

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEETING
RECONVENED SESSION OF THE JUNE 20, 2005 REGULAR MEETING

The Weakley County Legislative Body Reconvened on July 7, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Dick Phebus called the Meeting to Order.

Chairman Dick Phebus gave the invocation.

All members present gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough called the Roll with 16 members present and two members, Sam Sinclair and Bob Gardner absent. Commissioner Gardner answered present later in the meeting when the Roll call vote was taken on Resolution 2005-53.

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

The first item on the agenda was the appointment of members to the WCMES Board. Without objection, Chairman Phebus moved this to the agenda of the next regular session of the County Legislative Body on July 25, 2005, at 5:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Under new business, Chairman Phebus called for a motion regarding a budget transfer request for the General Purpose School Fund. Commissioner Buckley made a motion to place on the floor and Commissioner Jones placed a second to the motion. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 16 ayes and 2 absent. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-53: Resolution to Levy and Additional County-Wide Motor Vehicle Tax.

Commissioner Owen made a motion to place the Resolution on the floor and Commissioner Jones placed a second to the motion. Chairman Phebus commented that the Finance Ways and Means Committee recommended the approval of this Resolution. Chairman Phebus went on to say that this would add new revenue to the Highway Department. Chairman Phebus commented that this is an alternative to raising the property tax. This Resolution must be adopted or approved by this legislative body in two separate regular sessions by a majority of two-thirds vote.

Commissioner Owen was recognized and wanted to clarify that the entire Twenty dollars would go to the Highway Fund. Chairman Phebus commented that the proposed budget would put all of the twenty dollars in the Highway Department Fund.

Commissioner Page commented that the current wheel tax in place now, has five dollars designated to the School and fifteen dollars designated to the Highway Department. Commissioner Page commented that if this resolution passes then thirty-five dollars would go to the Highway Department and five dollars to the School. Commissioner Vincent commented on where the tax dollars that had been in the Highway Department would be placed and Chairman Phebus commented that it would be placed in the General Fund. There were comments on why the Fund Balance (General Fund) had dropped so low in the last year by Commissioner Vincent. Chairman Phebus commented that the General Fund has been dipped into by the tune of \$200,000 to \$600,000 a year. Chairman Phebus commented that if you have a big fund balance that this will work, but if the fund balance is too low, you still have expenditures so you have to add revenue to the General Fund. This is in the proposed budget that will be

consider tomorrow July 8, 2005 at the Finance Ways and Means Committee Meeting. This is all in conjunction and interplay's with this Highway Department, the wheel tax twenty-dollar increase, and the next Resolution No. 2005-54. The resolution to be discussed is concerning a million-dollar authorization capital outlay note, which included the highway funds and the general funds, and this all interfaces in how we adopt the final budget. Chairman Phebus went on to comment that the Commission is not giving the Highway Department anymore local revenue, but they would get an additional million dollars, assuming that this resolution passes to fund bridges etc.

Commissioner Rook made a comment on the twenty dollars and asked how it would be distributed in the budget. Chairman Phebus commented that they would be getting the same amount of revenue as last year with the exception of the proposed million-dollar bond on the Capital Outlay Note, to fund bridges and roads. Chairman Phebus commented that if the twenty-dollar wheel tax does not pass, the alternative to a wheel tax increase would be a twenty to twenty-five cents property tax increase.

Further comments where made by Commissioner McAlpin and Commissioner Vincent concerning debt service payments, fairness of wheel tax versus property tax. Commissioner Westbrook made comments concerning their questions and the reasons for how the debt service funds can be handled.

Commissioner Hunt questioned if there is figures to substantiate needs and wants in the highway department budget. Road Supervisor Hopper addressed some of the concerns that Commissioner Hunt had, and commented that they were addressed at the last Road Board meeting.

Commissioner Page commented on the revenue that would be generated from the wheel tax increasing from twenty-dollars to forty-dollars.

Commissioner Salmon requested to hear the committee reports from the various committees that met on this resolution. Chairman Phebus commented that it passed the Finance Ways and Means Committee with five ayes and one nay. The Public Works Committee as noted by Commissioner Rook never considered a twenty-dollar wheel tax, but ten-dollars was discussed instead.

Commissioner Vincent made further comments on wheel tax versus property tax increases. Chairman Phebus clarified how the wheel tax would be factored into the budget and the property tax would be disbursed if this Resolution were adopted. If this Resolution were not adopted, then the commission would be back to square one and a property tax increase.

Commissioner Stewart commented that this Resolution must pass two readings, one tonight and the next one on July 25, 2005 by a two-thirds majority vote.

Commissioner Westbrook commented that the commissioners did not need to vote for this tonight, if they did not want this wheel tax, otherwise other plans will need to be made by the commission. Commissioner Westbrook commented that he personally preferred a wheel tax to a property tax increase.

Commissioner Baltz and Commissioner Barner also made comments concerning the wheel tax issue for the record.

Question was called and the County Clerk called the Roll with 16 ayes, 1 nay and 1 absent. The Resolution was approved by a two-thirds majority vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-54: Authorize Issuance of Interest Bearing General Obligation Capital Outlay Notes, Series 2005, in an Amount Not To Exceed \$1,000,000, and Providing for the Payment of Said Notes.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to place the Resolution on the floor and Commissioner Hunt placed a second to the motion. Discussion was called and Commissioner Vincent was recognized and questioned if this One Million dollars is tied into the budget that the commission is working on for 2005-06. Chairman Phebus commented that it is tied into the budget and if this Resolution does not pass, then the one million dollars in capital outlay will have to be taken out of the individual budgets where it shows up. Commissioner Rich asked Chairman Phebus to repeat his comment. Chairman Phebus commented that this Resolution authorizes One Million Dollars; the million dollars is to be used for highway department purposes, \$400,000 for bridge construction, \$335,000 for hot mix, and the additional amount of \$265,000 for equipment.

Question was called and the County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough called the Roll with 14 ayes, 3 nays and 1 absent. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-56: Resolution to Authorize the Implementation of Methamphetamine Out-Patient Treatment Pilot Project for Weakley County Juvenile Court Beginning July 1, 2005.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to place the Resolution on the floor and Commissioner Page placed the second. Discussion was called and the question. The County Clerk, Pat Scarbrough called the Roll with 17 ayes and 1 absent. The motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Phebus called for a Motion to allow, at the request of the Highway Department Supervisor Hopper, an additional one-twelfth of this month's budget to be spent in line items 405 and 409. Commissioner Westbrook made a Motion and Commissioner Wright placed a second. Discussion and the question were called. The County Clerk called the Roll with 16 ayes and 2 absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Phebus stated that the Budget Committee and Finance Committee would meet at the School Department in the Board Room tomorrow afternoon at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The next full Commission Meeting will meet on July 25, 2005 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Buckley made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Stewart placed a second. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and the Weakley County Legislative Body adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk