

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE ROOM, WEAKLEY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, November 10, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.**

FWM Committee Members Present: Commissioners Greg Usery, Billy Hazlewood, David Bell, Roger Donaldson, Dennis Doster, Gary Eddings, Marcus Hopper, Larry Taylor, and Jimmy Westbrook

FWM Committee Members Absent: None.

I. CALL TO ORDER -APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Usery called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and called for consideration of the minutes from the previous meeting, which was held on September 10, 2025. Commissioner Hazlewood made the motion to approve, and Commissioner Doster seconded. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No application was made for public comment.

III. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-18 Resolution to Authorize a Twelve Dollar and Fifty Cent Charge by the Clerk of Every Court in Weakley County Having Jurisdiction of State Misdemeanors and Felonies for the Purposes Authorized and Set Out in T.C.A. § 40-3-106: Commissioner Doster made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Hopper the resolution was opened for discussion. Chairperson Usery recognized District Attorney Colin Johnson. District Attorney Johnson noted that historically, a fine was imposed for economic offenses such as issuing worthless checks. Recently, however, there has been a decline in the number of individuals charged with these crimes. The fines collected were allocated to the District Attorney's Office to support employee training and provide for expert witnesses in economic cases. Due to fewer charges, this fund has been depleted. The proposed resolution enables the courts to assess a \$12.50 fine on all state misdemeanor and felony cases to restore the fund. District Attorney Johnson stated the resources could be used not only for employee training and expert witnesses, but also for courtroom improvements and officer training, thereby benefiting the county. The resolution passed unanimously.

Commissioner Doster made a motion to combine resolution 2026-19 and 2026-20. Commissioner Eddings seconded the motion. The resolutions were opened for discussion.

Resolution 2026-19 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Chairperson Usery recognized Weakley County Mayor,

Dale Hutcherson. Mayor Hutcherson stated that the resolution pertained to grant funding awarded to the Weakley County Office on Aging in Dresden, totaling \$10,000.

Resolution 2026-20 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Chairperson Usery recognized Weakley County Mayor, Dale Hutcherson. Mayor Hutcherson stated that the resolution pertained to grant funding awarded to the Weakley County Office on Aging in Sharon, totaling \$10,000.

Commissioner Hazlewood made a motion to place resolutions 2026-19 and 2026-20 on the floor. Following a second by Commissioner Doster, the resolutions passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-21 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Donaldson the resolution was opened for discussion. Chairperson Usery recognized Weakley County Archives Director, Denise Boane. Director Boane announced that the resolution pertains to grant funding awarded to the Weakley County Archives in the amount of \$9,192. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-22 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the Debt Service Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Commissioner Bell made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Eddings the resolution was opened for discussion. Chairperson Usery recognized Weakley County Finance Director John Liggett. This resolution was regarding the HVAC loan for Westview and Dresden K-8. The loan is being closed out from Simmons bank and going into a USDA loan. This resolution was amending the budget for the amount to be deposited from Simmons and into the USDA loan. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-23 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Commissioner Taylor made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Hopper the resolution was opened for discussion. Chairperson Usery recognized Weakley County Finance Director, John Liggett. Liggett explained the resolution was from when Property Assessor eliminated a full-time position in her office and replacing it with a part time position. It was approved in the budget cycle but was accidentally left out of the budget. This is to correct the budget to increase the part time employee salary line. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-24 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Commissioner Eddings made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Doster the resolution was opened for discussion. Chairperson Kelly recognized Weakley County Finance Director, John Liggett. Director Liggett advised the resolution was regarding the county insurance plan for employees. There were large, unexpected claims that came in through the insurance plan and due to employees' deductibles already been met, it could cause a cash flow issue. The insurance company is asking that the county set aside \$200,000 in case any large claims come through before the end of the year. The resolution passed unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Funding for Across the Road Grant: Commissioner Bell made a motion to place the item on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Hazlewood the item was opened for discussion. Commissioner Bell advised the county had received the American Recovery Act which was over six million dollars in grants to fund broadband in the county. The state determined what houses were covered under the grant leaving some houses not covered. WK&T and the Fiber Committee came up with the Across the Road grant. \$100,00 was put into the grant to cover people that were across the road to be connected to fiber. The money ran out faster than anticipated. WK&T is asking that we put more money into the grant, and they would match it to cover more homes. The county has \$107,000 in interest from the American Recovery Act grant. Commissioner Bell is asking that the interest be put into the Across the Road Grant. This would fund approximately 200 additional homes. Commissioner Donaldson made a motion to propose a resolution to the full commission that the interest be moved into the General Fund to be put into the Across the Road Grant and with a second from Commissioner Bell the resolution passed unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Opioid Settlement Fund Allocations: Commissioner Eddings made a motion to place the item on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Hazlewood the item was opened for discussion. Chairperson Utery acknowledged Mayor Hutcherson, who reported that the funding decision had been communicated to representatives of the SMART initiative. These representatives subsequently submitted detailed recommendations, which were distributed to all organizations that applied for funding. The Opioid Committee recommended allocating \$100,000 to the Weakley County Prevention Coalition, \$50,000 to the Financial Empowerment Center, and \$50,000 to local city police departments for the provision of AEDs in patrol vehicles as a part of emergency opioid overdose kits. The total allocation amounts to \$200,000. Commissioner Hopper reported that approximately \$80,000 remains available for future allocation as necessary. The resolution passed unanimously. Commissioners Hopper and Eddings abstained from voting.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VI. ADJOURN


Seeing no other business, Commissioner Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Doster seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melinda Parham, Secretary
Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Approved:



Greg Usery, Chairperson
Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Date: 1-14-26