

Weakley County, Tennessee
Health, Education, & Economic Development Committee
March 27, 2007 3:30 p.m.

Members Present: Commissioners James H. Westbrook, Dick Phebus, Jack Vincent, Mike Medling, Eric Owen, and Mac Buckley.

The HEED Committee met on March 27, 2007, 3:30 p.m. at the Weakley County Courthouse in the commission room. Others present included Houston Patrick-County Mayor, Terri Brundige of BancorpSouth Bank, Tom Call-Election Commissioner and Diane Cashon-Administrator of Elections.

Commissioner Vincent made the motion to approve the March 7, 2007 minutes and with a second by Commissioner Phebus the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

New Business

Lease Agreement with BancorpSouth Bank (old jail building vacant lot)

The committee members received a copy of the lease agreement as prepared by the County Attorney. The lease agreement called for a 20-year lease with the first option to purchase the property from the County would be BancorpSouth. Discussion continued with numerous questions arising. Commissioner Owen made the motion to defer further discussion on this topic until a representative from BancorpSouth could be present. Commissioner Phebus seconded the motion. County Mayor Patrick telephoned BancorpSouth requesting Terri Brundige to join the meeting. Upon Ms. Brundige arriving at the meeting – she stated that BancorpSouth has no interest in purchasing the property but she would check with corporate headquarters for confirmation. Commissioner Phebus raised two questions that needed to be answered prior to the County entering into the lease agreement: 1) Minimum term of the lease, commissioners agreed that 20 years is too long of a term. 2) Liability insurance coverage, should an accident occur on the property. Commissioner Vincent recommended that \$1 for yearly rent and a 10 year term be inserted in the lease agreement. Discussion continued. It was agreed that consideration of rent for paving lot to be included in lease agreement.

West Kentucky Telephone Company

West Kentucky Telephone Company's attorney contacted our county attorney requesting a franchise agreement with Weakley County. The committee members reviewed the requested franchise agreement as presented by the county attorney. West Kentucky Telephone is located in Mayfield, KY; its territory reaches into the extreme northeast section of Weakley County. Chairman Westbrook made the motion to recommend the acceptance of the franchise agreement and to forward to the May commission meeting. Commissioner Owen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Election Commission Building

Chairman Westbrook explained to the committee that he was recently approached by business owner Mike Parrish regarding his vacant building located on the east side of the courtsquare. Election Commission Chairman Tom Call spoke to the committee stating that this vacant building located on the east side of the courtsquare is not feasible to re-locate the Election Commission because of the limited parking spaces. Discussion continued. Commissioner Medling stated that he had visited Henry and Carroll counties election commission, each county's facility is 900 square feet.

Commissioner Medling continued stating that he had studied and research the potential building of a new structure and determined, based upon his professional real estate opinion, that a 1500 square foot building estimated cost \$106,000; 2000 square foot building estimated cost \$141,000; and 1200 square foot building estimated cost \$85,000 all structures to have a metal roof with brick front. Commissioner Owen made the motion for the Election Commission to develop a 1500 square foot floor plan and to submit it to the committee. Commissioner Buckley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Courthouse Renovation Plaque

Chairman Westbrook discussed the request to place a recognition plaque of the courthouse renovation in the courthouse lobby. Commissioner Medling stated that he did not support the plaque recognition project. Discussion continued. County Mayor Patrick stated it is his opinion to not add a plaque to the courthouse lobby.

Commissioner Buckley made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Vincent the meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Francisco,
Recording Secretary

Approved:

James H. Westbrook, Jr., Chairman
Health, Education, & Economic Development Committee

Date: _____