

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 12, 2018**

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

Agenda Preparation Session
September 12, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 12th day of September, 2018, an Agenda Preparation Session 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:--

0:11

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 Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, and Chairman Smedley. Total present – 9. Total absent -0.

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

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Chairman Smedley indicated the upcoming agenda items would be considered as follows:

- The Juvenile Court Clerk's Report for May and June 2018 would be submitted for the record.
- An Order confirming the appointment of Ben Bradley to the Eastside Utility District Board of Commissioners would be submitted for the record.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- The Trustee's Unaudited Financial Report ending June 2018 would be submitted for the record.
- Resolution No. 918-13 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 918-21 through 918-25 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Fairbanks.
- Resolution Nos. 918-26, 918-27A, 918-27B, 918-28, 918-29A, 918-29B, and 918-30 were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bankston.
- Resolution Nos. 918-14 through 918-20, and 918-31 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

0:31

PRESENTATION – MARTHEL YOUNG – PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Chairman Smedley presented a Certificate of Congratulations to Dr. Marthel Young, Principal of East Brainerd Elementary School, for winning Hamilton County Schools 2018 Principal of the Year. She provided background information on Dr. Young's career including her accomplishments in the community and thanked her for her dedication to students in Hamilton County. Commissioner Smedley asked that

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Commissioner Boyd and newly elected District 8 School Board member Tucker McClendon join her at the podium.

4:11

Justin Robertson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, reported students, teachers, and other principals across the county choose the winner of the Principal of the Year award. He commended Dr. Young on her accomplishments in the two years she has served as Principal at East Brainerd Elementary School.

Commissioner Boyd congratulated Dr. Young wished her luck in the running for the State of Tennessee Principal of the Year.

Dr. Young thanked Chairman Smedley and Commissioners for honoring her today. She spoke about the importance of education and the rewarding aspects of her position.

Commissioner Fairbanks also wished Dr. Young luck in the State of Tennessee Principal of the Year contest.

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12:03 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-14**

This Resolution appoints Terry L. Payne to the Hamilton County Industrial Development Board to fill the unexpired term of Lamar McDaniel.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

12:21 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-15**

Sam Mairs, Juvenile Court Administrator, spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to sign a contract amendment (Amendment 2) between the State of Tennessee Department of Human Services and the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Title IV-D Child Support Division.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

13:22 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-16**

Ron Bernard, Information Systems Manager for the Sheriff's Office, spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the Sheriff's Office to purchase from the Tennessee Statewide Contract new and unused vehicles to be utilized as unmarked

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vehicles. The number of vehicles purchased will be determined by the funds appropriated annually, not to exceed \$154,000.00 for FY2019. The identity of vehicles will not be released as to protect the safety and security of the officers who may drive them.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mr. Bernard confirmed the number of vehicles in the fleet is not increasing.

In response to Commissioner Fairbanks question, Mr. Bernard stated the asset forfeit funds will cover the purchase of the vehicles.

15:32 In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Mr. Bernard stated the amount available in the asset forfeit fund varies from year to year.

16:30 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-17**

Director of General Services Lee Norris spoke regarding this item, which accepts the donation from Memorial Hospital for 650 units of Narcan nasal spray with a total value of \$48,750.00 to be used by Emergency Medical Services and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. He noted Narcan is an important tool in preventing opioid overdose related deaths.

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There were no questions from Commissioners.

17:22

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-18

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item, which authorizes Hamilton County to commit \$100,000.00 annually for three years, beginning in FY2019, from previously unbudgeted funds, contingent upon match by the City of Chattanooga, to support the implementation of Thrive Regional Partnership's Transportation + Infrastructure Collaborative. He explained Thrive was founded in 2012 with support from Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga to create a 40-year plan to leverage the strengths of participating counties to benefit the region as a whole.

Bridgett Massengill, President and CEO of Thrive Regional Partnership, presented details regarding the Transportation + Infrastructure Collaborative, which is comprised of a 16-county, three-state partnership looking for regional answers to transportation, conservation, education and workforce development, and economic and community development issues. The planning initiative is known as Thrive 2055. Ms. Massengill noted a large part of the project's economic focus is on transportation challenges in the region as 44% of those employed in Hamilton County commute from outside of the county. She reported the Interstate 24-75 interchange is the worst freight gridlock in the state of Tennessee and the eleventh worst in the country. She added

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80% of freight transportation in the greater Chattanooga region is pass-through traffic which is causing wear and tear on the area's roads and infrastructure. Ms. Massengill stated the congestion will only get worse with the recent opening of the Appalachian Regional Port in Murray County, Georgia, which is expected to move 50,000 loads from rail to truck in a year with no plan to address how the growth will effect transportation in the region. Ms. Massengill explained the requested funding will go to study how to handle the freight and transportation challenges with multiple regional partners in order to maximize growth. A copy of Ms. Massengill's presentation was filed in the Clerk's Office.

37:00

In response to Chairman Smedley's question, Ms. Massengill reported the participating 16 counties are not contributing the same amount as it is based on growth and size. Chairman Smedley requested a breakdown of what all 16 counties are contributing.

38:43

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Ms. Massengill explained Thrive is an independent 501c3 as of 2017. Prior to 2017, the organization operated under the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce. She stated the company's audit and line item budget is available, but their 990 will not be available until the audit is complete. Commissioner Boyd requested a copy of the audit, line item budget, and a list of the current board members.

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Commissioner Boyd emphasized the need for a Chattanooga bypass to keep trucks out of the city.

44:03 In response to Commissioner Fairbanks question, Administrator of Finance Al Kiser reported the funds for the project will come from the fund balance in the first year. The rest of the funding will be budgeted over the next two years. Ms. Massengill confirmed the City of Chattanooga has voted to approve the funding.

In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Ms. Massengill stated the initial planning phases of the process began in 2008. It was noted the late Tom Edd Wilson, former president of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce was heavily involved.

45:24 In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Ms. Massengill reported the Appalachian Regional Port opened last month.

In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Ms. Massengill reported Thrive is able to offset some of the workload and bureaucratic issues that metropolitan regional planning organizations are not able to manage.

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50:46

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Ms. Massengill stated the organization has been functioning on a \$700,000.00 annual budget, which comes from member cities and counties, some federal dollars, and private and philanthropic donors.

In response to Commissioner Martin' question, Mr. Kiser reported approving this funding would require a budget amendment.

52:10

Mayor Coppinger thanked Ms. Massengill for her presentation. He emphasized the importance of having the participation of all 16 counties in the region and noted the data gathered from Thrive is used when recruiting workers and negotiating workforce in the Chattanooga area as well as applying for grants. He explained the studies and data that will be provided by Thrive will benefit Hamilton County tremendously.

Chairman Smedley thanked Ms. Massengill for her presentation.

1:00:25

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-19

Development Director Dan Saieed spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to continue a grant contract beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019 between Hamilton County and the Tennessee Department of Human Services for a \$282,100.00 Title XX Social Service Block Grant. The grant

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provides Adult Daycare and Adult Homemaker Services to eligible individuals and families through the Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults, Inc. and Signal Centers, Inc. Additionally, this item would amend the revenue and expense budget by \$11,671.00. Mr. Saieed noted CEO of the Partnership Pam Ladd and Courtney Chandler with Signal Centers were present to answer any questions.

Mayor Coppinger thanked Ms. Ladd for the services that the Partnership provides in Hamilton County.

1:02:37 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-20**

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to enter into and execute an agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for transportation and planning services in the area of the new East Hamilton Middle School for an amount not to exceed \$28,700.00.

1:03:48 In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mr. Leamon reported the transportation planning services were anticipated during the budget process and will come from bond funds.

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In response to Chairman Smedley's question, Mr. Leamon confirmed the study will also include ingress and egress options.

1:05:48

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 918-31

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item, which confirms the appointments by the County Mayor of administrators of divisions and directors of departments for Hamilton County General Government. He reported this item is required when a new term begins. He reported Director of Clinical Services Tammy Burke will be retiring after 33 years of service and Diana Kreider will be moving into that position. He also noted Angela Gonzales will be moved to Director of Case Management Services, which was previously held by Ms. Kreider.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

Chairman Smedley reported the new 2018-2019 Committee Assignments have been finalized. A copy was filed in the Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Fairbanks, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the Finance Committee will meet in the Commission Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

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Commissioner Bankston, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, stated the Zoning Committee will meet in the Commission Conference Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Smedley asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

1:09:25

Chairman Smedley assigned the matter of filling the Judicial Commissioner vacancy created by the termination of Owen Stuart Brown to the Security and Corrections Committee.

Commissioner Martin thanked all emergency service providers and first responders. He reported next week is the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution and encouraged everyone to read it. He also noted next year will be the bicentennial of Hamilton County and asked that a celebration be planned in honor of that milestone.

1:15:33

Commissioner Mackey thanked Commissioner Martin for his sentiments about the constitution and Hamilton County.

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Commissioner Sharpe, Chairman of the Security and Corrections Committee, announced the Security and Corrections Committee will meet in the Commission Conference Room following the Zoning and Finance Committee meetings.

Mayor Coppinger announced Monday at 12:00 PM a Constitution Day celebration will take place on the Courthouse Lawn. He noted Hamilton County historian Linda Mines is coordinating Hamilton County's bicentennial anniversary next year.

1:16:48 Chairman Smedley spoke about the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Chairman Smedley announced without objection Commissioner Bankston will be designated to serve as the Commission's representative on the Planning Commission for one year.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Smedley asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

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1:19:34 Christopher Dahl, residing at 2020 East 12th Street Chattanooga, TN 37404, addressed Commissioners regarding Hamilton County's population, signage for Chattanooga's Charter School of Excellence, and the Tennessee Open Meetings Act.

Being no further business, Chairman Smedley declared the meeting adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 19th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

10-03-18
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials