

TENTATIVE AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF WEAKLEY COUNTY COMMISSION
MARCH 18, 2002

CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2002 MEETING

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

Special election to fill the vacancy on the Commission in District 5 due to the death of Commissioner George Broussard. This appointment shall be until the next General Election.

REPORTS:

Trustee's Report

General Fund Report

Highway Dept. Report

School Dept. Report

Solid Waste Report

Capital Projects Committee Report - Jimmy Westbrook, Chairman

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Report - Dick Phebus, Chairman

Financial Management Committee Report - Roger Stewart, Chairman

Health, Education and Welfare Committee Report - John Salmon, Chairman

Legislative Committee Report - Jack Vincent, Chairman

Personnel Committee Report - John Salmon, Chairman

Public Safety Report - Kevin McAlpin, Chairman

Public Works Committee Report - David Rook, Chairman

Nursing Home Committee Report - Mac Buckley, Chairman; David McBride, Administrator

Veterans Service Officer Report - Dave Bradley, Officer

Agricultural Extension Service Report - Jeff Lannom, Extension Agent

Weakley County Emergency Management & 911 Communications Report - David McAlpin, Director

State of the County Address - Ron Gifford, County Executive

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2002-38 - General Fund Resolution - Health Department

Resolution No. 2002-39 - General Purpose School Resolution

Resolution No. 2002-40 - Resolution to Approve Contract with the State Dept. of Transportation

Resolution No. 2002-41 - General Fund Resolution - Budget Amendment-Data Processing Equipment

Resolution No. 2002-42 - Resolution to Protect the Current Sources of Funding of the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Resolution No. 2002-43 - Resolution to Authorize the Weakley County Clerk to Collect Motor Vehicle Regulatory Fee Imposed by the City of Martin.

Ratifying Private Chapter No. 75, House Bill No. 2017, Private Acts of 2002, Relative to the Weakley County Highway Commission.

Authorize the Highway Department to Haul Rock to the Gleason Park.

Miscellaneous announcements and statements

Election of Notaries Public

ADJOURNMENT

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEETING

MARCH 18, 2002

The Weakley County Legislative Body met on March 18, 2002, 7:00 p.m. in the County Commission Room at the Weakley County Courthouse.

County Executive Ron Gifford called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Buckley gave the invocation.

All members present gave the pledge to the Flag.

County Clerk Pat Scarbrough took roll call with 18 members present, one chair vacant and Kevin McAlpin resigned his seat on the commission. County Executive Gifford stated that he had received a letter of resignation from Commissioner McAlpin due to moving from District 2.

County Executive Gifford asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes for the January 22, 2002 regular meeting. Commissioner Buckley made a motion to approve and Commissioner Jones placed a second to the motion. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and the minutes of the January 22, 2002 meeting were approved.

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

A special election to fill the vacancy on the Commission in District 5 for Commissioner Broussard seat was moved to the May 2002 meeting since the proper ten-day notice was not given for this special election. Also the seat of Commissioner McAlpin will be filled in the May meeting.

REPORTS:

The Trustee's Report, General Fund Report, Highway Department Report, School Department Report and the Solid Waste Report were included in the packet distributed to each of the Commissioners. The County Executive called for any standing committee reports.

Commissioner Westbrook gave a report from the Capital Projects Committee. The Capital Projects Committee met prior to the Commissioner's meeting and heard proposals from the School Department, School Board and the Director of Schools concerning the improvements and the construction and repairs for the schools in the County. After much discussion a motion was made to refer the proposal back to the School Board for further consideration.

Commissioner Rook gave a report from Public Works and the Road Board and stated the County is looking into spraying instead of mowing the right-of-ways. This time the mowing will go forth but the Committee is looking into other options.

Commissioner Westbrook made a recommendation from the Rules Committee that Tommy Jones be appointed to fill the seat of George Broussard on the Rules Committee. Jack Vincent was recommended to fill Commissioner Broussard's seat on the Capital Projects Committee. Commissioner Westbrook made the motion and Commissioner Stewart places the second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes carried and none was opposed.

Commissioner Phebus called a point of order from Rule 7C for a roll call vote on an appointment. County Attorney Neese stated the rule did not apply to committees of this body.

The report from the Weakley County Nursing Home was included in the packets and Mr. McBride was not present to answer any questions.

The Agricultural Extension Report by Jeff Lannom was mailed by direct mail to the Commissioners, he stated he would be happy to answer any questions anyone might have.

The Emergency Management Report was included in the packet and Mr. McAlpin stated he would also be happy to answer any questions the people might have.

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS:

County Executive Gifford gave the Eighth State of the County Address. The County has maintained a low, reasonable and stable tax rate. There were two items County Executive Gifford spoke on, one was the proposal from the School Board for a \$13 million building program which he felt personally was not acceptable for the people of this County. Second was the loss of Revenue the State of Tennessee faces, tax revenues needs to be revised, this is not a problem that developed within the last four years and might even go back as far as twelve years in Governor McWherter's administration. He concluded that the County has much work to do in dealing with these problems.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

County Executive Gifford called for any other unfinished business. The reports had not been accepted. Commissioner Stewart made the motion to accept and Commissioner Farmer placed the second. Roll call was taken by the County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The reports are accepted.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-38: General Fund Resolution – Health Department.

Health, Education and Welfare Report was given by Commissioner Salmon and this passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus gave the Finance Ways and Means Report and it also passed his Committee unanimously. A motion was made by Commissioner Owen to place on the floor and a second was placed by Commissioner Page. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 17 ayes, 1 nay, and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-39: General Purpose School Resolution.

Commissioner Salmon gave the Health, Education, and Welfare Report and this passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus stated that it also passed the Finance Ways and Means Committee unanimously. Motion to place on the floor was made by Commissioner Buckley and a second was place by Commissioner Page. Discussion was called and Commissioner Vincent questioned if Athletics was exempt and also if Band was exempt. Superintendent Barber stated that they were exempt. No further discussion and the question was called by County Clerk Scarbrough with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-40: Resolution to Approve Contract with the State Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Rook gave the Public Works report and stated that this resolution failed in his committee. County Executive Gifford called for a motion to place this resolution on the floor. There was not a motion to place on the floor and the resolution failed for lack of a motion.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-41: General Fund Resolution – Budget Amendment – Data Processing Equipment.

Public Safety Chairman stated this resolution passed his Committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus gave the Finance Ways and Means Report and this resolution also passed his Committee unanimously. Commissioner Page made a motion to place on the floor and Commissioner Stewart placed the Second. Discussion was called and Commissioner Phebus questioned if another computer might be available from the cities or county. Sheriff Wilson stated he did not have any information on this grant at this time and he would check to see if a grant would be available. Question was called and County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 17 ayes, 1 nay and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-42: Resolution to Protect the Current Sources of Funding of the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Rook stated three voted yes in the Public Works Committee. Commissioner Westbrook placed a motion to place on the floor and Commissioner Phebus placed the second. Discussion was called and Commissioner Vincent and Commissioner Page had comments on this resolution and the revenues and funding. Clarification was given by County Executive Gifford. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-43: Resolution to Authorize the Weakley County Clerk to Collect Motor Vehicle Regulatory Fee Imposed by the City of Martin.

Commissioner Vincent gave the Legislative Committee Report and this passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus gave the Finance Ways and Means and this passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Farmer made the motion and Commissioner Phebus placed the second. Discussion was called and Commissioner Phebus stated that this does not change what the County Clerk is doing at this time, the commission voted to try this collection on a temporary basis and this is to make this permanent and retroactive. Commissioner Page questioned if the county incurs any additional expense in this collection. County Clerk Scarbrough stated that this tax is collected at the time they purchase their car registrations. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-44: Resolution to Approve Chapter 75, Private Acts of 2002, Relative to the Weakley County Highway Commission.

Commissioner Vincent gave the Legislative Committee report and this passed their Committee unanimously. This Resolution also passed the Rules Committee unanimously. Motion was made by Commissioner Wright to place on the floor and Commissioner Buckley placed the second. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-45: Resolution to Approve Chapter 80, Private Acts of 2002, Relative to the Weakley County Board of Education.

Legislative Committee Chairman Vincent reported that this resolution passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Westbrook stated it also passed the Rules Committee unanimously. Motion was made by Commissioner Wright to place on the floor for discussion and Commissioner Buckley placed the second. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZE THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO HAUL ROCK TO THE GLEASON PARK.

Motion was made by Commissioner Owen and a second was placed by Commissioner Rook to haul rock to the Gleason Park. Discussion was called and Commissioner Phebus questioned if the City of Gleason would reimburse the County for hauling. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and 2 vacant. The motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS:

Superintendent Richard Barber requested the floor and addressed the Commission on the loss of \$2.4 million in funds, if new funds do not come forth. Cutting 20 percent of the teachers in Weakley County, by the time you pay unemployment you would still need \$800,000 to come out of the budget. The State of Tennessee is number 1 in roads and next to the last in education.

Commissioner Phebus addressed the School Building Project and the fast track taken from bricks falling at Greenfield to \$12 million. In light of State budget problems, that affects not only the schools but the entire county as well, would cost an approximate .77 cents to .78 cents to replace loss of State Funds. This would be before the Commission talks about funding for a \$12 million school project and also the loss of funding for the School Resource Officers to keep their positions. Low revenue growth; demand on the County Budget, what is top priority and what should be funded when mentioned. Careful consideration needs to be given to these projects and they should not be viewed lightly by the Commission and the Committees.

Commissioner Stewart agreed with Commissioner Phebus and encouraged calling a special meeting in April to fill two commissioner spots. Also there are committees that are short two members. Discussion of the school building needs and the school resource officers need to be discussed.

County Executive noted that there are two ways to have a special called meeting, one is the call of the chair and the other is if a majority of the commission petitions for a special meeting. Motion was called to suspend the rules. Commissioner Phebus stated that the State Budget would not be resolved in 30 days and he felt the commission should wait until May to meet. The May primary will determine the seats on the Commission. Commissioner Farmer felt that they should wait until May. Commissioner Verdell questioned if a Republican was running in these districts. County Executive Gifford pointed out liability in not having a full Commission. Commissioner Westbrook questioned liability involved. There being no further discussion, and it being the consensus of the Commission to wait until the May Meeting, the County Executive moved to the next item on the agenda.

NOTARIES PUBLIC:

Motion was made by Commissioner Vincent and a second was placed by Commissioner Salmon. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying. The Notary Public list was approved.

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Wright made a motion and Commissioner Phebus placed the second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes carried the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk