



Bradley County Commission
Johnny Mull, Chairman
WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 8, 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, Kevin Raper, Cindy Slater, Howard Thompson, Bill Winters, and non-voting Ex Officio member D. Gary Davis

Members absent: Charlotte Peak

Chairman Johnny Mull called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Mike Hughes, First Presbyterian Church Pastor Kyle Schmidt prayed the invocation.

REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

County Mayor D. Gary Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing Bradley County Mayor to negotiate and enter into an agreement with B.J. Pendergrass Waterproofing to provide waterproofing services for the Bradley County Juvenile Department for an amount of nineteen thousand seven hundred eighty five dollars (\$19,785.00). Commissioner Bill Winters placed the resolution on the February 16, 2021, voting session agenda.

Mayor Davis presented to the Commission a resolution authorizing Bradley County Mayor to negotiate and enter into a contract with Thomson Reuters regarding subscription services for the product “clear” for use by the Bradley County Attorney’s Office in locating delinquent tax payers for a period of three years for a monthly amount of one hundred two dollars and eighty five cents per month. Commissioner Mike Hughes placed the resolution on the February 16, 2021, voting session agenda.

Mayor Davis reported reaching an agreement with Santek to reduce sludge at the landfill by 35%, but noted over the last three months the reduction has been 63%.

Mayor Davis reported Covid numbers have declined over the last few days, hospitalizations have decreased dramatically, and deaths have risen. Mayor Davis reported one in three Tennesseans ages 70 and older have received the vaccine. Mayor Davis noted vaccine shipments increased last week enabling the Bradley County Health Department to administer 1,500 vaccinations last week with the same expectation for this week. Mayor Davis encouraged everyone to adhere to the guidelines to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Mayor Davis recognized Executive Assistant Lindsay Hathcock who announced after seven years with Bradley County government will leave to accept a position with Tennessee Department of Health. Many Commissioners expressed heart felt thanks to Hathcock for his service to Bradley County and his friendship.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND/OR DISTRICTS

1st District

Commissioner Dennis Epperson had no report.

Commissioner Mike Hughes announced the Emergency Services Committee will meet at noon on February 11, 2021, in the County Commission room.

Commissioner Hughes invited everyone to the McDonald Ruritan breakfast on the first Saturday of every month.

Commissioner Hughes thanked UT Extension Director Justin Thomas for efforts with the County archive space.

Commissioner Hughes reported nine out of ten constituent calls about the landfill are regarding sludge.

Commissioner Hughes noted the Commission calendar with three back to back meetings and suggested the Commission consider, when possible, avoid stacking more than two meetings.

2nd District

Commissioner Louie Alford had no report.

Vice Chairman Thomas Crye announced the Education Committee will meet immediately following the work session in the Commission room.

3rd District

Commissioner Milan Blake had no report.

4th District

Commissioner Howard Thompson opined some of the County roads need striping.

5th District

Commissioner Cindy Slater had no report.

Commissioner Bobby Goins thanked Commissioner Tim Mason for work at Westover Drive.

6th District

Commissioner Tim Mason provided the Commission with the January litter report: 379 miles of county roads, 153 miles of state roads, 45 miles of city roads for a total of 16,520 pounds of litter and 750 pounds recycled.

Commissioner Mason thanked the Road Department for their work in the County.

Commissioner Erica Davis announced the SPCA Board will meet at 6:00p.m. on February 17, 2021, at the Bradley County Courthouse. Commissioner Davis confirmed adoptions have continued by appointment throughout the pandemic. Commissioner Thompson questioned the upcoming fiscal year SPCA budget which Commissioner Davis confirmed will increase to \$201,000 per the contract.

Commissioner Davis announced the Law Enforcement Committee will meet at noon on February 18, 2021, in the Commission room of the Courthouse.

Commissioner Davis announced Charter released plans to commit \$1.25 million to expand broadband to more than one thousand homes in the County.

Commissioner Davis recognized University of Tennessee Assistant Professor Sreedhar Upendram who presented Director of Bradley County Schools Dr. Linda Cash with thirteen hot spot wifi cards to be available to students at the County schools. Dr. Upendram thanked Bradley County and Bradley County Schools for their contributions to the study which resulted in a grant award of the hot spot wifi cards and new information to be used when applying for larger grants to narrow the digital divide.

7th District

Commissioner Raper congratulated the Cleveland High School Wrestling Team for another State Duals Championship, their fourth consecutive duals championship. Commissioner Raper congratulated the Bradley Central High School Wrestling Team for their fifth place duals finish in the State.

Commissioner Bill Winters reported the City of Cleveland announced upcoming road work at 25th Street and Moore Road, Georgetown at 25th Street.

Commissioner Winters recalled a recent news story about Bradley County students participating in a pilot program between Wright Brothers Construction and Bradley County Schools. Commissioner Winters applauded the partnership and opined there will be more job preparation with the opening of the PIE Center.

AGENDA ITEMS

Juvenile Department Director Vickie Towne reported repair work on the back wall began today and replacement of the two final HVAC units will begin Wednesday. Towne reviewed the Covid procedures undertaken during the pandemic which have allowed Juvenile Court to continue without interruption. General Sessions Judge with Juvenile Jurisdiction Barrett Painter thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve Bradley County as Sessions Judge. Judge Painter detailed recent changes including a centralized calendar and shared the positivity resulting from the court and programs. Judge Painter thanked the Juvenile Department and Court Clerk Office for their support during the transition.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no communication from the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Next meeting – Voting Session, Tuesday, February 16, at noon, Courthouse
- *Education Committee, after this meeting, Courthouse
- *County Offices closed, February 15, in observance of President’s Day
- *Emergency Services Committee, February 11, noon, Courthouse
- *Farmers Market North Committee, February 16, 11:00a.m., Courthouse
- * SPCA, February 17, at 6:00p.m., Courthouse
- *Law Enforcement Committee, February 18, noon, Courthouse

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.