

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, March 6, 2017; 11:00 a.m.**

**Public Safety Committee Members Present:** Commissioners Scott Fortner, James Bynum, Larry Hudson, James Roy Pope, Earl Wright, and David Hawks

**Public Safety Committee Members Absent:** None

The Public Safety Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Weakley County Department of Finance in Dresden. Others present included Mayor Jake Bynum, Finance Director John Liggett, Sheriff Mike Wilson, General Sessions Judge Tommy Moore, Clerk and Master Regina VanCleave, Youth Services Officer Keith Jones, Director Bette Jewel and other representatives from the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Martin.

Chairperson Scott Fortner called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2017 meeting, and with a second by Commissioner Bynum, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Transfer 1617-12:**

This transfer shifts \$13,550 from 54110-310 DCP (Sheriff's Department Drug Court Program Contracts with Other Agencies) line to the 54110-355 DCP (Sheriff's Department Drug Court Program Travel) line. General Sessions Judge Tommy Moore explained that the funds being shifted are state grant funds that had previously never been permitted to be used for travel, but had for the first time been approved to be utilized specifically for travel expenses with the permission of the TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Judge Moore explained that these funds, used for travel expenses to conferences such as the National Association of Drug Court Professionals National Conference, will save monies in both Obion and Weakley Counties. Judge Moore spoke a bit about the Drug Court Program, the fact that the requirements for program enrollment were being revised, and the consideration of therapy for currently incarcerated individuals. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve Transfer 1617-12 and recommend it to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, and with a second by Commissioner Pope the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hawks asked Judge Moore whether there were currently any life skill courses being taught in the county jail, such as plumbing or welding. Judge Moore stated that there were similar programs he had heard about that he would research.

**Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse Presentation**

Chairperson Fortner recognized Bette Jewel, Director of the Carl Perkins Center in Martin. Mrs. Jewel and some of her representatives provided a proposal to the committee, and began by stating that after filing for grant funding, she had exhausted all of the avenues that she could consider for funding for a new program facility. She explained a bit about her organization including that the program serves 1,000 individuals annually with extensive services, children's abuse services, caregiver services, and parental services. She asked that the committee study the proposal to see pictures of the poor shape of the current facility, and explained that a spot of land for a potential new building has been donated to the organization. Commissioner Hawks asked whether the proposal would be for a new building, or renovation of the old building. Director Jewel said that the proposal was for a new building and that renovation of the current building was not feasible in any capacity. Director Jewel recognized Rob Goad, Grant Writer for the Northwest Tennessee Development

District, to provide a timeline projection. He stated that two grants had been filed, and that the timeline was contingent to the award notices of those grants, with a potential award announcement in October or November of 2017, a contract in December, and project construction in spring of 2018.

Chairperson Fortner asked County Mayor Bynum about the procedure. Mayor Bynum said that his interpretation of the timeline would be that the committee would study the proposal and then have some discussions and make some decisions during the budgeting process. He stated that his additional interpretation of the project is that the organization is not looking for a one-time donation, but rather structured as an annual donation that would be rolled into the budget. The Mayor said that the request total is for \$100,000 and the cost can be broken up over fiscal years as the body sees fitting.

Director Jewel extended an invitation to the body to attend the Carl Perkins Annual Gala, taking place the following Saturday night at the UT Martin Ballroom.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Having no other business Commissioner Hawks made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Wright, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary  
Public Safety Committee

Approved:



Scott Fortner, Chairperson  
Public Safety Committee

Date: 5-4-17