

LOUDON COUNTY COMMISSION

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF LOUDON

May 5, 2014

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 5th day of May, 2014. The **Honorable Roy Bledsoe** called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Meers** 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, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, and Miller: (10)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
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 May 5, 2014 Agenda be adopted. **Mayor Herron** requested the removal of Item A. which was being presented by the County Road's Commissioner, who was not present, and moving Item C. to that position on the Agenda.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Maples** with a second by **Commissioner Miller** to adopt the Agenda as Amended.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
- (4) **Minutes for Apr 7, 2014 Comm Mtg Approved** **Chairman Bledsoe** requested that the April 7, 2014 County Commission Meeting Minutes be approved and accepted.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Meers** with a second by **Commissioner Quillen** to approve these 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 spoke about the Item concerning the Juvenile Service's Officer saying that she didn't understand why the person in this position was not invited to this meeting where his situation is being discussed. She said that she supports this person and spoke about help he has provided to families and she feels that he's a good asset to the County.

(6)
Juvenile
Service's
Officer
Position
Reaffirmed

Loudon County Commissioner, Bob Franke

1. Request Consideration of Reaffirming County Application of State Laws TCA 37-1-106 and 37-1-162 Which State that Each County with a Population of More Than 20,000 May Establish a Juvenile Justice Service's System and Each Court Shall Employ a Juvenile Service's Officer to be Managed by the Court Exercising Juvenile Jurisdiction.

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, and Jenkins: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

(7)
Letter of Concern
Sent to Dept of
Environment &
Conservation Re
Madisonville Sewage
Treatment Plant

Loudon County Commissioner, Don Miller

1. Request Consideration of Approval of Forwarding a Letter from the Loudon County Mayor and Loudon County Commission to the Director, Division of Water Resources, Department of Environment and Conservation, Regarding Our Concerns for the Environmental Impact of the Madisonville Sewage Treatment Plant Discharge.

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to approve this request.

Upon voice vote the motion was **Approved** unanimously.

Exhibit 050514-A

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

(8)
Application/
Acceptance of
TDOT Litter
And Trash
Grant
Approved

1. Request Consideration of a Recommendation to Approve a Resolution Authorizing Submission of an Application for a Litter and Trash Collection Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation and Authorizing Acceptance of Said Grant; no Matching Funds Required.

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Jenkins** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, and Meers: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Resolution 050514-B

(9)
Juvenile
Center
Operations
Grant
Acceptance
Approved

2. Request Consideration of a Recommendation to Approve Acceptance of a Five-Year Grant Contract with the Department of Children's Services to Supplement Loudon County Juvenile Center Operations; \$9,000.00 Per Year for a Total of \$45,000.00; No Matching Funds Required.

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers and Maples: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

3. Request Consideration of Approval of Amendments to the Following Funds:

(10)
Fund 101
Approved

a. County General Fund 101

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, and Quillen: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050514-C

(11)
Fund 114
Approved

b. Law Library Fund 114

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Meers** with a second by **Commissioner Quillen** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, and Franke: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050514-D

(12)
Fund 115
Approved

c. Public Libraries Fund 115

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Quillen** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, and Bledsoe: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050514-E

(13)
Fund 116
Approved

d. Recycling Centers Fund 116

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, and Duff: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050514-F

(14)
Fund 119
Approved

e. Centre 75 Maintenance Fund 119

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Meers** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this request.

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, and Yarbrough: (10)**

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

The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**

Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050514-G

- (20)**
Fund 156
Approved
- k. Education Debt Services Fund 156
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Miller** to approve this request.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, and Meers: (10)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**
Exhibit 050514-M
- (21)**
Fund 171
Approved
- l. General Capital Projects Fund 171
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to approve this request.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Harrelson, Miller, Jenkins, Meers, and Maples: (9)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: Yarbrough: (1)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (9, 1, 0)**
Exhibit 050514-N
- (22)**
Summary
Financial
Statements
Distributed
- Budget Director, Tracy Blair**, requested that records reflect that the Summary Financial Statements for April 2014 and Approved Minutes for the March 17, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting have been distributed.
Exhibits 050514-O&P
- (23)**
Notaries
Approved
- Loudon County Commissioner, David Meers**, made a **motion** with a second by **Commissioner Maples** to approve the following Notaries: *Mary E. Allen; Lindsey Armstrong; John W. Evans; Cynthia Garren; Jaida Grady; Danielle W. Kuykendall; Lindsey M. Cobb; BM Rulon; Linda P. Sitzlar; Bambi A. Walker; and Wanda Gail Williams.*
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
Exhibit 050514-Q
- (24)**
Comments:
Non-Agenda
Items
- Chairman Bledsoe** asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items not on the Agenda come forward.
Wayne Schnell spoke about the 20 cent property tax increase four years ago to be used for the County Schools and that it was promised to the people that it would be used for that purpose. He said that he understands that the County Commission is planning to move some of this money to other funds and he's against this. He would like to see this money stay where it is and used for the schools as promised. He also voiced his opinion that it was inappropriate to move the School Board into another building. He said that he had learned that the Mayor was planning to increase the staff by 3 people and asked what the salaries for these people was going to be. He said the County should hold the line on spending.

Jim O'Brien said that the tax increase was for school projects and that he was against this increase at the time of passing but that he took comfort in that it was for the schools. He has heard that there's a plan to move four cents out of the school fund and into the County General Fund and he's against this and doesn't want to see the money spent.

Teresa Stang said that she attended the proposed tax increase meeting several years ago and that the people were told that this money was for the schools. Now she hears that some of this money is going to be moved elsewhere. She feels that the Commission promised to use it for schools and it's dishonest to use for anything else.

Bob O'Brien asked the Commission to not touch this fund – leave it for the schools.

Richard Anklin said that he knows more about the history of this funding than anyone else in the room. He spoke about details going back to the passing of the tax increase and said that this money was supposed to be used for the schools and not anything else. Use it for the schools and if you don't need it for the schools, give it back. He discussed details of the funds and the decisions made by the Commission.

Richard Truitt said that everyone knew when the tax increase was passed that 20 cents was too much for Phase 1 of the school building program and that it has probably only used 12 cents on it. He noted that the schools currently have \$8.4 million in their reserves and advised the County to not give the School Board anymore money because they will find a way to spend it.

Wendy Baustian said that the schools are still overcrowded and the cafeterias are inadequate. She agreed that the new Middle School was excellent and she would like to see the money stay in the school funding. She noted that the High School had no science and technology departments and that the kids were not able to be prepared for working in today's high tech environment.

Pat Hunter said the schools have needs and the money should be used to address these needs but in a fiscally responsible way. She said that Commission oversight was very important to keep the schools from overspending. She advised the Commission to not move the pennies out of the operations budget for the schools. She also commented on the County salary increase requests saying that the County needs an overall system to evaluate employees and make these increases fair and even across all offices.

Brian Kelch said he was a child care provider and a coach and he knew that the parents want the money kept for the schools and not moved out of that funding. He stressed that the first priority for these funds should be the safety of the children and that some of the schools need to be updated.

Mayor Herron responded by sharing some facts regarding the budget over the past 10 years. She noted that at present the cost was running at 29 cents. Therefore the 20 cent tax increase funds had already been spent.

Commissioner Duff asked if a proposal had been made to take 4 cents from school funds and put into the County General Fund and **Mayor Herron** responded "no" saying that the budget process hasn't even started yet and that the schools have not yet presented their budget to the County.

Commissioner Miller said that he had been looking at the last 4 years of data related to the County budget and that the total General Fund went up by 13.79% during that time which is way above the inflation rate. The largest increase by department was in Public Safety – Sheriff and Jails – which was up by 28.32%. All other department's increases averaged 6.52% in these 4 years which is slightly under the inflation rate.

Commissioner Meers reissued the invitation to **Dr. Best** to attend the Commission Budget Committee meetings and **Dr. Best** returned the invitation to the Commission to attend their meetings.

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

(25)
Adjournment

There being no further business, a **motion** being duly made and seconded, the May 5, 2014 County Commission Meeting stood adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY MAYOR