



Bradley County Commission
Johnny Mull, Chairman
WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 11, 2019, at noon
Bradley County Courthouse

Members present: Louie Alford, Milan Blake, Thomas Crye, Erica Davis, Mike Hughes, Chairman Johnny Mull, Kevin Raper, Howard Thompson, Vice Chairman Jeff Yarber, and Ex Officio non voting member D. Gary Davis

Members absent: Dennis Epperson, Bobby Goins, Tim Mason, Charlotte Peak, Bill Winters

Chairman Johnny Mull called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Erica Davis, Westwood Baptist Church Associate Pastor Bruce Hill prayed the invocation.

REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis presented to the Commission a resolution to urge the General Assembly to adopt an equitable distribution of local sales tax revenue from out-of-state sellers.

Mayor Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing the Bradley County Mayor to enter into a five year lease agreement including all required attachments with Community Leasing Partners, a division of Community First National Bank, for seventy sets of Lion Vforce PPE for the Fire Department for a total cost of \$212,656.25. Commissioner Louie Alford placed the resolution on the March 18, 2019, voting session agenda.

Mayor Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds of Bradley County, Tennessee in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$22,300,000 in one or more series; making provision for the issuance, sale, and payment of said bonds, establishing the terms thereof and the disposition of proceeds therefrom; and providing for the levy of taxes for the payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the bonds. Commissioner Milan Blake placed the resolution on the March 18, 2019, voting session agenda.

COMMITTEE AND/OR DISTRICT REPORTS

1st District

Commissioner Mike Hughes had no report.

2nd District

Commissioners Louie Alford and Thomas Crye had no report.

3rd District

Commissioner Milan Blake had no report.

4th District

Commissioner Howard Thompson had no report.

5th District

Vice Chairman Jeff Yarber announced former Commissioner Wayne Moore recently passed away and asked for prayers for the family.

Yarber reported the Law Enforcement Committee met and discussed inmate phone service which cost approximately \$3.35 per fifteen minute phone call. Yarber reported the refunds and credits for video visits usually take ten to fourteen days. Yarber opined the revenue from phones and visits should be earmarked for the Sheriff's Department. Yarber reported the committee discussed sixty-five percent of corrections officers leave before two years. Commissioner Blake noted the Sheriff agreed to enter into a memorandum of agreement for any new corrections positions ensuring new positions will work corrections. Commissioner Thompson opined the budget appropriates funds for ninety-two corrections officers. Yarber explained past administrations have moved some of the corrections personnel into other areas. Yarber suggested the savings from the retirement plan should be earmarked for employee salaries. Blake reported the budget request instructions include years of service for each employee to help determine savings recognized from the hybrid plan so that savings may be used for employee salaries. Blake added the budget requests also includes retention rates from each department.

Yarber asked why the Commission was not aware of the Tennova appraisal appeal until it was final. Assessor of Property Stanley Thompson explained his office was notified of the local appeal by June 1, and not notified of the appeal to the state until September 1, which was after the 2018-2019 budget process. Thompson reported Finance Committee asked his office to review their appraisal for the upcoming year.

6th District

Commissioner Erica Davis opined the priority to increase employee compensation will make our employment opportunities more appealing.

7th District

Commissioner Kevin Raper reported recently touring the jail with no complaints from inmates. Raper complimented the kitchen and food service.

Raper congratulated the Bradley Central High School Bearettes on their recent basketball state championship. Raper wished the Cleveland High School Blue Raiders luck in their bid for a basketball state championship. Chairman Mull congratulated the Cleveland High School wrestling team for their recent state championship.

AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Crye announced the Veterans Cemetery at Fort Hill Cemetery ad hoc committee met and voted to recommend our policy mirror the National Cemetery requirements. Commissioner Thomas Crye placed the recommendation on the March 18, 2019, voting session agenda.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Sharee DeLay, Bradley County resident since 2016, expressed concern for the animals of our community. DeLay urged the County to work with the City of Cleveland to provide animal services for our community as a whole.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting will be a voting session on March 18, 2019, at noon.

Emergency Services Committee will meet tomorrow at noon at the EMS Paul Huff Station.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.