involving possible violation of state statutes, refer the matter to the district attorney for possible ouster or criminal prosecution;

The interpretation that a reasonable person in the circumstances would apply shall be used in interpreting and enforcing this Code of Ethics. When a violation of this code of ethics also constitutes a violation of a personnel policy or a civil service policy, the violation shall be dealt with as a violation of the personnel or civil service provisions rather than as a violation of this Code of Ethics.

The Ethics Committee shall use the Code of Ethics of Weakley County as adopted by the Weakley County Commission on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2007 as a guide to ensure that all officials and employees of the County conduct business of the County in an honest and ethical manner.

