



Bradley County Commission
Thomas Crye, Chairperson
WORK SESSION MINUTES
May 13, 2024, at noon
Bradley County Courthouse

Members present: Louie Alford, Daniel Beaty, Milan Blake, Denny Collins, Chairman Thomas Crye, Bobby Goins, Mike Hughes, Tommy Ledford, Tim Mason, Josh Rogers, Cindy Slater, Vice Chairman Bill Winters

Members absent: Scott Gilbert, Howard Thompson, and non-voting ex officio member D. Gary Davis

Chairman Thomas Crye called the meeting to order and welcomed Commissioners and guests. Following the invocation prayed by Wesley Memorial Church Pastor Ramon Torres, Commissioner Bobby Goins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORT FROM COUNTY MAYOR

Executive Assistant to Bradley County Mayor Adam Lewis presented to the commission for consideration a resolution authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a master purchase, license and services agreement with Dynamic Imaging Systems, Inc. for Corretrak application software for use by the Bradley County Sheriff's Office for an amount of forty-five thousand two hundred twenty dollars (\$45,220.00) for a period of two (2) years. Lewis noted a late change for the resolution will be included in the final resolution draft reflecting a period of three (3) years and a slightly increased cost. Commissioner Cindy Slater placed the resolution on the May 20, 2024, voting session agenda.

Lewis presented to the commission for consideration a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement between the City of Cleveland and Bradley County regarding the non-contiguous annexation of approximately 17.5 acres of property on Buchanan Road currently owned by Ryan and Emily Wampler and further identified as tax map 065 parcels 040.00 and 044.00. Bradley County Attorney Crystal Freiberg noted county policy requires the resolution go through two (2) work sessions prior to voting. Commissioner Mike Hughes placed the resolution and the interlocal agreement on the May 28, 2024, work session agenda.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND/OR DISTRICTS

1st District

Commissioner Daniel Beaty placed on the May 20, 2024, voting session agenda a resolution to commit funding of up to fifteen million one hundred thousand dollars (\$15,100,000.00) to fund the construction of a new academic building at Hopewell Elementary School and to expand the cafeteria with funding to commence in fiscal year 2024-2025.

Commissioner Hughes placed on the May 20, 2024, voting session agenda a resolution authorizing the County Attorney to prepare and file any and all necessary legal actions in the courts of Bradley County to institute injunction, mandamus, abatement or any other appropriate action to prevent, enjoin and abate the continued unlawful use of the property located at 440 Old Powerline Road NE, Cleveland, Tennessee 37311. Commissioner Hughes explained requested rezoning of the property failed, but the owner continues to operate a business not authorized by the zoning. Freiberg confirmed the property owner has not responded to notice of violation and cease and desist notices leaving injunction as the next step.

2nd District

Commissioner Louie Alford opined the Bradley Central High School track should not be included in the resolution committing funding for the Hopewell School expansion project and confirmed plans to offer a substitute motion at the May 20, 2024, voting session. Commissioner Alford noted Bradley has not hosted a home track meet in eight (8) years due to the state of the track.

Bradley County Parks and Recreation Director Andy Lockhart confirmed for Commissioner Alford the BMX pavilion was funded by the Parks and Recreation budget.

3rd District

Commissioner Milan Blake noted the language of the resolution committing funding for the Hopewell School expansion project came from the Finance Committee and Bradley County Schools. Commissioner Blake added the resolution is the first document to formally commit funding for the track project. Commissioner Blake explained Fund 189 will fully fund the Hopewell School expansion project to be followed by the track upon completion.

Commissioner Blake congratulated the 2024 graduates.

Commissioner Denny Collins announced the IT Committee will convene at 11:00a.m. on May 16, 2024, in the Bradley County Courthouse Commission Room.

Commissioner Collins congratulated the 2024 graduates.

Commissioner Collins recognized Bob Pritchard who requested guidance with a property issue. Pritchard explained the owner of the adjacent property built broiler houses within one hundred twenty (120) feet of his residence and dumped chicken carcasses near the property line. Pritchard further explained the water drains into his pond polluting it with silt, mud, and sediment from the construction site. Pritchard confirmed the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the Environmental Protection Agency are involved and determined the property to be under violation on December 2, 2023. Freiberg confirmed the issue is within TDEC purview, but confirmed an inquiry letter may be sent by the County Commission. Vice Chairman Winters agreed to prepare a letter to TDEC requesting action on the matter and placed said letter on the May 20, 2024, voting session agenda.

5th District

Commissioners Bobby Goins and Cindy Slater had no report.

6th District

Commissioner Tim Mason provided the April Tennessee Department of Transportation litter grant report: 616 miles of county roads, 206 miles of state roads, and 75 miles of city roads. Mason noted 21,860 pounds of litter were collected and 850 pounds were recycled.

Commissioner Mason recognized Keep Cleveland/Bradley County Beautiful interim Executive Director Allen Mincy who reported three hundred ninety-five (395) tires were collected at the Tire Take Back event. Mincy thanked all who supported and participated in the event.

Mincy congratulated the United States Postal Service on their successful food drive which collected eight thousand (8,000) pounds of food.

Commissioner Tommy Ledford welcomed 6th District Constable Richard Burnette.

Commissioner Ledford thanked the Fire Department, Road Department, and the Sheriff's Office for their work during the recent storms.

Commissioner Ledford commended interim EMS Director Adam Lewis for his work.

Commissioner Ledford remembered the families of two (2) co-workers who drowned over the weekend.

7th District

Vice Chairman Winters congratulated the 2024 graduates.

Commissioner Josh Rogers congratulated the 2024 graduates.

Commissioner Rogers invited Commissioners to attend the Bradley Healthcare and Rehabilitation Skilled Nursing Week events each day this week.

Commissioner Rogers updated Commissioners on the recovery of his daughter, Georgia, following a fall, and thanked EMS for their quick and professional care.

AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Blake introduced Bradley County Schools Director of Finance Susan Wilcutt who presented the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget. Wilcutt explained the proposed balanced budget includes a two percent (2%) pay increase for all salaried employees, increased TISA funding, two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) capital projects funding, two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000.00) for land acquisition, and eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00) for technology refresh.

Commissioner Blake presented to the Commission a resolution to commit funding of up to fifteen million one hundred thousand dollars (\$15,100,000.00) to fund the construction of a new academic building at Hopewell Elementary School and to expand the cafeteria with funding to commence in fiscal year 2024-2025. Commissioner Rogers questioned the funding source and the timing of the Bradley Central High School track that is included in the resolution. Commissioner Blake explained the track funding is to be provided by the County in addition to the Hopewell funding at the conclusion of the Hopewell project. Dr. Cash submitted the Board of Education priority is the capacity issue at Hopewell. Dr. Cash explained the track cost estimate is a portion of the total project estimated at eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00). Commissioner Alford opined the track should be pulled from the resolution to allow for exploration of more timely funding options.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no communication from the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Next meeting – Monday, May 20, 2024, at noon, Courthouse

*Bradley County Schools Road Show, May 16, at 9:00a.m., Michigan Avenue School

*IT Committee, May 16, at 11:00a.m., Courthouse

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:56p.m.