



*Bradley County Commission*  
**Johnny Mull, Chairman**  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
January 11, 2021, at noon  
Bradley County Courthouse

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

Members absent: None

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Chairman Johnny Mull called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Howard Thompson, Westwood Baptist Pastoral Associate Wayne Finnell prayed the invocation.

Chairman Mull remembered the life of Charlie McKenzie and the Commission observed a moment of silence.

#### REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis introduced Tri-State Exhibition Center Board Chairman Jordia Waller. Waller reported facility revenue exceeded previous year revenue by twenty-five percent. Waller noted the thirty-five events hosted by the Center in 2020 attracted 15,000 people, 2,100 horses, and 3,000 dogs and impacted the community by \$1.5 million. Facility manager Craig Thompson thanked the County Commission for the former Road Department Office building which has provided sorely needed office space. Thompson announced the facility has 45 events on schedule in 2021. Ashley Hartz, Tri-State Therapeutic Riding Center Director, reported 105 clients were served at the center per week in 2020 and 860 clients served through the outreach programs. Hartz thanked the more than 300 volunteers for their time and efforts at the center in 2020.

#### REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis presented to the Commission for consideration a resolution appointing judicial commissioners. Commissioner Mike Hughes placed the resolution on the January 19, 2021, voting session agenda.

Mayor Davis reported the second round of bonds is in process and estimated a final bond report by the first February voting session.

Mayor Davis announced the number of new Covid-19 cases reported in Bradley County January 10, 2021, eclipsed the December spike. Mayor Davis urged everyone to adhere to the guidelines to help mitigate the spread of the virus.

Mayor Davis reported the State is working to make operational a website for online vaccination appointments.

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND/OR DISTRICTS

### 7<sup>th</sup> District

Commissioner Bill Winters praised the works of Tri-State Exhibition Center and Tri-State Therapeutic Riding Center.

Commissioner Winters repudiated the riot that arose from the Capitol protest last week.

Commissioner Winters said the 7<sup>th</sup> District is in mourning with the loss of two great men Board of Education member Jerry Frazier and more recently Councilman Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Kevin Raper had no report.

### 6<sup>th</sup> District

Commissioner Erica Davis thanked Tri-State representatives for their work especially the therapeutic work with children.

Commissioner Tim Davis remembered Charlie McKenzie.

### 5<sup>th</sup> District

Commissioner Cindy Slater had no report.

Commissioner Bobby Goins remembered Charlie McKenzie.

### 4<sup>th</sup> District

Commissioner Howard Thompson remembered his good friend Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Thompson opined the January 6, events at the Capitol building began as a peaceful protest, and attributed the violence to the entrance of the leftist groups. Commissioner Thompson shamed the Democrats and the turncoats for the violence and the damage to the area businesses.

Commissioner Charlotte Peak offered condolences to the McKenzie family and remembered McKenzie always urged her to vote Republican no matter what.

Commissioner Peak commended the works of the Tri-State Therapeutic Riding Center. Hartz confirmed for Peak information about the program may be found on their Tri-State Therapeutic Riding Center Facebook page.

Commissioner Peak reminded the community the State of Tennessee regulates Covid-19 vaccine procedure.

Commissioner Peak thanked the nurses and everyone involved for working on the monumental task of vaccinating the public.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Commissioner Milan Blake echoed Commissioner Peak's appreciation of the nurses working to administer Covid-19 vaccines.

Commissioner Blake remembered Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Blake thanked Tri-State representatives for their work in our community and applauded the revenue report.

Commissioner Blake offered best wishes to students returning to school this semester.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Vice Chairman Thomas Crye remembered Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Louie Alford remembered Charlie McKenzie.

Waller confirmed for Alford there are discussions of expanding Tri-State exhibition space at the Center and the potential funding sources for an expansion.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> District

Commissioner Mike Hughes remembered Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Dennis Epperson remembered Charlie McKenzie.

Commissioner Epperson opined the people that entered the Capitol building last week do not represent the Republican Party just as the individuals involved in previous violent protests do not represent the Democratic Party. Commissioner Epperson stated his desire to see common sense and respect prevail.

Commissioner Epperson reported the master utility study is currently meeting with local utility companies to discuss their scope of services and the direction of the study. Commissioner Epperson invited Commissioners to attend the meetings.

Commissioner Epperson announced the Greenway recently broke ground in the first district. Commissioner Epperson thanked the Commission for supporting this Greenway expansion.

Chairman Mull announced the process and timeline to fill the 7<sup>th</sup> District seat on the Board of Education on March 1, 2021. TIMELINE AND PROCESS RECORDED AS ATTACHMENT.

#### AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Davis placed on the January 19, 2021, voting session agenda a motion to approve the Finance Committee recommendation to fund the Bell Road public water fund project at a cost not to exceed \$20,629.00. Commissioner Davis thanked the Finance Committee, Cleveland Utilities, and the Public Water Fund administrator for working on this project which is the second 6<sup>th</sup> District public water fund project in the past year.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Betty Phillips, Bell Road, showed the Commission two water filters filled with red mud from Bell Road. Commissioner Blake assured Ms. Phillips fresh water is on the way and stated work, weather permitting, should be completed by mid April.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- \*Next meeting – Voting Session, January 19, noon, Commission room
- \* County Offices closed January 18, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- \*Master Utility Study meeting with Savannah Utility District, January 14, 10:00a.m., Commission room
- \*Master Utility Study meeting with Ocoee Utility District, January 14, 1:00p.m., Commission room
- \*Tax Committee, January 15, 10:30a.m., Commission room

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

## SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY 7<sup>th</sup> District

### **Timeline**

- \*December 8, 2020 - Notice of Vacancy – have 120 days to fill the seat (April 7, 2021).
- \*January 11, 2021 – Chairman announces the Commission will receive resumes and accept names submitted through the selection date, March 1, 2021, to fill Board of Education 7<sup>th</sup> District seat.
- \*February 21, 2021 – Chairman places Public Notice in Banner officially notifying public of the vacancy and specifying the office to be filled.
- \*March 1, 2021 – Meeting to appoint Board of Education 7<sup>th</sup> District.

### **Information and Requirements**

- \*Vacancy must be filled within 120 days of notice of vacancy pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-1-104 (April 7, 2021).
- \*Public notice of the vacancy must be given at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which the seat is filled (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-5-111(a)(2)).
- \*Before the Commission votes or considers any Motion regarding the office to be filled, the Chair shall allow registered voters of Bradley County an opportunity to submit names to the Commission for consideration. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-5-111(b)).
- \*Names may be submitted in writing to the Chair prior to the meeting or may be submitted in person at the meeting on March 1, 2021. In order for a name to be considered, a member of the Commission must subsequently nominate the person. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-5-111(b)).
- \*Commissioners may also nominate a candidate to fill the vacancy without the name being submitted by a voter. Only Commissioners may nominate a person for consideration. Nominations do not require a second. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-5-111(b)).
- \*If the person nominated is not present at the meeting, the person making the nomination shall submit a signed statement from the nominee that the nominee is willing to serve in the office if appointed. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-5-111(b)).
- \*Voting on nominations – the first nominee to receive 8 votes will fill the unexpired Board of Education 7<sup>th</sup> District term. Should there be more than one nominee, the nominee receiving the least number of votes will be removed from consideration. The other nominees will advance to the next round of voting. Voting will continue until a nominee receives 8 votes.