

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 6, 2019**

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

Regular Meeting
March 6, 2019

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 6th day of March, 2019, a Regular Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was begun and held at the Courthouse, in the City of Chattanooga, in the County Commission Room, when the following proceedings were held, to wit:--

0:12

Present and presiding was the Honorable Sabrena Smedley, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Baker, Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, and Chairman Smedley. Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1.

Chairman Smedley reported Commissioner Mackey was out of town and would not be present for today's meeting.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of his administrative staff, Assistant County Attorney Neill Southerland, and County Auditor Jenneth Randall.

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Attached hereto is a copy of the Public Notice of this meeting, which was published in a local newspaper and made a matter of record of this meeting.

0:41 Commissioner Boyd asked County Clerk Bill Knowles to offer the invocation..
Commissioner Boyd led in the pledge to the flag.

Chairman Smedley recognized City Councilman Chip Henderson and Darin Ledford in the audience.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2:00 **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of February 13, 2019, the Agenda Preparation Session of February 13, 2019, the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2019, be approved, treat same as read, made a matter of record and filed. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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TRUSTEE REPORTS

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for January 2019 were submitted and made and a matter of record.

ORDER OF DESIGNATION

An Order was recorded designating Todd Leamon to sit as the County Mayor's representative on the Planning Commission for the meeting of March 11, 2019.

2:33

RESOLUTION NO. 319-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OATHS OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Geter, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 319-1. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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3:12

RESOLUTION NO. 319-2 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE COUNTY MAYOR OF DR. RANDEL PHILLIP BURNS TO THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TERM ENDING APRIL 18, 2023.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 319-2. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

3:48

RESOLUTION NO. 319-3 A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$100,000 FROM BOND FUNDS TO THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA TO ASSIST WITH THE ED JOHNSON MEMORIAL FUND PROJECT.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 319-3.

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4:13

Commissioner Boyd voiced support for the memorial and emphasized the importance of art in Hamilton County. He indicated funding for the memorial should not come from the county general fund, but rather from hotel-motel occupancy tax funds designated to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau to promote tourism. Commissioner Boyd offered an amendment that would increase the appropriation to \$200,000, \$100,000 of which would come from the hotel-motel occupancy tax. He noted the \$100,000 would be withheld from CVB allocations in \$25,000 increments for the next four months.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to amend Resolution No. 319-3 to add an additional \$100,000 in funding to come from CVB allocations in \$25,000 increments for the next 4 months.

The foregoing Motion to amend was rejected on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Nay", Commissioner Bankston, "Nay", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Nay", Commissioner Geter, "Nay", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Nay". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 2. Total "Nay" votes – 6.

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The foregoing Motion to adopt was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:

Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Nay", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye".

Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 6. Total "Nay" votes – 2.

9:08

**RESOLUTION NO. 319-4 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE HAMILTON COUNTY
DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to adopt Resolution No. 319-4. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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9:50 **RESOLUTION NO. 319-5 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE ON BEHALF OF THE TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR HAMILTON COUNTY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND HAMILTON COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2019 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2020 IN SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOFTWARE FOR THE TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, NOT TO EXCEED \$135,000, AND TO AMEND THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BUDGETS BY \$135,000.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Sharpe , seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 319-5. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, “Aye”, Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 8. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

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RESOLUTION NO. 319-6 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO TWENTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$25,000,000.00) IN ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT THROUGH A FORTH-COMING BOND ISSUE.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to table Resolution No. 319-6.

The foregoing Motion to table was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:

Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Nay", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye".

Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 3.

11:51

RESOLUTION NO. 319-8 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000.00), PLUS INDEMNIFICATION OF ALL MEDICAL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE INJURY, IN SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS AGAINST HAMILTON COUNTY, THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS AS BROUGHT BY ROY LYONELL ELSEA.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 319-8. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

13:16

RESOLUTION NO. 319-7 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE ATLANTIC GROUP, LLC, ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC., GRW, G-SQUARED LLC, IIC TECHNOLOGIES, INC., KCI TECHNOLOGIES, INC., KUCERA INTERNATIONAL, INC., THE SANBORN MAP COMPANY, INC., AND WOOLPERT, INC. FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA ACQUISITION AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE GIS DEPARTMENT BEGINNING MARCH 15, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 14, 2022 AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Fairbanks, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 319-7, and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 319-7. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

14:36

Chairman Smedley read into the record the procedure for filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Division III General Sessions Court Judge Clarence Shattuck, effective April 1, 2019. She reported the Commission will begin receiving letters on interest from qualified attorneys seeking the appointment on Friday, March 8th through Thursday, March 14th between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, and Friday, March 15th between the hours of 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM. She stated letters of interest should be submitted to the County Commission Office located in Room 401 of the Hamilton County Courthouse.

Chairman Smedley also reported the Commission will interview all applicants on Wednesday, March 20th beginning at 1:00 PM in the Commission Room. She asked Clerk Knowles to provide appropriate 7-day public notice through the local news media detailing this information.

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Clerk Knowles confirmed his office would provide the notice. He asked that without objection the 10-day notice to members of the Commission required in TCA 5-5-111 be waived given the procedure was read into the record. There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Smedley asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

18:43

Commissioner Sharpe requested information on when livestreaming capabilities would be available and questioned if there were any grants available in light of the new technology. Administrator of Finance Al Kiser reported livestreaming was taking slightly longer than expected. He added his office would research any available grants.

19:12

Commissioner Boyd spoke in reference to the Commission's decision to table the additional treatment plant funding in Resolution No. 319-6 and requested Chairman Smedley and Commissioner Geter outline what additional information they are requiring in order to make a decision. He strongly opposed the decision to table the item.

22:34

Chairman Smedley responded to Commissioner Boyd's comments. She stated she continues to do research and work through new information.

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24:18 Commissioner Geter also responded to Commissioner Boyd's comments. She requested information, comparisons and cost analysis studies on potential sites other than the Mahan Gap Road location. She also requested information on capacity at Moccasin Bend.

Commissioner Geter congratulated Brainerd High School Basketball Team on their win Monday night.

27:47 Mayor Coppinger announced Administrator of Human Resources Alecia Poe has accepted another position and will be resigning as of April 1st. He noted current Human Resources Director Sandra Ellis will be appointed to the position. He thanked Ms. Poe for her years of service to Hamilton County and commended the accomplishments of the department under her leadership.

Mayor Coppinger spoke about the recent flooding throughout the county and the work that is being done to combat the flooded areas. He asked Chris Adams, Director of Emergency Management, to provide additional information.

30:47 Mr. Adams stated eight houses on Hunter Road still have water around them that will not drain. He reported certain agencies, including the Baptist Association and Red Cross, are providing help. He added the department is applying for a mitigation grant that could help those with frequent flooding problems.

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In response to Commissioner Geter's question, Mr. Adams stated the grant could provide 100 percent for purchase of the property if the property has been flooded six or more times. He noted the grant application will come before Commissioners soon.

32:30 Mayor Coppinger made comments in reference to the ongoing issues with the new sewage treatment plant. He explained how a recent community meeting came together in which some Commissioners were not made aware.

Commissioner Bankston accepted responsibility for those not made aware of the meeting.

42:08 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Dean Moorehouse, residing at 8114 Mahan Gap Road, addressed Commissioners regarding a community committee he developed at the direction of Mayor Coppinger. It was noted Mr. Moorehouse spoke out heavily in opposition of the Mahan Gap Road location. Mr. Moorehouse explained the committee is comprised of Mr. Moorehouse and community volunteer Brent Smith, two engineers, an attorney, a builder, and a marketing specialist. He stated the committee has developed search criteria to identify sites and has been in contact with Mike Patrick, interim Executive Director of the Water and Wastewater Treatment Authority. Mr. Moorehouse explained several reasons why the Mahan Gap Road site was not a suitable location and noted that another location has been identified that

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meets many of their criteria. He indicated the 156-acre site has 75 cleared acres, few neighbors, and is next to the lake, which would require less sewage pipe line. The exact location was not identified due to potential community impact.

Mr. Moorehouse reported the committee is working on putting together a final report to present to Commissioners.

51:34

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Mr. Moorehouse reported the identified site has 646 residents within a two mile radius; none of those residents are on the committee. It was noted Commissioner Bankston is part of the committee as well.

Commissioner Martin questioned whether the county had relied so heavily on a community committee in the past for major decisions. Mayor Coppinger stated community input has always played a major role in decision-making.

1:00:04

Commissioner Boyd requested a copy of the search criteria from Mr. Moorehouse.

Mayor Coppinger echoed earlier comments about the importance of community input. He stated WWTA board members are committed to working with the community to identify the best and most cost efficient site. He voiced encouragement by Mr.

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Moorehouse's report; however, he reminded Commissioners that any site other than the original Mahan Gap Road location is going to require additional funding.

Commissioner Fairbanks emphasized the committee is providing recommendations and providing community input but will not be making any final decisions.

Commissioner Fairbanks recognized several members of the Sheriff's Department including Director of Support Services Geno Bennett, Chief Deputy Austin Garrett, and Information Systems Manager Ron Bernard.

Commissioner Bankston emphasized the community committee would be bringing a recommendation to the Commission for approval.

In response to Chairman Smedley's question, Mayor Coppinger stated WWTA officials are currently in Atlanta meeting with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He stated he would try to get a report from the meeting.

Chairman Smedley congratulated East Hamilton junior Madison Hayes for winning the Class AAA Miss Basketball award.

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1:14:04 Chairman Smedley stated the lists Commissioners submitted for needs in their districts were distributed to Mayor Coppinger and the School Board. She stated she would follow up with each of those offices and report back.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Smedley asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

There being no further business, Chairman Smedley declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

03-20-19
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials