

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Friday, September 5, 2025 – 9:00 A.M. – Weakley County Sheriff's Department

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

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 July 14, 2025. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve, and with a second by Commissioner Bell the motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No application was made for public comment.

III. OLD BUSINESS

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-07 Resolution Authorizing Weakley County Sheriff's Department for the Conveyance of Property: Commissioner Washburn made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Bell the resolution was opened for discussion. Weakley County Sheriff, Terry McDade was recognized and explained that he has an old Ford Taurus patrol vehicle that his department is no longer using. There is 115,000 miles on the vehicle. Greenfield is in need of a patrol vehicle due to one of their vehicles being involved in an accident. Sheriff McDade would like to convey the Ford Taurus patrol vehicle to Greenfield Police Department. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-16 Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendments to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026: Commissioner Kelly made a motion to place the resolution on the floor and with a second from Commissioner Mehlhorn the resolution was opened for discussion. Sheriff McDade was recognized and explained he wanted to move money within his budget. Sheriff McDade asked to move money from his SRO uniform budget line to his salary budget line. Sheriff McDade is promoting one of his officers to sergeant and wanted to increase the officers pay with the promotion. The resolution passed unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Volunteer Fire Departments: Chairperson Vincent advised he recently attended the Weakley County Fire Chief's Association meeting and got to meet with many of the chiefs and someone from the state department. Chairperson Vincent stated the volunteer fire departments are vital to our rural communities. The county only has one full time fire department in Martin; all other departments are volunteer. Chairperson Vincent recognized Sidona Fire Department chief, David Lackey. Chief Lackey advised they are having a hard time retaining volunteers for their department. Due to the lack of volunteers, Sharon Fire Department is set up as automatic aide for any Sidona fires. If Sharon Fire Department responds to any calls in Sidona, then Sharon collects the insurance fee for responding to the call. If the homeowner does not have home insurance, the fire department would not be able to collect the fee for responding. There was some discussion on what would work best for collection of fire dues.

Chairperson Vincent made a motion for County Mayor Dale Hutcherson to reach out to other counties with rural fire departments to see what they are doing for funding and what works best for those counties. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Washburn mentioned that the volunteer fire departments need to turn in their budgets to the State Comptroller's Office. The only department that is in good standing with the comptroller's office is Ore Springs. The other departments have only sent in their budgets to the county but not the State. Commissioner Washburn reminded the departments to make sure they turn their budgets into the State each year.

VI. ADJOURN

Seeing no other business, Commissioner Mehlhorn made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Dunlap seconded and with that the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melinda Parham, Secretary
Public Safety Committee

Approved:



Jack Vincent, Chairperson
Public Safety Committee

Date: 27 04 25