

*Connie B. Blackwell*  
*County Clerk*



Macon County Courthouse, Room 104  
Lafayette, Tennessee 37083

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Minutes-March 20, 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 March 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones with Sheriff Joey Wilburn opening the meeting. Commissioner Keith Newberry gave the invocation and Commissioner Barry Marshall led the pledge to the flag. County Clerk Connie B. Blackwell called the Roll with 17 members being present. Also made a part of the Minutes are the Roll Call Voting and Resolutions.

Commissioners absent were Dan Hill, Barry King, and Helen Hesson.

Motion #1 by Petty, 2nd by Wilmore to go out of session for a Public Hearing for Ellis-Property Rezoning.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Petty, 2nd by Dyer to go back into session.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by West, 2nd by Petty to go into Election of Notaries.

Motion Carried

Tammy Brawner Nominated by B.R. King

Rachel Cook Bartley

Julie Jones Hughes

Maggie Stinnett Petty

Jacelynn Vaughn Jones

Irma Rosa Venegas Flippin

Donald Marchsteiner B.R. King

Motion #4 by Hughes, 2nd by Snow to move nominations cease and we elect those that were nominated by acclamation.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by Wix, 2nd by Jenkins to approve minutes as presented from the 2/21/23 Legislative Body meeting, 1/17/23 Planning Commission meeting, and 1/17/23 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 2/6/23 Committee of the Whole Meeting and 2/6/23 Special Called Meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by West, 2nd by Marshall to approve Budget Amendments #1-17 (#1 Library, #2 Sex Offender Registry, #3 Debt Service – Contracted Prisoner Board, #4 Jail, #5 Development – UCHRA Building, #7 Capital Projects – Confinement Grant, #8 Capital Projects – Jail Interim Loan, #9 Health Department, #10 Chancery Court, #11 Election Commission, #12 Debt Service, #13 Willette Fire

Department, #14 Solid Waste, and #15 Drug Fund, #16 Debt Service and #17 Capital Projects- Bridge Construction).

Motion Carried on Roll Call

Motion #7 by Bartley, 2nd by Petty to approve #3-31/23 Ellis Property Rezoning Resolution.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

Motion #8 by Petty, 2nd by West to approve #3-32/23 Lafayette Subdivision Regulations Resolution.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

Motion #9 by Hughes, 2nd by J. Wilmore to approve #3-33/23 CDBG Resolution.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, School Director Shawn Carter stated that the school board approved a design for the new elementary school, serving 1,100 kids for grades 3-5. He stated that he asked the architects to draw a schematic for future buildings and phases on the land around the new school.

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Road Supervisor Audie Cook stated that due to the storms, the Highway Department had problems with fallen trees down across the County. He stated he would like the Commissioners approval to dump the trees and brush at the old racetrack area located on the back of the fairground property.

Motion #10 by Petty, 2nd by Dyer to allow the Highway Department to dump fallen trees and brush at the old racetrack site on the back of the fairground property.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Road Supervisor Audie Cook also stated that he had received a phone call from TJ Roark concerning the gravel lot at the ball field behind Central.

Motion #11 by Dyer, 2nd by Jones to approve the Highway Department to place gravel on the drive at the ball field behind Central.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that Cope Architecture is working with USDA to get the jail addition bid out soon.

Motion #12 by Hughes, 2nd by Newberry to defer discussion for jail addition at a later meeting.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he should have the grant contract for the new Health Department this week.

Motion #13 by Petty, 2nd by Jones to allow Mayor Jones to sign Health Department Contract.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Mayor Jones stated that petitions had been turned in to him for the closing of Wilson Road. Commissioner Barry King stated that he had spoken to the residents and suggested that the Highway Committee meet to inspect the road again.

Motion #14 by Snow, 2nd by Wilmore for the Highway Committee to bring back recommendations about closing Wilson Road. Commissioners took the recommendation to leave the road open.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Mayor Jones stated that Solid Waste Director Debbie Richardson would be retiring at the end of April. He stated that the position needed to be advertised, so Ms. Richardson would have time to train the new person. He also stated that the dumpsters at the UCHRA building were going to have to be moved and asked for any recommendations for where they could be relocated too. He stated that City of Lafayette Mayor Jerry Wilmore had spoken to him about possibly collaborating with the City of Lafayette to move the Transfer Station to a more centralized location.

Motion #15 by West, 2nd by Dyer to ratify the motion and hire Keith Centers for the Solid Waste Director.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 10 yes / 7 no / 3 absent)

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Mayor Jones stated that the County had received 2 different pieces of the Opioid Settlement. He stated that one of the sums of money, the County could use for drug related items with minimal restrictions, but the other sum of money is completely restricted. His suggestion is to set up a drug council with the General Sessions Judge, Circuit Court Clerk, Drug Coalition Member, County Attorney, Probation Officer, School Director, 1 Commissioner, City of RBS Mayor, City of Lafayette Mayor, and County Mayor. This council would be overseeing the process of dispersing funds, using an application process. General Sessions Judge Greg Traylor spoke in favor of the council and stated he felt this is a great thing for the County.

Motion # 16 by West, 2nd by Marshall to establish and approve a drug council to disperse Opioid Settlement funds.

Motion Carried on Roll Call

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, Mayor Jones stated that he would like to bid out ambulance chassis for future purchases due to being so hard to buy now.

Motion #17 by Snow, 2nd by Jenkins to allow Mayor Jones to bid out ambulance chassis.

Motion Carried

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

Motion Carried

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

Motion Carried

Motion #20 by Gentry, 2nd Petty to accept the EMS Operational Report.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on March 6th, MCHS Principal Daniel Cook came before the Commissioners requesting a donation for Project Graduation.

Motion #21 by Snow, 2nd by Slayton to move the Project Graduation donation on to the Budget Committee for discussion.

Motion Carried

Motion #22 by Hughes, 2nd by West to have a public hearing April 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the funding of the new vocational school.

Motion Carried

Motion #23 by Wilmore, 2nd by Petty to adjourn.

Motion Carried