

Connie B. Blackwell
County Clerk



Macon County Courthouse, Room 104
Lafayette, Tennessee 37083

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Minutes-February 21, 2023, Meeting of the Macon County Legislative Body.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners met, pursuant to notice at the Macon County Courthouse in Lafayette, Tennessee on Tuesday February 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones with Sheriff Joey Wilburn opening the meeting. Commissioner Jeff Hughes gave the invocation and Commissioner Justin Dyer led the pledge to the flag. County Clerk Connie B. Blackwell called the Roll with 20 members being present. Also made a part of the Minutes are the Roll Call Voting, Proclamations and Resolutions.

Motion # 1 by b. Jenkins, 2nd by Hughes to go into election for Notaries Public.

Motion Carried

Stacy Carter	Nominated by	West
Kristy Joann Craig-Baxter		Hughes
Lyndsey Taylor		West

Motion #2 by Hughes, 2nd by Bartley to move nominations cease and we elect those nominated by acclamation.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Jenkins, 2nd by Hill to accept minutes as presented from the 1/17/23 Legislative Body meeting, 12/20/22 Planning Commission meeting, 8/16/22 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, and 1/17/23 Animal Control Committee meeting and 01/03/23 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #4 by King, 2nd by Petty to approve Budget Amendments #1-5 (#1 EMS, #2 Sheriff's Department, #3 General Purpose School, and #4 School Nutrition and #5 Property Assessor).

Motion Carried on Roll Call (17 yes / 3 no)

Motion #5 by Dyer, 2nd by Hughes to approve #2-27/23 Solid Waste Resolution.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by Snow, 2nd by Dyer to approve #2-28/23 FFA Week Proclamation.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Road Supervisor Audie Cook stated that he had received a quote from Roger's Group for the repaving of Bethany Rd and Jimtown Rd. Paving for Jimtown Rd would cost approximately \$1,955,020 and Bethany Rd's cost would be \$1,308,350 with a total of \$3,263,370. Mr. Cook did explain that it was considerably higher than was expected and he was waiting for one more bid to come in.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Sheriff Joey Wilburn stated that there was a paddy wagon in the garage at the Justice Center that had been there a long time. He stated that he thought that the Shriner's had donated it at one time to them and they were now asking for it to be donated back to them.

Motion #8 by King, 2nd by West to donate the paddy wagon at the Sheriff's Department to the Shriner's.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Property Assessor Rick Shoulders presented a Memorandum of Understanding for Reappraisals and explained to the Commissioners the reappraisal process. He stated that the County is currently on a 5-year plan through the State of TN, and he was requesting to change that to a 6-year plan. He explained that this would help the County receive more money due to the property tax ratios taking place every 3 years instead of the 5-year plan it is on currently.

Motion #9 by Snow, 2nd by Dyer to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Reappraisals.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Property Assessor Rick Shoulders stated that one of his employees was retiring and would have to be paid for her accumulated vacation time. He stated he was requesting the Commissioners to allow a budget amendment to be brought back to the next meeting for approximately \$6,200 so he could hire someone immediately to replace the employee.

A budget amendment for the Property Assessor approved already in earlier business.

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones explained he had met with the City of Lafayette about moving their 911 Dispatchers to the E-911 Building. With the agreement, the City of Lafayette would give funds to the County to pay for 6 dispatchers. The City of RBS would have to agree to pay for 1 dispatcher. This collaboration would take place July 1st. Mayor Jones stated this still must be approved by the City Councils and E-911 Board.

Motion #10 by Slayton, 2nd by West to approve merging the City of Lafayette and Red Boiling Springs Dispatchers with the Macon County 911 Dispatchers at the Macon County E911 Dispatch Center.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes / 1 no)

Motion #11 by King, 2nd by Hesson to approve Jail bids for doors, glass, intercom.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones opened discussion concerning the construction of a new vocational school to replace the old Tri County Vocational School that is scheduled to close in the next three to five years. Mayor Jones stated that if the Commissioners wanted to build a new vocational school, with the agreement that the Macon County School Board would pay the payment for the new elementary school, then the commission would have to approve a \$36.00 wheel tax increase to fund it. Discussion ensued but majority agreed it was needed for the future of the students of Macon County. It was also discussed about sunsetting the increase when the school is paid for. Mayor Jones stated that he would have to speak to Attorney Guy Holliman on the process and bring back recommendations.

Motion #12 by BR King, 2nd by Newberry to ratify motion to approve the bid on the HVAC systems needed for the Macon County Justice Center.

Motion Carried

After discussion by the legislative body the commission agreed to allow Mayor Steve Jones to proceed with checking into the Funding that it would require to build a new Vocational School. There are several questions that need to be addressed before talking about an additional Wheel Tax. The public attendees of the meeting were told if the Wheel Tax was addressed that there would be a public meeting where they could ask questions and give input.

Motion #13 by Hughes, 2nd by King to allow Mayor Steve Jones to gather information about what it would take to build a new vocational school pertaining funding options and to get more information about staffing.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (16 yes / 4 no)

Mayor Jones stated that at the Animal Control meeting last month it was discussed that due to rescues being full and not having enough space due to the abundance of dogs, the County may have to start a new euthanasian policy. Mayor Jones explained that there is a state law that sets the amount of time the animals must be held and recommended adding an extra amount of time, to allow for adoption or rescue.

Motion #14 by Bartley, 2nd by Petty to euthanize dogs held after the time set by state law and defer to the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones stated that he had been asked by a fair board member about rebidding the fairground bathrooms. He stated due to the bathrooms being County property the commission would have to approve to rebuild it and make it ADA compliant. Commissioner Benton Bartley suggested bidding the projects separately including the Meador Building.

Motion #15 by Jones, 2nd by Bartley to rebid the fairground bathrooms and Meador Building projects.

Motion Failed on Roll Call (9 yes / 11 no)

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones stated that he had met with TennPlasco regarding a portion of land at the industrial development expansion. He stated that he would like permission for him along with Attorney Guy Holliman, to have discussions about swapping or selling land to them. Commissioner Ethan Flippin suggested possibly leasing them the land.

Motion #16 by Newberry, 2nd by West to allow Mayor Jones, City of Lafayette Mayor Wilmore and Attorney Guy Holliman to negotiate industrial development expansion property with TennPlasco.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones stated that Attorney Guy Holliman will be discussing the citizens' concerns and rezoning policies at the next Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #17 by Hesson, 2nd by Marshall to allow discussion regarding the rezoning of the land and defer to a future Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #18 by Hesson, 2nd Hughes to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #19 by Jenkins, 2nd J. Wilmore to accept the Animal Control Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #20 by West, 2nd Marshall to accept the EMS Operational Report.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones explained that EMS Director had someone contact him regarding having an ambulance at a special event. Mr. Carter gave them a price of \$100 per hour and the salary of 1 paramedic and 1 advanced EMT totaling \$1,384. No action was taken after the discussion.

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones stated that USDA had approved the funding of the new Administrative Building and within the next couple of weeks were hoping to get the project out for bid. He stated that he had signed the paperwork for the new Health Department. He also stated that he had spoken to Senator Ken Yager in a meeting last week regarding the Church Street intersection due to still hearing complaints. He stated that he is hoping to get a study with the State of TN done there in hopes of getting a light put up there in the future.

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on February 6th, Mayor Jones stated that the parking lots at the Welcome Center, Libraries, EMS, Health Department, UCHRA building, E-911, and Justice Center are all in need of resealing and restriping.

Motion #21 by King, 2nd by Newberry to allow Mayor Jones to bring back estimates for resealing and restriping county building parking lots.

Motion Carried

Motion #22 by Jones, 2nd by Newberry to approve the Board of Education Equipment Copier Lease agreement.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

Motion #23 by Hesson, 2nd by Hughes to adjourn.

Motion Carried