Weakley County Legislative Body
Regular County Commission Meeting
Weakley County Courthouse, Dresden, TN
Monday, March 16, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.

The Weakley County Legislative Body was called to order by the Chairman Dennis Doster at 5:00 P.M. at the Weakley County Courthouse.

The invocation was given by Brian Gallimore.

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, Marcus Hopper, Wade Cook, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, John Robert Freeman, Larry Taylor, David Bell, David Hawks, Billy Hazlewood, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, James Washburn, and James Westbrook. Commissioners James Roy Pope and Joey Mehlhorn were absent.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve the January 20, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Eddings made a motion and Commissioner Bell placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were approved with none opposed.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve the March 6, 2026, Special Called Meeting minutes. Commissioner Eddings made a motion and Commissioner Bell placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were approved with none opposed.

COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSION

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to accept the Financial Reports. A motion was made by Commissioner Usery and a second was placed by Commissioner Donaldson. A voice vote was taken, and the Financial Reports were accepted with none opposed.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to accept the Ag Extension Report. Commissioner Dunlap made a motion and Commissioner Freeman placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the Ag Extension Report was accepted with none opposed.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to accept the Veteran's Service Report. A motion was made by Commissioner Hawks and a second was placed by Commissioner Hopper. A voice vote was taken, and the Veteran's Service Report was accepted with none opposed.

MESSAGE FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor Dale Hutcherson thanked everyone for being present. Civic and community engagement are particularly important, and it is great to see everyone present at this meeting. County Dale Hutcherson stated that he had five proclamations to present. The first proclamation is to honor and congratulate the Westview High School Chargers Division I – Class 3A State Champion Football Team. The Westview High School Chargers football team recently completed a very memorable accomplishment by capturing the Tennessee State Division I Class 3A State Championship trophy at the BlueCross Bowl State Championship game in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They undeniably completed the most successful tournament of any high school football team. They had a perfect season with a record of 14 wins and 0 losses. They broke or tied 9 records in the state championship game including most passing yards by an individual (Graham Simpson-566 yards), most passing yards by a team (566-Westview), longest pass play for a touchdown (99 yard pass from Graham Simpson to Donteze Joy), most combined passing yards in a game(699 yards-Westview and Gatlinburg-Pittman), most touchdowns by an individual (7-Graham Simpson), most touchdowns by a team (9), most combined points in a half (69 points-Westview 55, Gatlinburg-Pittman 14), most points in a half (55-Westview), and total yards (690- Westview and Gatlinburg-Pittman). The Westview Chargers football team is just an exceptional team.

The second proclamation is to honor Westview High School Sophomore Graham Simpson who earned the distinguished title of Tennessee Titans Division I Class 3A "Mr. Football", one of the highest honors a student-athlete in the state of Tennessee can achieve. Graham Simpson had an outstanding and record-breaking football season. His stats are unbelievable unless you are playing a video game. He accumulated over 3,700 total offensive yards (3,565 passing: 204 rushing), 45 total touchdowns (43 passing – 2 rushing), and only 3 interceptions. As a sophomore, Graham Simpson has reached a passing yardage total for over 7,700 yards and 100 passing touchdowns. He was also named the Most Valuable Player of the state championship game. Let this proclamation serve as a celebration of Graham Simpson's outstanding contributions to Westview High School, and may his legacy encourage future athletes to pursue their dreams with the same passion and determination.

County Mayor Dale Hutcherson congratulated the Martin Westview High School and Greenfield High School girls' basketball teams for making it to the state championship and to Rayanna Fisher who was nominated as a Miss Basketball Finalist.

The third proclamation is to honor Annabelle Lovell for the 2026 Governor's Volunteer Star Youth Award. She is a citizen of Weakley County, Tennessee. She has passionately and selflessly served as a proactive volunteer and leader for numerous years with various organizations including but not limited to the Weakley County Prevention Coalition, TNSTRONG Youth Leadership Program, DARE, "Drug Take Back Day" and "Pop Up Prevention" programs to promote healthy and substance-free lifestyles amongst her peers with over 500 hours of service dedicated to these organizations and programs. She is Narcan, Naloxone and CPR certified. She is a decorated public servant in the highest order in every sense of the word and is a young

woman who has exhibited community values, energy, passion, and commitment to making Weakley County a better place through her various volunteer activities and work.

The fourth proclamation is to honor Angela Hall for the 2026 Governor's Volunteer Star Award who is a citizen of Weakley County, Tennessee and has passionately and selflessly served as a proactive volunteer and leader for numerous years with various organizations in Weakley County, Tennessee including, but not limited to, the Weakley County Office of Aging's Second Harvest Program, Weakley County Backpack Program, regular volunteer delivery of meals to senior citizens and our elderly population, the Weakley County Office on Aging "Tech Goes Home" Program, and Habitat for Humanity. This award is given to a deserving individual who embodies leadership, persistence, volunteer spirit, and the determination to make the lives of seniors and all fellow community members more enjoyable and sustainable.

The fifth proclamation is recognizing the vital contributions of our agricultural community and to express appreciation for the men and women who work tirelessly to provide for us each day and proclaiming March 24, 2026, as National Agriculture Day in Weakley County, Tennessee. The 2026 National Ag Day theme, "Together We Grow: Celebrating 250 years of Progress in Agriculture," highlights the dedication and innovation of America's farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses in advancing our food system. It provides an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the farmers, farm families, agricultural workers, agribusiness professionals, and educators whose dedication ensures a safe, abundant, and affordable food supply. Make sure to thank a farmer.

Weakley County Mayor Dale Hutcherson has partnered with the Obion County Mayor Steve Carr, Everett Stewart Airport, and Lifeline Pilots. A humanitarian group effort among pilots across the nation that gives access to healthcare to rural residents. Lifeline pilots will transport patients free of charge. For example, the pilots will fly into the Everett Stewart Airport in Union City and transport a patient that has a regularly scheduled appointment at MD Anderson in Houston, Texas. This takes the expense off the patient. This will be a major contributing piece to not only our senior community, but anyone who is dealing with some of the most difficult illnesses in their lives.

Weakley County Mayor Dale Hutcherson highlighted Weakley County Assessor Lisa Odle and her deputies for all their hard work. They do an excellent job and are highly educated. Patricia Capps was just recently awarded the West Tennessee Deputy Assessor of the Year. Patricia Capps, Shana Bradley, and Megan King are attending the County Technical Assistance Service Cap Stone event to obtain their Certified Public Administrator Certificate and April Spence received hers in 2024. Each of the full-time deputies has completed or are currently attending the Weakley County Leadership Program. Lisa Odle is the current President of the Tennessee Association of Assessing Officers, has over 250 hours of education with the International Association of Assessing Officers, and has her Certified Public Administrator Certificate. The office staff attends 30 hours of continuing education classes from CTAS or the Division of Property Assessment. They go above and beyond daily and if a customer has questions about

land, the office is eager to serve our constituents. County Mayor Dale Hutcherson stated that we are proud to have them.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Weakley County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Report

Chairman Dennis Doster stated that everyone has the Weakley County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Report in their packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- John Mitchell – Regarding Resolution 2026-38
- Britne Mansfield - Regarding Resolution 2026-38
- Emily Carr - Regarding Resolution 2026-38

Chairman Dennis Doster stated that there are three people here to speak regarding Resolution 2026-38. They will be asked to speak one at a time. There is a five-minute time limit for each speaker. The meeting went into recess for the public comments at 5:18 P.M. The meeting went back into session at 5:34 P.M.

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS

Appointment of One (1) Interim District 5 Commissioner

Chairman Dennis Doster stated that there were two people who submitted applications, Joyce Washington and David Moore. Each applicant will be given two minutes to speak. Chairman Dennis Doster recognized Joyce Washington to speak. Joyce Washington stated that she was born and raised in Obion County but moved to Weakley County in 2007. She is just a country girl from Northwest Tennessee. She stated that she loves Weakley County. Weakley County is a diamond. It has some rough edges, and childcare is one of them. We must figure out a way to retain our small schools without raising property taxes. We need to broaden the way we think about our economic development. Joyce Washington stated that she is not talking about becoming Davidson County but planning a strategic focus on growth. She would love to have a seat at the table to offer a broader perspective for the people in District 5.

Chairman Dennis Doster recognized David Moore to speak. David Moore stated that he has been a public servant for 26 years. He was employed with the Martin Police Department and retired as police chief in 2015. He currently works with the University of Tennessee as a consultant for police departments across the state. He will bring some knowledge of government to the table and expects to make this one of the best places to live. He would love to sit on the commission and appreciates your consideration.

Chairman Dennis Doster opened the floor for nominations for the appointment of Interim District 5 Commissioner. Commissioner Larry Taylor nominated David Moore. There were no other nominations. Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to accept David Moore as the Interim District 5 Commissioner. Commissioner Washburn made a motion and Commissioner Bell placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and David Moore as the Interim District 5 Commissioner was accepted with none opposed.

Chairman Dennis Doster stated that Commissioner Larry Taylor requests that he be moved from the FWM committee to the HEED committee and move Commissioner David Moore to the FWM committee. Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Commissioner Larry Taylor moving to HEED and Commissioner David Moore moving to the FWM committee. Commissioner Hawks made a motion and Commissioner Hopper placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the appointments were approved with none opposed.

Appointment of One (1) Member to the Board of Health

Dr. Amy Duncan, DDS was recommended for appointment to the Weakley County Board of Health. Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Dr. Amy Duncan, DDS to the Weakley County Board of Health. Commissioner Eddings placed a motion and Commissioner Donaldson placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the appointment of Dr. Amy Duncan, DDS, to the Weakley County Board of Health was approved with none opposed.

Appointment of District 6 Constable

Chairman Dennis Doster opened the floor for nominations for the District 6 Constable. There were no nominations for the District 6 Constable position.

Election of Notaries Public

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve the Notaries Public. Commissioner Hopper made a motion and Commissioner Hazlewood placed a second. A voice vote was taken, and the Notaries Public were approved with none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Bid and Authorization of Execution for County Mayor Regarding the Weakley County Chamber Connected Community Facility Project

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to accept the Approval of Bid and Authorization of Execution for County Mayor Regarding the Weakley County Chamber Connected Community Facility Project. Commissioner Hopper made a motion and Commissioner Donaldson placed a second. Justin Crice, CEO of the Weakley County Economic Development Board, was available for questions. Chairman Dennis Doster stated that this is regarding the project at the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce. The original bid for the project was more than what was approved. The project went through the rebidding process, and the price was brought back down to the amount that was approved. This allows the mayor to sign the contract, so the project can get started. Commissioner Vincent stated that he supports everything Justin Crice is doing and our local businesses, but he plans to stay with his original vote on this project. A voice vote was taken and the Approval of Bid and Authorization of Execution for County Mayor Regarding the Weakley County Chamber Connected Community Facility Project was accepted.

FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2026-38: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General-Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
Sponsored by Commissioners David Bell and John Robert Freeman
Passed unanimously through the HEED committee and through FWM committee 5-4 vote.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-38. Commissioner Freeman made a motion and Commissioner Washburn placed a second. Chairman Dennis Doster asked County Clerk Kim Hughey to call the roll. Commissioners Bobby Dunlap, Marcus Hopper, Wade Cook, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, John Robert Freeman, Larry Taylor, David Moore, David Bell, David Hawks, Jack Vincent, James Washburn, and James Westbrook answered yes. Commissioners Dennis Doster, Billy Hazlewood, and Roger Donaldson answered no. Resolution No. 2026-38 passed with 13 commissioners answering "yes" and 3 commissioners answering "no". Commissioners James Roy Pope and Joey Mehlhorn were absent.

Resolution No. 2026-39: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General-Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
Sponsored by Commissioners Marcus Hopper and John Robert Freeman
Passed unanimously through the HEED and FWM committees.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-39. Commissioner Hopper made a motion and Commissioner Hawks placed a second. Chairman Dennis Doster stated that this resolution is a request for funds to purchase two additional Special Education buses. This appropriates the money for the buses, but it must go through the bid process and that has not happened yet. Chairman Dennis Doster asked County Clerk Kim Hughey to call the roll. Commissioners Dennis Doster, Bobby Dunlap, Marcus Hopper, Wade Cook, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, John Robert Freeman, Larry Taylor, David Moore, David Bell, David Hawks, Billy Hazlewood, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, James Washburn, and James Westbrook answered yes. Resolution No. 2026-39 passed with 16 commissioners answering "yes". Commissioners James Roy Pope and Joey Mehlhorn were absent.

Resolution No. 2026-41: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General-Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
Sponsored by Commissioners Marcus Hopper and John Robert Freeman
Passed unanimously through the HEED and FWM committees.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-41. Commissioner Eddings made a motion and Commissioner Usery placed a second. Chairman Dennis Doster stated that this resolution is regarding grant money awarded for the Dresden and Sharon Senior Citizen Centers. Chairman Dennis Doster asked County Clerk Kim Hughey to call the roll. Commissioners Dennis Doster, Bobby Dunlap, Marcus Hopper, Wade Cook, Greg Usery, Gary

Eddings, John Robert Freeman, Larry Taylor, David Moore, David Bell, David Hawks, Billy Hazlewood, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, James Washburn, and James Westbrook answered yes. Resolution No. 2026-41 passed with 16 commissioners answering "yes". Commissioners James Roy Pope and Joey Mehlhorn were absent.

Resolution No. 2026-42: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General-Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
Sponsored by Commissioners David Bell and John Robert Freeman
Passed unanimously through the HEED and FWM committees.

Chairman Dennis Doster called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-42. Commissioner Donaldson made a motion and Commissioner Usery placed a second. Weakley County Director of Schools Jeff Cupples stated that this is a grant awarded to the school for payroll that covers the cost for after school tutoring. Chairman Dennis Doster asked County Clerk Kim Hughey to call the roll. Commissioners Dennis Doster, Bobby Dunlap, Marcus Hopper, Wade Cook, Greg Usery, Gary Eddings, John Robert Freeman, Larry Taylor, David Moore, David Bell, David Hawks, Billy Hazlewood, Roger Donaldson, Jack Vincent, James Washburn, and James Westbrook answered yes. Resolution No. 2026-42 passed with 16 commissioners answering "yes". Commissioners James Roy Pope and Joey Mehlhorn were absent.

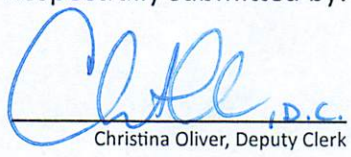
COMMISSION MEMBERS' COMMENTS

None

Chairman Dennis Doster announced that the next Regular Meeting would be Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

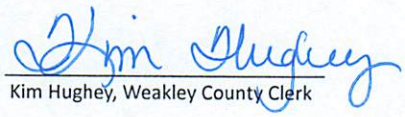
The Weakley County Legislative Body Regular Meeting adjourned at 5:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:



Christina Oliver, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:



Kim Hughey, Weakley County Clerk