

**Weakley County Legislative Body
Regular County Commission Meeting
Weakley County Courthouse, Dresden, TN
Monday, May 17, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Weakley County Legislative Body was called to order by County Mayor Jake Bynum at 5:30 P.M. at the Weakley County Courthouse.

The invocation was given by Orrin Cowley.

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

County Clerk Kim Hughey called the roll. Answering present were Commissioners Dennis Doster, Bobby Dunlap, Eric Owen, Larry Hudson, James Roy Pope, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, Colton Nanney, Larry Taylor, Steven Totty, David Bell, Dale Overton, David Hawks, Beth VanCleave, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, Donnie Essary, and James Westbrook. No one was absent.

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2021, Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Bell and a second was placed by Commissioner Pope. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved with none opposed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

RESOLUTION NO.2021-35: Honoring Colonel Trent Scates in Commemoration of His Assuming Command of the 194th Tennessee National Guard Brigade

Sponsored by: Commissioners James Roy Pope and Greg Usery

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-35. A motion was made by Commissioner Pope and a second was placed by Commissioner Usery. The resolution was read aloud by County Mayor Bynum. Colonel Trent Scates was presented with a copy of the resolution. Colonel Trent Scates thanked everyone. A voice vote was taken and Resolution No. 2021-35 was approved with none opposed.

MESSAGE FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor Bynum stated that Erica Moore resigned from her position with the county after 10 years of employment and accepted a position at Twin Oaks Technology. Kirsty-Rhe Janse was

introduced as the new Executive Assistant, Secretary to the Commission, and Director of Communications of Weakley County Government. Joshua Thompson, who was not present, is an intern who will be working with the county throughout the summer. He is a political science major from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Shelby Spurgeon will be leaving employment at the Weakley County Economic & Development Corporation in June. She has taken a job with the Memphis Chamber as a Business Development Specialist. The Weakley County Economic & Development Corporation will now be in search for a new CEO. The Memorial Day Program will be at the Weakley County Courthouse on May 31, 2021 at 11:00 am and the Veteran's Affairs Officer Ricky Cobb is in charge of that program. The TCSA Conference is scheduled for May 25, 2021 – May 27, 2021, and if there are any questions contact the Mayor's Office.

COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSION

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the Financial Reports. A motion was made by Commissioner Eddings and a second was placed by Commissioner Usery. A voice vote was taken and the Financial Reports were approved with none opposed.

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the Veteran's Service Report. A motion was made by Commissioner Hawks and a second was placed by Commissioner Essary. A voice vote was taken and the Veteran's Service Report was approved with none opposed.

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the UT Extension Report to Stakeholders. A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and a second was placed by Commissioner Doster. A voice vote was taken and the UT Extension Report to Stakeholders was approved with none opposed.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL & STANDING COMMITTEES

None

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS

Election of Notaries Public

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the list of Notaries Public. A motion was made by Commissioner Bell and a second was placed by Commissioner Hawks. A voice vote was taken approving the Notaries Public with none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to accept the resignation of Circuit Court Clerk, Jennifer Killebrew. A motion was made by Commissioner Pope and a second placed by Commissioner Westbrook. Commissioner Westbrook stated that it is unusual for a resignation to be set on or before a certain date. The resignation should have a specific date set. He asked if Mrs. Killebrew had a chief deputy. County Mayor Bynum stated that she has assigned someone as the chief deputy. Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to accept the resignation effective on June 29, 2021 and a second was placed by Commissioner Pope. A voice vote was taken and the motion to accept Circuit Court Clerk, Jennifer Killebrew's resignation effective on June 29, 2021 was approved with none opposed.

FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO.2021-36: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021. Passed unanimously through HEED Committee and FWM Committee.

Sponsored by: Commissioners Beth VanCleave and David Bell

RESOLUTION NO.2021-37: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021. Passed unanimously through FWM Committees.

Sponsored by: Commissioners James Westbrook and Dennis Doster

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to combine Financial Resolution No. 2021-36 and Resolution No. 2021-37. A motion was made by Commissioner Owen and a second was placed by Commissioner Hudson. A voice vote was taken and combining Resolution No. 2021-36 and Resolution 2021-37 was approved with none opposed.

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-36 and Resolution 2021-37. A motion was made by Commissioner Owen and a second was placed by Commissioner Doster.

Commissioner Hawks asked if Resolution No. 2021-37 passes, will the Weakley County Property Assessors Office have 3 full-time and 1 part-time or 4 full-time employees. County Mayor Bynum stated that the department will have 4 full-time employees. Commissioner Hawks stated that he isn't opposed to approving the full-time position if it is needed, but concerned other offices will want to change all of their part-time employees to full-time. Technology should make manual labor easier than it was years ago, but we keep adding employees which costs the county money. Commissioner Hawks asked for the Weakley County Property Assessor David Tuck to explain his reasoning behind needing another full-time employee. David Tuck stated that the assessor is authorized by law to have one employee for every four thousand people. The office should have more than four deputies by the county's population,

but only four full-time employees are needed in the office. Our office wasn't happy with the contract services provided by Government Associates, and we are withdrawing from that contract. Finance Director John Liggett stated that the contractual services being removed from the budget will actually save the county \$18,000. Commissioner Eddings asked if she would be enrolling in the health insurance plan. John Liggett stated that she did not turn in any enrollment documents. David Tuck stated that he believes she is covered under her husband's insurance. Commissioner Pope asked if the contract services were approved through the commission and why those services aren't working. David Tuck stated that the contract was approved by the commission. The services work, but the company is not local so it is inconvenient and there is a lot of time involved in gathering paperwork together, mailing documents, and waiting on documents to be returned when the deputies could be doing that work.

County Mayor Bynum asked County Clerk Kim Hughey to call the roll. The resolution was approved with Commissioners Dennis Doster, Bobby Dunlap, Eric Owen, Larry Hudson, James Roy Pope, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, Colton Nanney, Larry Taylor, Steven Totty, David Bell, Dale Overton, David Hawks, Beth VanCleave, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, Donnie Essary, and James Westbrook answering "yes". No one was absent.

NON-FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO.2021-38: Resolution Authorizing Speed Limit on Hyndsver Rd (Local Route 01612) Weakley County, Tennessee Highway Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021.

Sponsored by: Commissioners Roger Donaldson and Dennis Doster

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-38. A motion was made by Commissioner Vincent and a second was placed by Commissioner Donaldson. Commissioner Hawks asked if anyone has talked to the residents that live on Hyndsver Rd. Commissioner Vincent stated that he has been in contact with several of the residents, but not everyone. Commissioner Donaldson stated that he has talked to several residents as well. Commissioner Hawks asked if the majority of the residents agree to the speed limit change. Commissioner Vincent stated absolutely. Commissioner Donaldson stated that speeding is a major problem on Hyndsver Rd. Commissioner Hawks stated that he just wanted to make sure the residents agreed to the speed limit change. A voice vote was taken and Resolution No. 2021-38 was approved with none opposed.

Commission Members' Comments

Commissioner Westbrook, a board member for The Association of Tennessee Valley Governments, asked for approval from the commission to attend a meeting in Huntsville, Alabama. A motion was made by Commissioner Donaldson and a second was placed by

Commissioner Hudson. A voice vote was taken and Commissioner Westbrook's trip to Alabama was approved with none opposed.

Commissioner Hawks stated that he would like to encourage communication between committees and commissioners. The committees should be utilized for their respective responsibilities. For example, the financial management committee is in charge of personnel, promotions, state audits, and other responsibilities. County Mayor Bynum stated that the Property Assessor's changes were not a personnel issue but a budget issue, so it was not approved through financial management. In regards to state audits, the Comptroller's Office emails the audits out to the commission members, mayor, and media on the same day.

County Mayor Bynum announced that the next Regular Meeting will be June 29, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

The Weakley County Legislative Body Regular Meeting stood adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Christina Oliver, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:

Kim Hughey, Weakley County Clerk