

LOUDON COUNTY COMMISSION

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF LOUDON

January 3, 2011

6:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING

- (1) **Opening of Meeting** **BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Board of Commissioners of Loudon County convened in regular session in Loudon, Tennessee on the 3rd day of January, 2011. The **Honorable Roy Bledsoe** called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Franke** opened the County Commission Meeting, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and gave the invocation.
- (2) **Roll Call** Present were the following Commissioners: **Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, and Harrelson: (8)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: Shaver, and Miller: (2)**
Thereupon **Chairman Bledsoe** announced the presence of a quorum.
Present was the **Honorable Mayor Estelle Herron**.
- (3) **Agenda Adopted As Amended** **Chairman Bledsoe** requested that the January 3, 2011 Agenda be adopted. **Budget Director, Tracy Blair**, requested a change to Item 1. under her presentation so that it's a recommendation to approve "application" to the grant. A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Harrelson** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to adopt the Agenda as amended. Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
- (4) **Minutes for December 6, 2010 Approved** **Chairman Bledsoe** requested that the December 6, 2010 County Commission Meeting Minutes be approved and accepted. A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Jenkins** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve and accept the minutes. Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
- (5) **Comments: Agenda Items** **Chairman Bledsoe** asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items on the planned Agenda come forward. **Pat Hunter** came forward to comment on the recent Budget Committee Meeting not being announced in the newspaper citing that she understood that this was a Special Called Meeting and that the law states that it should have been announced in the newspaper.

**(6)
Water
Quality
Buffer
Resolution
Approved**

Loudon County Planning and Codes Director, Russ Newman, requested consideration and possible action on the following item:

1. Request Consideration of Approving the Adoption of a Loudon County Water Quality Buffer Resolution.

Commissioner Duff commented that he disagrees with Federal and State Authorities taking land away from property owners and then mandating that they have to maintain it as required by those Authorities.

Commissioner Bledsoe commented that he, too, has problems with this requirement and the loss of property and burden that it puts on the property owners affected.

A **motion** was reluctantly made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Yarbrough** to approve this resolution.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Meers, Maples, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, and Jenkins: (8)**

The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**

The following Commissioners were **Absent: Shaver, and Miller: (2)**

Thereupon the Chairman announced the motion **Passed: (8, 0, 2)**

Resolution 010311-A

**(7)
School
Building
Program
Update**

Loudon County Director of Schools, Wayne Honeycutt, provided an update on the School Building Program for consideration of the Commission.

He began his presentation with an update on the history of the program stating that the Fire Marshall's Office had approved the construction drawings for the new Fort Loudoun Middle School and the Philadelphia School Cafeteria in September, 2010. A recent submission of drawings for the new Greenback School came back with two minor issues to be addressed which he believes will not require significant changes or increases in building costs. He spoke about the phased approach to the program adopted by the Board of Education citing the schools included in each phase.

Phase 1: New Greenback School; Philadelphia School Cafeteria; New Fort Loudoun Middle School; and combining the Loudon Elementary School and existing Fort Loudoun Middle School which has been put on the back burner while the other projects are being completed.

Phase 2: would involve building a new Middle School in the Northern end of the County.

He stated that we probably need a Phase 3. He said that Loudon County was far behind with its school facilities and that they see serious problems now in several schools that will need addressing soon. He stated that this presentation was in no way a criticism of the Commission's provision of funding but that the funds provided until now have only been band aids for what's really needed – new buildings.

He stated that they are ready now to Bid 3 of the 4 projects in Phase 1 of the program. He distributed drawings of the proposed buildings saying that alternates could be substituted in several cases that would lower the cost of construction and can be considered. He said that he gets questions regarding the size of the Greenback School plan and noted that there are currently 19 portables being used by the schools and that 3 schools have requested more.

He noted that the current projected cost of Phase 1 of the building program is \$49 million but they believe this is a greatly inflated number and that costs can be significantly reduced. He stated that he wants to proceed with the Program now and cited current interest rates and financial data that supports going forward at this time. **He is requesting tonight that the Commission move forward on fully funding Phase 1 of the School Building Program now and not delay.** He stated that the second worst thing we can do is to build schools too small and cited census statistics that show the projected growth for the county at 20%.

Discussions followed with both **Commissioners Duff** and **Franke** commenting on the proposed industrial growth in the county - already underway - and that new schools would greatly contribute to attracting new residents to Loudon County versus nearby counties.

Commissioner Yarbrough asked Mr. Honeycutt what the first worst thing we could do was and he responded that it was not building anything at all and putting these plans off, delaying the inevitable. He believes that putting more money into the existing facilities is throwing it down the drain. **Commissioner Yarbrough** stated that she believes we also need to focus on "what" students are learning as well as the facilities.

Mr. Honeycutt thanked the Commission and concluded his presentation.

Exhibit 010311-B

Loudon County Budget Director, Tracy Blair, requested consideration and possible action on the following items:

(8)
Loudon
Library
Grant
Application
Approved

1. Consideration of a Recommendation to Approve Application to a \$2,000. Technology Grant for Loudon Library; 50% match required.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to approve this recommendation.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Maples, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Jenkins, and Meers: (8)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: Shaver, and Miller: (2)**
Thereupon the Chairman announced the motion **Passed: (8, 0, 2)**

(9)
Fund 101
Approved

2. Consideration of a Recommendation to Approve Amendments in the Following Funds:
a. County General Fund 101
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Meers** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this recommendation.
Upon Roll Call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Jenkins, Meers, and Maples: (8)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: Shaver, and Miller: (2)**
Therefore the Chairman announced the motion **Passed: (8, 0, 2)**
Exhibit 010311-C

- (15) g. Central Cafeteria Fund 143
Fund 143 Approved
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Maples** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve this recommendation.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, and Harrelson: (8)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: Shaver, and Miller: (2)**
Thereupon the Chairman announced the motion **Passed: (8, 0, 2)**
Exhibit 010311-I
- (16) **Budget Director, Tracy Blair**, requested that records reflect that the Summary Financial Statements for the month of December 2010 have been distributed.
Summary Financial Statements Distributed
Exhibit 010311-I
- (17) **Loudon County Commissioner, David Meers**, requested consideration and possible action on the following **Notaries:**
Notaries Approved
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Meers** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to approve the following **Notaries: *Gregory L. Byrd, and Jody R. Freeman.***
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
Exhibit 010311-K
- (18) **Chairman Bledsoe** asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items not on the Agenda come forward.
Comments: Non-Agenda Items
Richard Truitt spoke on the disparity between the plights of public employees versus private sector employees. This was a follow up to recent discussions regarding county employee's morale. He compared their situations in several areas with the conclusion that public workers are in a much better work situation than private sector workers.
Mayor Herron responded to Ms. Hunter's opening remarks regarding the posting of the Budget Committee Meeting in the local newspaper stating that she had spoken to **Greg Wilkerson**, Newspaper Editor, and he responded that just because the County sends an email requesting that something be included in the announcements column of the newspaper, it doesn't necessarily mean that it will be published and that the only way to insure that it will be published is to purchase an ad.
Commissioner Harrelson requested that **Mr. Honeycutt** introduce **Chad Presley**, the new Business Manager for the school building program and Mr. Honeycutt did so.

Chairman Bledsoe asked if there were any further comments and, upon receiving none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

**(19)
Adjournment**

There being no further business, a **motion** being duly made and seconded, the January 3, 2011 County Commission Meeting stood adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY MAYOR