

TENTATIVE AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF WEAKLEY COUNTY COMMISSION
MARCH 26, 2001

CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2001 MEETING

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Dresden Middle School Lady Lions - T-N-T State Basketball Champions
Taylor Caldwell of Palmersville - First Place in State Earthquake Awareness Poster Contest
Virginia C. (Miss Jenny) Vaughan - Appreciation for 30 Years as Weakley County Historian

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 - George Broussard, Chairman
Veterans Service Officer Report - Dave Bradley, Officer
Nursing Home Committee Report - Mac Buckley, Chairman
Agricultural Extension Service Report - Jeff Lannom, Extension Agent
Weakley County Emergency Management & 911 Communications Report - David McAlpin, Director
District Attorney General Thomas A. Thomas and Mrs. Veronica Thornton, Program Manager of
Westate Corrections Network.
State of the County Address - Ron Gifford, County Executive

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution No. 2001-37 - General Purpose School Resolution - Safe and Drug Free Budget
Resolution No. 2001-38 - General Purpose School Resolution - Adjustments to Early Childhood Grant, ABE, AND Vocational Budgets.
Resolution No. 2001-39 - General Fund Resolution - Electricity and Unemployment Compensation
Resolution No. 2001-40 - General Fund Resolution - Creating Drivers Education Course Through the Sheriff's Department.
Resolution No. 2001-41 - Resolution Authorizing the Highway Dept. to Perform Work for the City of Gleason.
Resolution No. 2001-42 - General Fund Resolution - Establishing a Line Item for Temporary Personnel for the Reappraisal Program.
Resolution No. 2001-43 - Resolution to Approve Contract with State Department of Transportation
Resolution No. 2001-44 - Resolution in Support of Legislative Amendment of TCA 65-12-108.
Resolution No. 2001-45 - Resolution to Establish a Joint Economic & Community Development Board in Weakley County.
Resolution No. 2001-46 - Highway Department Resolution

Miscellaneous announcements and statements

Election of Notaries Public

ADJOURNMENT

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEETING

MARCH 26, 2001

The Weakley County Legislative Body met on March 26, 2001, 7:00 p.m. in the County Commission room in the Weakley County Courthouse.

County Executive Ron Gifford called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Sam Sinclair gave the invocation.

All members present gave the pledge to the Flag.

The County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough took roll call, with 18 members present and two members, Tommy Jones and Mac Buckley absent.

County Executive Gifford ask if there was any additions or corrections to the January 16, 2001 minutes. Commissioner Parham made a motion and a second was placed by Commissioner Owen to approve the January 16, 2001 minutes. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed. The minutes of the January 16, 2001 were approved.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

County Executive Gifford recognized the Dresden Middle School Lady Lions for their TNT State Championship Title. These young ladies not only are outstanding athletes but also have a strong academic ability and perform well and set an example not only to their classmates but to the rest of the students in Weakley County. County Executive Gifford at this time presented a certificate of appreciation to each of the team members and their coaches.

The County Executive recognized the First Place State Earthquake Awareness Poster Contest winner, Taylor Caldwell, of Palmersville School. Taylor showed her winning poster to the Commission members and County Executive Gifford also presented Ms. Caldwell with a certificate of appreciation.

County Executive Gifford gave special recognition to Mrs. Virginia C. (Miss Jenny) Vaughn, who has served as Historian for Weakley County for the last thirty years. Miss Jenny has given of her time unselfishly, sharing with numerous articles and books to her credit. County Executive Gifford presented Miss Jenny with a plaque of appreciation. She thanked the Commission and the people of Weakley County and shared a few highlights of her time as the Historian for the County. She further stated the commission might want to look into a budget for expenses incurred for this position in the future.

This concluded the Special Recognition on the Agenda and the County Executive moved to the next item on the Agenda.

REPORTS:

The Trustee's Report, General Fund Report, Highway Department Report, the School Department Report and the Solid Waste Report were included in the packets mailed to the commission members. The Chairman asked for any Standing Committee Chairmen to report at that time. There being none, the Chairman moved to the Veterans Service Report, also included in the packet. Mr. Bradley gave a short report and stated he would be happy to answer any questions. The Nursing Home Report was next on the agenda. The County Executive stated the Chairman of this committee, Mr. Mac Buckley, had surgery this date and the Co-Chairman, David Rook, stated he would try to answer any

questions that anyone might have. The County Extension Agent, Jeff Lannom, gave a short report and stated he also would answer any question anyone might have. The Weakley County Emergency Management and 911 Communications Report was given by David McAlpin, Director, he stated that the report was in the packets mailed out and that at this time they are working to establish a Volunteer Fire Department in the Christmasville Community. If anyone has any questions, he would be happy to try and answer them.

The next item on the agenda was District Attorney Thomas A Thomas and Mrs. Veronica Thornton, Program Manager of Westate Corrections Network. County Executive Gifford requested District Attorney Thomas take the floor and explain to the commission about the proposed Drug Docket for the 27th District for Weakley and Obion County. The program is currently in the planning stages, and takes a year to complete the requirements of school etc. to learn more about the program. They are in the process of applying for a federal grant that requires a 25 percent match. At the end of this stage, there would be a need to determine whether to proceed with the grant. The program is designed to punish the drug offender and also treat the core of the problem. The program would require intense supervision, monitoring and drug treatment counseling for inpatient as well as outpatient participants. Westate Corrections Network will be the supervisors for this program. Mrs. Thornton made a short statement concerning Westate Corrections Network program reiterating the intense treatment etc. and stated it should improve the County's recidivism rate on some drug offense. The problem must be addressed in order to be successful with substance abuse issues.

The next item on the agenda was the State of the County address. County Executive Gifford gave a short address on the roads, schools and the growth in Weakley County. The County has had many outstanding accomplishments in the past years in its building programs, roads, new County Library, the Courthouse renovation to name only a few. The County experiences one of the lowest tax rates in the State, and he did not perceive a change in the immediate future. The County may need to take a look at the hot-mix program for roads, so that every homeowner may have a hot-mix road to their house. There is a need to address the pay of department employees; we have an investment in the training of these employees and a need to retain those we have trained. The horizon looks good for Weakley County. The commission should take pride in having maintained a low tax rate and the many accomplishments made with our tax dollars.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There being none, the commission moved to the next item on the agenda.

Commissioner Owen stated that the Reports had not been approved. County Executive Gifford called for a motion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion and Commissioner Rook placed a second to accept the reports. The County Clerk called the roll with 14 ayes, 4 nays, and two absent, the reports carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO 2001-37:

General Purpose School Resolution dealing with Safe and Drug Free Budget.

County Executive Gifford called for the Health Education and Welfare Report, and Commissioner Salmon stated it passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus gave the Finance Ways and Means Report, and he stated it also passed his committee. County Executive Gifford called for a motion to place this resolution on the floor. Commissioner Owen made the motion and Commissioner Salmon made a second. Discussion was called for and the

question, County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-38:

General Purpose School Resolution – Adjustments to Early Childhood Grant, ABE, and Vocational Budgets.

County Executive Gifford called for the Health Education and Welfare report by Commission Salmon, he stated it passed his committee unanimously. The Finance Ways and Means Committee report was given by Commissioner Phebus, it also passed his committee. Commissioner Stewart made the motion to place this resolution on the floor for discussion and Commissioner Page made the second. Discussion was called, and there being none, question was called. The County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-39:

General Fund Resolution concerning electricity and unemployment compensation.

County Executive Gifford called for a committee report from Finance Ways and Means by Commissioner Phebus. Commissioner Phebus stated it passed his committee unanimously. Motion to place resolution on the floor was made by Commissioner Page and seconded by Commissioner Phebus. Discussion was called and Commissioner Page requested information as to why there had been such a substantial increase in the utility cost after the renovations had been completed. County Executive Gifford state that the Old Jail utility expenses had been factored in for the Clerk and Master Office during renovation. This was an additional cost added to the budget that normally would not have been there. Commissioner Page stated that there was \$16,000 increase and that it was his understanding that half of this cost was the Courthouse. Commissioner Westbrook suggested the county get a Tennessee Valley Authority engineer to perform an energy audit, he stated that he believed this would be free of charge. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent, the resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-40:

General Fund Resolution creating Drivers Education Course through the Sheriff's Department.

County Executive Gifford called for a committee report from the Public Safety Chairman, Commissioner McAlpin. Commissioner McAlpin stated that this school has been in place for years, but the state is requiring a resolution from the commission and therefore the committee did not vote on this. There has not been any change; this is paperwork required by the State. There was discussion about the fee, which department collects the money and where it was placed. The County Executive stated that it goes into county revenue collected by the Sheriff's Department through the General Fund. Commissioner McAlpin made the motion to place on the floor and Commissioner Hunt made a second. Discussion was called and the question. Roll call was taken by County Clerk Scarbrough, and there was 16 ayes, one nay, one passed and two was absent. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-41:

Authorizing the Highway Department to perform work for the City of Gleason.

County Executive Gifford called for the Public Works Committee Report from Chairman Broussard. Commissioner Broussard stated it passed his committee unanimously. Motion was made to place on the floor by Commissioner Rook and a second by Commissioner Castleman. Discussion was called and question. The County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-42:

General Fund Resolution establishing a line item for temporary personnel for the reappraisal program.

The County Executive called for a committee report from Finance Ways and Means. Commissioner Phebus stated it passed his committee. Commissioner Broussard made a motion to place this resolution on the floor and Commissioner Steward placed the second. Discussion was called and there being none, question was called. The County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent, the resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-43:

Approve contract with State Department of Transportation.

County Executive Gifford stated that this resolution had not been through the Public Works committee and recommended that this be referred to the committee. At this time, County Executive Gifford referred this resolution to committee and removed this item from the agenda. Commissioner Westbrook requested the committees to take a hard look at the contract in question and that the commission also read this contract carefully.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-44:

Support of Legislative Amendment of TCA 65-12-108.

Commissioner Vincent gave the Legislative Committee report and stated that it passed and if anyone had questions, he would be happy to answer them. Commissioner Westbrook made a motion and a second placed by Commissioner Vincent. Discussion and question was called. The County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough, called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-45:

Establish a Joint Economic and Community Development Board in Weakley County.

Legislative Committee Chairman, Vincent gave his report and stated this was the last step for compliance with Chapter 1101. The Weakley County Chamber has agreed to fill the committee for the Joint Economic Community Development Board. The committee passed this unanimously. Motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and a second by Commissioner Phebus. Discussion was called and Commissioner Westbrook requested information on the necessity for funding and budgeting mentioned in the resolution. Commissioner Vincent stated that this would be going through the Chamber office, utilizing the use of their telephone, secretary, mail outs, grant writings etc. This would be above and beyond the Chamber budget and should be funded by the county. The question was called. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-46:

County Executive Gifford called for the committee report from Public Works.

Commission Broussard stated that this passed their committee. Finance Ways and Means Chairman Phebus stated that it passed his committee unanimously. Also he stated that there was a typographical error under Approved Budget for Contribution and Gifts should be none and the budget amendment be \$700 as stated. Motion to place on the floor was made by Commissioner Phebus and a second was place by Commission Farmer. Discussion and question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 18 ayes and two absent. The resolution carried.

Commissioner Phebus requested the floor on other new business and stated that the Finance Committee met before the meeting tonight and discussed the request by Road Supervisor Freeman for the commitment of funds for bridges that the state has identified in need of repair. The cost of repair would be in the amount of \$641,000. The Finance committee discussed and made recommendations to commit no more than \$375,000 in county fund or up to six of the twelve bridges. The money will not be in this year's budget but in next year's proposal for 2002. There will be a possibility that \$42,000 will be needed in this year's budget as a deposit with the state, this would come off the \$375,000 committed. Commissioner Phebus put in a motion that the county commission commits \$375,000 or six bridges in next year's budget. A second was made by Commissioner Sinclair. Discussion was called and commission moved to the question. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed. The motion passed.

Commissioner Castleman requested the floor and discussed ways to save the county money by not having the May Primary Election for all county officials, commissioners, courthouse personnel, sheriff, county executive or any county official running through the county election. All candidates would run in the August General election and make no political party affiliation. This could save the county around \$6,000.

County Executive Gifford stated that he had received a copy of the county audit in the mail, the commissioners and news media should have received one as well. If any one did not receive a copy, please notify the County Executive's Office.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS:

There were not any miscellaneous announcements or statement and the commission moved to the next item on the agenda.

NOTARY PUBLIC:

Motion to approve the Notary Public List was made by Commissioner Page and a second placed by Commissioner Phebus. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed. The Notary Public List was approved.

There being no other business to come before the commission, a motion was made to adjourn by Commission Broussard and a second was placed by Commissioner Vincent. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Attest:

Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk