

Connie B. Blackwell
County Clerk



Macon County Courthouse, Room 104
Lafayette, Tennessee 37083

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Minutes: October 16, 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 Monday October 16, 2023, at 6:30 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones with Sheriff Joey Wilburn opening the meeting. Commissioner Michael Slayton gave the invocation and Commissioner Mike Jenkins led the pledge to the flag. County Clerk Connie B. Blackwell called the Roll with 18 members being present. Also made a part of the Minutes are Proclamations and Roll Call Voting.

County Commissioners absent were Phillip Snow and Tony Wix.

Motion #1 by Jenkins, 2nd by Newberry to go into Election of Notaries Public.

Motion Carried

Samantha Davis Nominated by Hesson

Shirley Day Hughes

Wendy Jared Hill

Keith Pedigo Hughes

Anita Thomas Hughes

Kimmy Warf Marshall

Motion #2 by Hughes, 2nd by Slayton that nominations cease, and we elect those nominated by acclamation.

Motion Carried.

Motion #3 by B. Wilmore, 2nd by Newberry to accept minutes as presented from the 9/18/23 Legislative Body meeting, Motion Carried 8/15/23 Planning Commission meeting, Motion Carried 8/15/23 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, Motion Carried 9/5/23 Emergency Services Meeting Motion Carried and Committee of the Whole Meeting, Motion Carried.

Motion #4 by Jones, 2nd by Hughes to accept all 14 Budget Amendments in one motion #1-#14 (#1 General Purpose School, #2 Sheriff's Department – VCIF Grant, #3 Capital Projects – Sheriff's Department, #4 General Fund – Sheriff's Department, #5 Sheriff's Department – SRO Grant, #6 Sheriff's Department, and #7 Sheriff's Department, #8 Library, #9 Library, #10 Library, #11 Animal Control, and #12 Election Commission, #13 Drug Fund- Body Armor Grant, #14 General Fund Sheriff's Dept. MHT Grant).

Motion Carried by Roll Call (18 yes)

Motion #5 by Newberry, 2nd by Gentry to approve 10-11/23 Sgt. William Cherry Proclamation. Sgt. Cherry's Family was on hand to receive this Proclamation.

Motion Carried

Sheriff Joey Wilburn presented Aleatheia Cherry Sgt. Cherry's wife, with his service weapon.

Motion #6 by Petty, 2nd by West to allow the Sheriff's Department to set up funds to be able to send Mrs. Cherry to a ceremony that will be held for fallen officers in Washington DC in May 2024.

Motion Carried

Motion # 7 by Newberry, 2nd by Gentry to approve posthumous promotion elevating his rank from Sgt. to Lieutenant.

Motion Carried

Motion #8 by Jenkins, 2nd by Hill to approve 10-12/23 4-H Week Proclamation.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole Meeting on October 2nd, 2023, Mayor Jones stated that Road Supervisor Audie Cook could not be present at the meeting but requested that the \$1M note, currently being paid for by the Highway Department would be paid off this year and he would like to renew it.

Motion #9 by B. King, 2nd by Dyer to approve the County Mayor to begin the paperwork process towards renewing the \$1M note paid for by the Macon County Highway Department.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (18 yes)

During the Committee of a Whole Meeting on October 2nd, 2023, Sheriff Wilburn stated that the Sheriff's Department wanted to use an exchange program to transition from 40 caliber handguns to 9mm.

Motion #10 King, 2nd by Newberry to approve the Sheriff's Department to use an exchange program to transition from 40 caliber handguns to 9mm.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (18 yes)

Sheriff Wilburn stated the Sheriff's Department had been approved for a Mental Health Transport Grant and would be able to hire a service to transport the individuals instead of the Sheriff's Department making those. He stated that this is a recurring grant. Mayor Jones stated a budget amendment would have to be brought back to put the funds in the budget. Budget Amendment #14 was approved.

During the Committee of a Whole Meeting on October 2nd, 2023, Evan White with Mid-Tenn Engineering explained the difference in the amounts received at the bid opening for the water tank using the ARC Grant. There were 2 bids that came in, one being for rehabbing the existing tank and the other would be building a new steel ground storage tank. The cost of the new tank would be \$517,817, which is \$48,567 over the original budgeted amount. The cost of rehabbing the existing structure would be \$281,200. This cost would be \$187,450 under budget which would be returned to the Appalachian Regional Commission. Mr. White stated that this tank is used only for fire suppression and is more than

20 years old. Mayor Jones stated that he is going to meet with BabyNov tomorrow regarding the difference in cost and see if they would like to pay the additional \$48,567.

Motion #11 by King, 2nd by Hill, to approve Mayor Jones to meet with BabyNov and discuss the additional cost of the water tank. The Legislative Body approved an ARC Grant for the Water Tank rehab. Macon Counties match will not exceed \$133,668.00.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (18 yes)

During the Committee of a Whole Meeting on October 2nd, 2023, Jacob McClard with the Lafayette Little League came before the Commissioners requesting approval to build another field at the fairgrounds to be used as a softball field. He stated that Mid-Tenn Engineering had already engineered it. He stated that they had volunteers to get the sitework done for a field and that all that would be needed additionally is lights and fencing installed. The cost estimate for lights would be.

approximately \$150,000 and the approximate cost of a fence would be \$50,000, which he was hoping to get through grants and donations.

Motion #12 by J. Wilmore, 2nd by Petty to allow Lafayette Little League to bring back plans for a new ball field at the fairgrounds, including Insurance certificates including the County and ADA compliance covered. The League will bring back information on field being ADA compliant, information on insurance for the contractors that will be building the field and official Blueprints for the Legislative Body approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #13 by King 2nd by Jones to ratify Mayor Jones appointment of Tonia Butler to the Macon County Fair Board.

Motion Carried

Motion #14 by Hesson, by Petty to allow County Attorney, Guy Holliman to draft a policy on public access to County Buildings and defer to the November Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #15 by Hesson, 2nd Hughes to accept Building Codes/Impact Fee Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #16 by Hughes, 2nd Wilmore to accept Animal Control Report.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that the County currently has one Animal Control Officer and would be posting the additional position soon.

Motion #17 by Marshall, 2nd by Wilmore to accept EMS Operational Report.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones opened the period for public comments. Dana Richardson announced to the Commissioners that Sec. of State Tre Hargett, Senator Ken Yager and Representative Kelly Kesling would be at the Public Library on Wednesday October 18th, 2023 @ 12:15 pm to award a check to the Macon County Library.

Motion #18 by Hesson, 2nd by B. King to adjourn.

Motion Carried