



Bradley County Commission
Johnny Mull, Chairman
WORK SESSION MINUTES
May 13, 2019, at noon
Bradley County Courthouse

Members present: Milan Blake, Thomas Crye, Erica Davis, Dennis Epperson, Bobby Goins, Mike Hughes, Tim Mason, Chairman Johnny Mull, Charlotte Peak, Kevin Raper, Howard Thompson, Bill Winters, Vice Chairman Jeff Yarber, and non-voting Ex Officio D. Gary Davis

Members absent: Louie Alford

Chairman Johnny Mull called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Kevin Raper, Grace Point Youth Pastor Eric Powers prayed the invocation.

REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing Bradley County Mayor to execute a deed conveying certain real property identified as map and parcel 017.00 042 owned by Bradley County to the Industrial Development Board of the County of Bradley and the City of Cleveland, Tennessee. Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Economic Development Doug Berry explained to the Commission the resolution addresses the maintenance of the rail lines by deeding this property to the Industrial Development Board and allowing them to enter into rail line maintenance agreements with Norfolk Southern and businesses utilizing the railroad. Commissioner Milan Blake placed the resolution on the May 20, 2019, voting session agenda.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND/OR DISTRICTS

1st District

Commissioner Dennis Epperson requested the Building and Land Committee review the funding of the PIE Center and the 2017 sales agreement for the property.

Commissioner Mike Hughes announced the Emergency Services Committee will meet May 14, 2019, at noon, in the Commission conference room.

2nd District

Commissioner Thomas Crye had no report.

3rd District

Commissioner Milan Blake placed on the May 20, 2019, voting session agenda a motion to approve the Finance Committee recommendation to include in the 2020-2021 budget the feasibility study recommended by the Drinking Water and Waste Water Treatment Services ad hoc committee.

Blake reported the Finance Committee learned the expected tax growth for the upcoming fiscal year has been negated by a State of Tennessee ratio study. Blake noted the upcoming budget will be tough as a result of this new information. Blake invited Assessor of Property Stanley Thompson to the next Commission meeting to better explain the ratio study to the Commission and its impact on our revenue.

4th District

Commissioner Charlotte Peak announced the Building and Land Committee will meet Monday, May 20, 2019, at 10:30a.m. in the Commission room.

Peak expressed her dissatisfaction with the sewer and water feasibility study being delayed another year.

Commissioner Howard Thompson stated his intention to not support the sewer and water feasibility study and suggested the study cost be given to the utility company to begin providing service to areas of the county in need.

5th District

Commissioner Bobby Goins had no report.

Vice Chairman Jeff Yarber reported the mental health transport bill passed both houses in Nashville and expressed his optimism for financial assistance with the costs of the transports.

6th District

Commissioner Tim Mason had no report.

Commissioner Erica Davis read the following statement: "I would like to apologize to my family, my friends, my constituents, my fellow commissioners, my colleagues, and the people of Bradley County. The events surrounding me and my family that have been made public are embarrassing, and ones I am certainly not proud of. As an educator and public official, I am rightly held to a higher standard. However, I am still human and capable of making mistakes. I deeply regret my recent decisions and actions, and take full responsibility for them. I am sorry. My family and I ask for your prayers, support, and privacy as we work to put this behind us. Thank you."

7th District

Commissioner Kevin Raper announced the Road Committee will meet June 3, 2019, at 10:00a.m. in the Commission conference room.

Commissioner Bill Winters noted the lack of communication from Tennessee Department of Transportation regarding easements and right-of-ways along Highway 60.

AGENDA ITEMS

Bradley County Schools Finance Director Susan Wilcutt presented the 2019-2020 budget. Wilcutt stated the budget includes STEP raises and a 2% increase, .17% increase for certified employees on the legacy retirement plan, 1 career counselor previously funded by YCC grant, 25% of a counselor previously funded through the Gear Up grant, 1.6 grant coordinators previously funded through various grants, and a \$250,000 technology refresh. Wilcutt noted the fund balance will be used to help with one time expenses, but will be returned to 5% by July 1.

Bradley County Road Superintendent Sandra Knight presented the 2019-2020 budget for the Road Department, which includes a 3% across the board salary increase and one additional position. Knight reported they are within \$50,000 of the five year average and attributed a loss of \$27,000 to the state approving the Tennova hospital appeal.

Crye placed on the May 20, 2019, voting session agenda a motion to rezone from Forestry/Agricultural/Residential (FAR) district to General Commercial (C2) district property located at Washington Avenue SE and identified by tax map 066A group B parcel 004.00.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no communication from the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *The next meeting – Voting Session, May 20, noon, County Commission room.
- **Chamber Coffee, May 14, 8:30a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- *Emergency Services Committee, May 14, noon, Commission Office
- *Red Clay film private showing, May 14, 2pm, Red Clay Visitors Center
- *Building and Land Committee, May 20, 10:30a.m., County Commission room

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.