

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2017

The Weakley County Legislative Body Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by County Mayor Bynum in the Weakley County Commission Room.

Pastor David Worley gave the invocation.

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

County Clerk Hughey call the Roll. Answering present Commissioner Dennis Doster, Commissioner Bynum, Commissioner Owen, Commissioner Hudson, Commissioner Pope, Commissioner Usery, Commissioner Eddings, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Fortner, Commissioner Wright, Commissioner Overton, Commissioner Hawks, Commissioner VanCleave, Commissioner Donaldson, Commissioner Vincent, Commissioner Donald Doster and Commissioner Westbrook; all 18 members answered present.

County Mayor Bynum called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Donald Doster made the motion and Commissioner Taylor placed a second. There were not any additions, deletions or corrections made and a voice vote was taken. The ayes have it with none opposed. The minutes from the September 18, 2017 meeting were approved.

COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSION:

The Financial Reports were included in the packets. Commissioner Eddings made a motion to accept the reports as filed and Commissioner Wright placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The Financial Reports were accepted as filed.

The Veterans Service Report was next. Commissioner Fortner placed a motion and Commissioner Donaldson placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The Veterans Service Report was accepted as filed.

The UT Extension Report to Stakeholders was next. Commissioner Hawks made a motion and Commissioner Wright placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The UT Extension Report to Stakeholders was accepted as filed.

MESSAGE FROM COUNTY MAYOR:

County Mayor Bynum announced that the Courthouse would be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday November 23rd and Friday November 24th. Also the Courthouse will be closed for Christmas December 25th, 26th and 27th.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Commissioner Donaldson gave a brief report on the Everett-Stewart Regional Airport. The audit for June 30, 2017 showed capital assets of \$8,582,321. He commented that Weakley County and Obion County each contributed \$20,000 per year for operation of the airport.

Commissioner Donaldson commented that the original loan was a TVA loan through Gibson Electric at 0% for ten (10) years for \$287,000. As of October 2017, the balance was \$157,000 or \$78,500 per county. Repayment is \$1,332 per month to each county.

The Everett-Stewart Regional Airport currently leases 530 acres at \$236 per acre. He went on to comment that in Grants: \$8,300 Aerobic Camp (0% local match), \$1,300 Aviation Day Camp (0% match). Three other grants had a 5% match. Commissioner Donaldson commented that he has copies of the audit, financials and the presentation if anyone wishes to see them.

Commissioner Eddings made a motion to accept the report as filed and Commissioner Pope placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The report was accepted as filed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-18: Resolution Congratulating the Dresden High School Cross Country Team and Honoring Anna Johnson and Loral Winn for an Outstanding Season. *Sponsored By: Commissioners Westbrook and Donald Doster.*

County Mayor Bynum recognized Anna Johnson a junior at Dresden High School. Anna won a gold medal and ran the 5-K race (3.1 miles in 20.02 minutes). Loral Johnson also a junior at Dresden High School won the silver medal and ran the course in 20.43 minutes in the Division I Small School State Championship Cross Country Championship Meet in Nashville.

County Mayor Bynum read the Resolution into the minutes. Commissioner Westbrook made the motion and Commissioner Donald Doster placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The motion was approved.

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

The Election of Notaries Public was next on the Agenda. Commissioner Wright made the motion and Commissioner Pope placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The List of Notaries Public was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Hawks made a motion to nominate Commissioner Eddings to the District 4 Rules Committee and Commissioner Fortner placed a second to the motion. Commissioner Westbrook made a motion and nominated Commissioner Jones for the District 4 Rules Committee and Commissioner Wright placed a second to the motion.

County Clerk Hughey called the Roll with 10 ayes for Commissioner Eddings, 7 ayes for Commissioner Jones and one pass.

Commissioner Eddings was approved with ten ayes for the District 4 Rules Committee position.

Next under old business was the appointment of a District 8 Constable. There were not any nominations and the District 8 Constable position remains vacant.

Next there was discussion on removing an old road from the Weakley County Road Maintenance List. This was initially discussed in the September 13th Meeting of the Public Works Committee. The Public Works Committee discussed recommending to the County Commission to close the Old Hwy 45 spur, located between Martin and Sharon in District 7. A section of this road that is North of Summers Road is a dead-end. Bob Busby owns the property on both sides of the road.

Commissioner Westbrook commented that the property was once a state highway and the state had a deed and deeded it to the County.

County Mayor Bynum commented that there would be expense if the road were to be taken off the maintenance list. Commissioner Vincent commented that surveying the road would not be a big deal, but you can't just give the road back.

Commissioner Pope questioned other roads being closed. Commissioner Westbrook commented that opening a county road is pretty clear, but closing one is not clear. Usually we may close them and not put them on a road list and stop providing maintenance. Commissioner Pope questioned if the property goes back to the land owner and Commissioner Westbrook commented that by practice that is what happens, but the law is not clear on it.

Highway Supervisor Ross commented that records indicate that the road was officially adopted as a county road 25 years ago and it was recently discovered that the road was never officially placed on the county maintenance list. It was discussed that this matter should go before the proper committees and determine if a Resolution should be drafted concerning this property.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO 2018-11: Resolution to Affirm Compliance with Federal Title VI Regulations. (Passed unanimously through the HEED Committee) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Hudson and Overton.*

Commissioner Hudson made the Motion to place on the floor and Commissioner Donald Doster placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The motion carried.

County Mayor Bynum called for a Motion to combine Resolution No's 2018-12, 2018-13, 2018-14, 2018-15, 2018-16 and 2018-17. Commissioner Owen made the motion to combine and place on the floor for discussion Resolution No.'s 2018-12 through 2018-17 and Commissioner Dennis Doster placed a second. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. Resolution No's 2018-12 through 2018-17 were combined.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-12: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the HEED and FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Eddings and Hawks.*

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-13: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, Highway Fund for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the Public Works and FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Vincent and Jones.*

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-14: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Purpose School Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the HEED and FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners VanCleave and Dennis Doster.*

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-15: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, Drug Control Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the Public Safety & FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Bynum and Hudson.*

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-16: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the HEED & FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Pope and Hawks.*

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-17: Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Weakley County, Tennessee, General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018. (Passed unanimously through the HEED & FWM Committees) *Sponsored By: Commissioners Bynum and Usery.*

County Mayor Bynum commented that Resolution no. 2018-16 was changed in committee and the packets sent out to each Commissioner needs to show in paragraph one monies budgeted for the purchase of a voting system and the same change made to paragraph three, change to voting system and not to purchase 55 new voting machines.

Question was called and County Clerk Hughey called the roll with 18 ayes. Resolution No.'s 2018-12, 2018-13, 2018-14, 2018-15, 2018-16 and 2018-17 passed.

COMMISSION MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Donaldson was recognized. Commissioner Donaldson commented that he has deep concern regarding broadband or fiber optics in the County. He went on to comment that he sees other counties surrounding Weakley County moving forward with plans to provide high speed internet to their citizens. Obion, Dyer, Crockett, Gibson, Haywood, Lake, Madison and others. The City of Martin is installing as we speak. The City of Dresden is also holding meetings right now on how to proceed. Commissioner Donaldson commented that we are neglecting our duties by letting our county fall behind. Our citizens need and want fiber. Commissioner Donaldson commented that he agreed with Larry Jolley's recent letter to the editor that the Weakley County Electric Board of Directors should be exploring every option to accomplish this.

Commissioner Donaldson commented that WCMES could own and sell this service and there are grants available to underserved areas in our county.

Commissioner Donaldson made a motion that the Weakley County Municipal Electric Company Board of Directors form a committee to study every option including ownership, partnerships etc. to bring high speed broadband fiber optic to Weakley County residents. Studies would include counties in Tennessee and nationwide and would include all grants applicable at state and federal level and report findings to the Finance Ways and Means and the full County Commission. Commissioner VanCleave placed a second to the Motion.

Discussion and a voice vote was taken. The ayes have it with none opposed. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fortner commended the committee involved in the recent revamping of the New County Seal and Logo including County Mayor Bynum and his secretary Erica Moore as well as others assisting with the project.

Commissioner Fortner made a motion to approve the new Weakley County Seal and Logo. Commissioner Eddings placed a second to the Motion. A voice vote was taken and the ayes have it with none opposed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on the 4th Monday, January 22, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Owen and a second was placed by Commissioner Vincent. The Weakley County Regular Legislative Body Meeting stood adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kim Hughey, Weakley County Clerk