

AGENDA
RECONVENED MEETING OF THE JULY 31, 2001 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WEAKLEY COUNTY COMMISSION
AUGUST 9, 2001

CALL TO ORDER - 3:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

BUSINESS:

TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO.2002-05 - METHODIST HEALTH CARE
RE-CONSIDER DEAD ANIMAL REMOVAL CONTRACT

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY
RECONVENED MEETING OF THE JULY 31, 2001 REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2001

The Weakley County Legislative Body met on August 9, 2001, 3:00 p.m. in the County Commission room at the Weakley County Courthouse.

County Executive Ron Gifford called the reconvened meeting to order.

County Executive Gifford announced that Commissioner Phebus' Mother passed away on August 8, 2001. Prayers, sympathy and condolences were extended to the family.

Commissioner Stewart gave the invocation.

All members present gave the pledge to the Flag.

Deputy County Clerk, Aneta McDaniel called the roll with 14 members present and six members, Wendell Verdell, Joe Farmer, Earl Wright, Dick Phebus, Sam Sinclair, and Bennie Castleman absent. Later in the meeting, Earl Wright answered the roll. Changing roll call to 15 members present and 5 members absent.

BUSINESS:

Resolution No 2002-05 was tabled at the July 31, 2001 meeting. County Executive Gifford called for a legal prospective from the County Attorney, Bill Neese. This resolution involves the approval of a federally tax exempt bond issue, similar to an Industrial Revenue Bond. This comes out of Memphis for the whole Methodist Healthcare System statewide. We have a unit in Martin, Volunteer Methodist. Hospital Corporation of America owns this real estate and some of the assets and personal property. Now that this is going through the State, the question is whether or not that the property as Methodist is a non-profit corporation and is tax exempt. Concern was expressed by the Attorneys for the State Board of Equalization that somehow this resolution would have an effect on them. It is Attorney Neese's opinion that it could not and does not have an effect. In addition, a letter from Methodist stating it does not, in their opinion, have an effect and will not assert this in any proceedings as for the taxation that will go for bond money. The bottom line is that Methodist feels it needs our approval before they can issue tax certified bonds as tax exempt to a financial institution to buy one. The tax exemption has nothing to do with real estate or nothing to do with the other real estate's personal property. It does have something to do with this real estate. Methodist would own this property. We are passing a resolution that agrees for this bond to be issued under federal income tax exempt status. We do not have a Health Board in Weakley County; we have an Industrial Board that deals with this in Weakley County. This resolution does not effect this county one way or another except for the benefit of having medical equipment in the hospital.

Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to remove from the table Resolution 2002-05. Commissioner Jones placed a second. Discussion was called. Commissioner Westbrook ask Mr. David Tuck, Assessor of Property, if he understood the County Attorney's explanation. Mr. Tuck felt that the Health, Education and Welfare Board of Shelby County would own the equipment and will be leased to the Methodist Hospital. If Methodist Hospital owns the equipment, then it would be exempt. Question was called and a voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed.

Commissioner Salmon made a motion to place the resolution on the floor. Commissioner Broussard placed a second. Discussion was called. Discussion on whether future equipment purchased would be taxable as real property or

personal property. Deputy Clerk McDaniel called the roll with 15 ayes and 5 absent. The roll call will reflect that Commissioner Earl Wright is present. The motion carried.

The next item to be considered is the dead animal removal contract with Griffin Industries. County Executive stated that the contract price for 2000-2001 was \$9,148.00. The request for an increase to \$11,435.00 for 2001-2002 was not appropriated. County Executive stated that Griffin Industries picked up 396 cows, 92 calves, 3021 hogs and 49 horses last year. Because of the mad cow disease, Griffin Industries are required to haul the dead cows to Russellville, Kentucky.

Commissioner McAlpin made a motion to reconsider Resolution 2002-01. Commissioner Vincent placed a second. Discussion was called. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed.

Resolution 2002-01 is on the floor for discussion. Commissioner Owens had questions concerning the increase, since there was not a representative from Griffin Industries to explain the increase. A representative from Griffin Industries gave some reason for the increase. Health problems are a concern, they are trying to meet rising fees for service and trying to keep this business in operation.

Commissioner Broussard made a motion to amend Resolution No 2002-01 account number 55190 line item 399, dead animal removal contract from \$9148 to \$11,435. A second to the motion was placed by Commissioner Jones. Discussion was called and there being none, the question was called. A roll call vote was taken by the Deputy Clerk with 15 ayes and 5 absent. The amendment carried.

The Original Motion as amended is on the floor. Commissioner Westbrook, at the request of the Finance Ways and Means Chairman, made a motion to amend the general fund budget account number 48-140 and increase revenue \$8000 and decrease expenditure account number 54130-148, Dispatchers in the amount of \$8000 from 911 board. Commissioner Buckley placed a second. Discussion was called and the question. Roll call was taken by Deputy Clerk McDaniel with 15 ayes and 5 absent. Motion to amend carried.

The Original Motion as amended twice is on the floor. Richard Barber, Superintendent of Schools addressed the Commission. Mr. Barber made a request for adjustment to non-certified personnel, secretaries and lunchroom management. The School Board asks to be included in this increase. The commission referred this request to the Health, Education and Welfare Committee. The Assessor of Property, David Tuck addressed the commission with the request that his personnel be included in the salary adjustments. His request was sent to the Personnel Committee and Finance Ways and Means.

Commissioner Westbrook requested the Health, Education and Welfare Committee to meet with the Registrar at Large and determine a reasonable level of service and how often it will be serviced at the Election Commission.

Further discussion on the raises and adjustment in the budget was discussed. Commissioner Westbrook made explanation to these adjustments and raises. Suggestions were made to get comparable salaries in counties around Weakley County.

Commissioner Vincent made a motion to amend the budget by \$62,500 for municipal water and place back in the fund balance for general funds. A second was placed by Commissioner Overton. Discussion was called. Comments were made that the proper committees needed to make determination on this project before it came before the full commission. This was discussed in Finance Ways and Means but was not voted on. Further discussion on the tax base, fire

protection, and recruiting industry was discussed. Question was called. The Deputy Clerk McDaniel called the roll with 10 ayes, 5 nays and 5 absent. The motion to amend failed. Point of order was called for a County Attorney opinion.

No further discussion on the budget. Amendments I and II have passed and Amendment III failed. No further discussion. Commission Westbrook made a motion to approve Resolution 2002-01. Commissioner Hunt placed a second. Discussion was called and the question. Deputy Clerk McDaniel called the roll with 12 ayes 3 nays and 5 absent. The Resolution No 2002-01 carried.

The County Executive asks if there were any announcements to be made.

Suzanne Speight, on behalf of Volunteer Methodist Hospital addressed the commission and thanked the commission for passing Resolution 2002-05.

County Executive reminded the commissioners of the Tennessee County Commissioner Regional Association Meeting, August 30, 2001, 6:30 p.m. Paris Landing State Park.

There was no further business to come before the commission, Commissioner Broussard made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Buckley placed a second. A voice vote was taken with the ayes carrying and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk