

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 27, 2025 – 9:00 A.M. – Weakley County Sheriff's Department

Public Safety Committee Members Present: Commissioners Jack Vincent, Larry Kelly, David Bell, Wade Cook, Bobby Dunlap, David Hawks, Joey Mahlhorn, and James Washburn

Public Safety Committee Members Absent: Commissioner James Roy Pope

I. CALL TO ORDER -- APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Vincent called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called for the consideration of the minutes from the meeting which was held on September 5, 2025. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve, and with a second by Commissioner Kelly the motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No application was made for public comment.

III. OLD BUSINESS

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 Mehlhorn made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Dunlap the resolution was opened for discussion. Commissioner Washburn 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 Colin Johnson was recognized. 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 original fee associated with the economic crimes was \$7.50, this would be an additional \$5.00 fee. The total court cost added to state misdemeanor and felony cases would be \$12.50. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Volunteer Fire Departments: Chairperson Vincent recognized Weakley County Mayor Dale Hutcherson. Mayor Hutcherson advised contacted other counties that are similarly situated but Weakley County is unique in that it is has volunteer departments that works well with the other city departments. Chairperson Vincent noted that one of the challenges facing the departments is limited funding, in part due to citizens not paying fire dues. Commissioner Hawks stated a closure of a rural fire department in any community would result in increased home insurance premiums for residents of those areas. The committee concurs on the necessity of increasing public awareness regarding the significance of paying fire dues and volunteering with local departments, in order to ensure adequate funding and staffing for these essential services.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Hawks announced that the Veteran's Day parade is scheduled to take place on November 8, 2025.

VI. ADJOURN

Seeing no other business, Commissioner Bell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cook seconded and with that the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

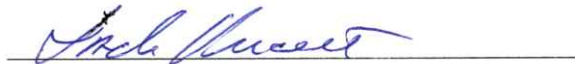
Respectfully Submitted,



Melinda Parham, Secretary

Public Safety Committee

Approved:



Jack Vincent, Chairperson

Public Safety Committee

Date: 5 Nov 26