

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
RULES COMMITTEE

Monday, September 10, 2018 – 9:00 AM – County Commission Courtroom, Courthouse, Dresden

Rules Committee Members Present: Commissioners Eric Owen, Gary Eddings, James H. Westbrook, Jr., David Hawks, Dale Overton, Roger Donaldson, and Dennis Doster

Rules Committee Members Absent: Commissioners Scott Fortner and Greg Usery

The Rules Committee met on Monday, September 10, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Weakley County Commission Court Room at the courthouse in Dresden. Others present were County Mayor Jake Bynum, Finance Director John Liggett, County Commissioners Larry Taylor, Larry Hudson, Bobby Dunlap, and Donnie Essary, and one representative of the media.

I. CALL TO ORDER: County Mayor Jake Bynum called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Doster made the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 25, 2018, and with a second by Commissioner Donaldson, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS: None

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Election of Committee Chairperson – Mayor Bynum called for recommendations for Rules Committee Chairperson. Commissioner Doster recommended Commissioner David Hawks to serve as chairperson. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Overton, Commissioner Hawks was unanimously elected chairperson. Mayor Bynum turned the meeting over to Chairperson Hawks.

B. Election of Recording Secretary – Chairperson Hawks called for recommendations for Rules Committee Recording Secretary. Commissioner Donaldson recommended Erica Moore to serve as recording secretary. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Eddings, Erica Moore was unanimously appointed as recording secretary.

C. Consideration of Rules Changes – Chairperson Hawks stated that the first changes up for consideration were recommendations by County Mayor Bynum. Mayor Bynum recommended three changes to the Rules.

Mayor Bynum's first rule change suggestion was to Rule 9, Committee Structure of the Board, Rules Committee.

Original Rule: At its July meeting, the Board of County Commissioners shall elect nine (9) members of the Board of Commissioners to serve as a Rules Committee. No more than one member can be selected from any commission district.

Suggested Change: At its July meeting prior to the county general election, the Board of County Commissioners shall elect nine (9) members of the Board of Commissioners to serve as a Rules Committee for a four-year term. No more than one member can be selected from any commission district.

Commissioner Donaldson said he believed the original rule should be left unchanged to allow newly elected commissioners the opportunity to serve. There was discussion about how long this rule had been in place, the equal importance of every committee, the history of appointments, and the improper representation of members on various committees in the past.

Chairperson Hawks called for a roll call vote with the instruction that the vote of Yes was in favor of the rule change and the vote of No was against it. With a total of 4 yes [Owen, Eddings, Westbrook, Overton], 3 no [Donaldson, Doster, Hawks], and 2 absent, the motion to approve and recommend Mayor Bynum's first rule change suggestion to the full commission passed.

Mayor Bynum's second rule change suggestion was also to Rule 9, Committee Structure of the Board, Rules Committee. **Original Rule:** The Rules Committee also have responsibility to consider and recommend a reapportionment plan for Weakley County to insure that the legislative body, the board of education, and the highway commission are properly and legally apportioned as required by law.

Suggested Rule: The Rules Committee also have responsibility to consider and recommend a reapportionment plan for Weakley County to insure that the legislative body, the board of education, ~~and the highway commission~~ are properly and legally apportioned as required by law.

Commissioner Owen made the motion to approve and recommend Mayor Bynum's second suggested rule change to the full commission, and with a second by Commissioner Westbrook, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bynum's third rule change suggestion was to Rule 16, County Attorney.

Original Rule: Annually at the first meeting of each year, the County Commission shall elect a County Attorney for a term of one year, or until his successor shall be duly elected and qualified, provided that no person shall be elected to said office of County Attorney unless is a duly licensed attorney.

Suggested Rule: Annually at the first meeting of each year, the County Commission shall elect a County Attorney for a term of one year, or until his/her successor shall be duly elected and qualified, provided that no person shall be elected to said office of County Attorney unless he/she is a duly licensed attorney.

Commissioner Eddings made the motion to approve and recommend Mayor Bynum's third suggested rule change to the full commission, and with a second by Commissioner Doster, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Commission Chairperson Recommendations

Chairperson Hawks called for recommendations for the Chairperson of the County Commission. Commissioner Westbrook made the recommendation of County Mayor Bynum. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Overton, the motion to recommend Mayor Bynum as Commission Chairperson passed unanimously.

E. Commission Chairperson Pro-Tempe Recommendations

Chairperson Hawks called for recommendations for the Chairperson Pro-Tempe of the County Commission. Commissioner Owen made the recommendation of Commissioner David Hawks. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Westbrook, the motion to recommend Commissioner Hawks as Commission Chairperson Pro-Tempe passed unanimously.

F. Commission Committee Recommendations

Chairperson Hawks passed out a document that listed all of the various subcommittees with recommendations of members he designated to each committee. Commissioner Overton mentioned that he would like to be considered for assignment to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee. Commissioner Westbrook made the motion to amend Chairperson Hawks' list to assign Commissioner Overton to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, subsequently moving Commissioner Bell to the Health, Education, and Economic Development Committee. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the motion to amend Chairperson Hawks' list to assign Commissioner Overton to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee passed with a roll call vote of 4 yes [Owen, Eddings, Westbrook, Overton], 3 no [Donaldson, Doster, Hawks], and 2 absent.

Commissioner Westbrook stated that he would prefer to remain serving on the Financial Management Committee. Commissioner Owen made the motion to amend Chairperson Hawks' list to remove Commissioner James Roy Pope from the Financial Management Committee and assign Commissioner Westbrook. Commissioner Overton seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the motion to amend Chairperson Hawks' list to assign Commissioner Westbrook to the Financial Management Committee passed with a roll call vote of 4 yes [Owen, Eddings, Westbrook, Overton], 3 no [Donaldson, Doster, Hawks], and 2 absent.

Commissioner Owen said that he would like to move from the Public Works Committee to the Public Safety Committee.

Chairperson Hawks called for a voice vote on the list he provided as amended. Commissioner Westbrook made the motion to approve and recommend the list as amended, and with a second by Commissioner Owen, the motion passed.

G. Everett-Stewart Airport Board Recommendations

Chairperson Hawks called for recommendations to the Everett-Stewart Regional Airport Board. Commissioner Westbrook recommended Commissioner Roger Donaldson. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Overton, the motion to recommend to the full commission that Commissioner Donaldson be appointed to the Airport Board passed unanimously.

H. Weakley County Municipal Electric System Board Recommendations

Chairperson Hawks called for recommendations to the Weakley County Municipal Electric System Board. Commissioner Overton recommended Commissioner James Westbrook. With no other recommendations and a second by Commissioner Owen, the motion to recommend to the full commission that Commissioner Westbrook be appointed to the WCMES Board passed unanimously.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Taylor stated that he would like the Financial Management Committee to be categorized as a standing committee. There was some conversation about what this might change to which no one had an answer. Chairperson Hawks made the motion to recommend the categorizing of the Financial Management Committee as a standing committee, and with a second by Commissioner Eddings, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. ADJOURN

Having no other business, Commissioner Owen made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Overton, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Moore, Secretary
Rules Committee

Approved:

David Hawks, Chairperson
Rules Committee

Date: _____