

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

RULES COMMITTEE

May 21, 2001, 6:00 P.M.

Committee on Rules & Committee Members Present: Commissioners Dick Phebus, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Roger Stewart, John Salmon, Seldon Parham, Eric Owen, George Broussard, Mac Buckley, and Earl Wright.

Committee on Rules & Committee Members Absent: Commissioner Sam Sinclair.

Others Present: Ron Gifford-County Executive, Richard Barber-Director of Schools, Gordon Morris-Chairman School Board, other county commissioners, David McAlpin-Director Emergency Management, representatives from the Dresden Enterprise and WCMT Radio.

The Committee on Rules & Committees met on Monday, May 21, 2001, 6:00 P.M. in the county commission room at the Weakley County Courthouse.

Chairman Westbrook called the meeting to order.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Parham made the motion to approve the September 11, 2000 minutes. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Westbrook introduced the school resource officer (SRO) program to the committee members. The SRO program is a three-year \$125,000 fully federal funded grant that places a police officer in the schools. The SRO officer is an employee of the city. At the end of the third year, the grant will cease; thus the funding of the SRO program will be the responsibility of the city. Some Martin schools are presently participating in this grant and voiced their support to the committee. Numerous suggestions were stated; however there were no suggestions for the funding of the program. The cities of Dresden and Greenfield have voted to pursue this grant. Mr. Barber and Dr. Morris spoke to the committee concerning the need for the SRO program and stated that the SRO board is proposing to place three officers at Martin, one officer at Greenfield, two officers at Dresden, and one officer at Gleason. Discussion followed. Commissioner Phebus made the motion to defer the SRO discussion to the Public Safety committee. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Reapportionment

Chairman Westbrook began the discussion by stating that there are currently three districts that are misrepresented, plus or minus 5%. Discussion followed. Commissioner Phebus stated that the Office of Local Government in Nashville has issued a manual of reapportionment. Mr. Gifford was requested to provide the members of the Rules Committee with a copy of this manual. Committee members and other commissioners present stated that it would be helpful to review the census numbers per district before redrawing the districts. Chairman Westbrook stated that reapportionment plan proposals will be accepted until July 2001.

Other Business

Mr. Gifford stated three commissions have been requested to serve on the Weakley County Joint Economic and Community Development Board. Commissioner Owen made the motion to appoint Commissioners Jack Vincent, John Salmon, and Tommy Jones to serve on this board. Chairman Westbrook seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution #2001-60

The resolution proposes to create the West TN railroad authority. Commissioner Broussard made the motion to recommend Resolution #2001-60 to the full commission for approval. Commissioner Phebus seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Broussard made the motion to nominate R. D. Robinson to serve on the Board of Directors. Commissioner Phebus seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Broussard made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Phebus meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Phebus, Secretary
The Rules Committee

Approved:

James H. Westbrook, Jr., Chairman
The Rules Committee

Date: _____