



Bradley County Commission
Johnny Mull, Chairman
WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 14, 2020, at noon
Bradley County Courthouse

Members present: Louie Alford, Vice Chairman Thomas Crye, Erica Davis, Dennis Epperson, Bobby Goins, Mike Hughes, Chairman Johnny Mull, Charlotte Peak, Kevin Raper, Cindy Slater, Howard Thompson, Bill Winters, and non voting Ex Officio member D. Gary Davis

Members absent: Milan Blake, Tim Mason

Chairman Johnny Mull called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Louie Alford, Living Word Church Pastor Evan Cockerham prayed the invocation.

REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis presented to the Commission for consideration a resolution authorizing the Bradley County Mayor to execute a detention services intergovernmental agreement with the United States Marshals Service for the housing of fifty (50) federal detainees at the Bradley County Justice Center for an amount of sixty-four dollars (\$64.00) per detainee per day. Commissioner Erica Davis placed the resolution on the September 21, 2020, voting session agenda. Commissioner Howard Thompson questioned the number of detainees to be housed at the Justice Center. Sheriff Steve Lawson explained the Justice Center is currently, and has been holding, approximately fifty (50) detainees. Sheriff Lawson noted the contract would allow the county to request additional federal detainees should space become available. Commissioner Thompson opined the Commission may soon need to begin considering additional housing space at the Justice Center to better accommodate the county's growth and the Justice Center population.

Mayor Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing the Bradley County Mayor to execute a conservation easement deed designating Bradley County as the holder of the conservation easement granted pursuant to the mitigation banking instrument for the South Mouse Creek Mitigation Bank. Commissioner Louie Alford placed the resolution on the September 21, 2020, voting session agenda. In response to a question posed by Commissioner Dennis Epperson, County Attorney Crystal Freiberg confirmed the conservation easement deed would not affect property tax as they [Wright Brothers Construction Company, LLC, CS Foundation, Inc. and Robert W. Wright] would continue to own the property. Freiberg confirmed for Commissioner Charlotte Peak there are responsibilities to holding the conservation easement for which a fund has been created by the owners of the property to fund the maintenance.

Mayor Davis announced Bradley County Covid-19 numbers are decreased slightly and encouraged everyone to continue to adhere to the four guidelines to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND/OR DISTRICTS

7th District

Commissioner Bill Winters expressed condolences to Dr. Lindsay L. Hathcock, Jr. and his family as they recently said goodbye to Lindsay Levoy Hathcock, Sr.

Commissioner Winters thanked Bradley County Schools for providing a one percent (1.00%) pay increase for teachers.

Commissioner Kevin Raper had no report.

6th District

Commissioner Tim Mason was absent due to Covid-19 quarantine.

Commissioner Erica Davis congratulated Sheriff Steve Lawson and the staff of the Bradley County Justice Center on the recent jail inspection with zero deficiencies. Commissioner Davis thanked Sheriff Lawson for his commitment to get better everyday.

Commissioner Davis announced the Law Enforcement Committee will meet at noon on September 24, 2020, in the County Commission room of the Courthouse.

5th District

Commissioner Bobby Goins had no report.

Commissioner Cindy Slater announced the Ad hoc Committee to review HCI procedures and policies will meet tomorrow at 9:00a.m. in the County Commission room of the Courthouse.

Commissioner Slater announced the Legal and Legislative Committee will meet at noon on September 22, 2020, in the County Commission room of the Courthouse.

4th District

Commissioner Charlotte Peak announced the Landfill Committee will meet at 5:30p.m. on October 5, 2020, in the County Commission room of the Courthouse. Commissioner Peak invited Commissioners and the public to submit questions to her or the Commission Office prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Peak reported concerns of parents regarding their children not reciting the pledge of allegiance at school. Commissioner Peak committed to discussing the matter with Bradley County Schools Director Dr. Linda Cash. Commissioner Peak confirmed the Commission did not instruct schools to not recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily.

Commissioner Howard Thompson opined students should recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Thompson asked if the City of Cleveland task force to deal with the confederate monument issue had been formed. County Commission legislative administrator Lorri Moultrie reported as of last week there had been no assignments to the task force nor any published scope for

the task force. Commissioner Thompson stated the property in question was given to the United Daughters of the Confederacy by the City Board of Aldermen. Commissioner Thompson opined Lee University should pay taxes and not participate in the controversy.

2nd District

Commissioner Louie Alford expressed disappointment in the recent police ambush in Los Angeles and the efforts to block access to the emergency room to care for the injured officers. Commissioner Alford cautioned the City of Cleveland task force when dealing with Emancipate Cleveland and Black Lives Matter. Commissioner Alford read an email from a constituent that urged the preservation of all history including the confederate monument.

Vice Chairman Thomas Crye expressed concern with Lee University, a private Christian university, condoning the socialistic Black Lives Matter agenda by allowing their faculty members to participate in the demonstration on Lee University property.

Vice Chairman Crye announced the Bradley County Schools recently received four hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$463,000.00) grant for safety.

1st District

Commissioner Dennis Epperson had no report.

Commissioner Mike Hughes reported receiving calls about the landfill odor.

Commissioner Hughes announced the Planning Commission will meet September 17, 2020, at 6:00p.m. in the Commission room of the Courthouse. Commissioner Hughes noted the Falcon Crest road grade issue will be discussed by the Planning Commission.

AGENDA ITEMS

Vice Chairman Thomas Crye, on behalf of Finance Committee Chairman Milan Blake, placed on the September 21, 2020, voting session agenda items A through H of today's work session agenda [six (6) Bradley County Schools budget amendments, one (1) County Clerk budget amendment, and one (1) Fire Department budget amendment].

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no communication from the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Next meeting – September 21, 2020, at noon, Courthouse
- *Ad hoc to review HCI procedures, tomorrow, 9:00a.m., Courthouse
- *Isaiah House groundbreaking, September 18, 9:00a.m., Park at 2530 Georgetown Road
- *Drinking & Waste Water Treatment Ad Hoc, September 21, 10:30a.m., Courthouse
- *Legal & Legislative Committee, September 22, noon, Courthouse
- *Law Enforcement Committee, September 24, noon, Courthouse
- *Judge Swafford Reception, September 25, 1p.m. – 4:00p.m., Juvenile Center
- *Landfill Committee, October 5, 5:30p.m., Courthouse

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.