

AGENDA
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2001

CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

PRESENTATION BY MILES MINNELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE VALLEY GOVERNMENT

SPECIAL CALL:

1. To approve a Resolution Condemning Terrorism
2. To approve a Resolution urging the General Assembly to practice sharing certain state revenues with local governments.
3. To discuss realignment of County Commission Districts, School Board Districts and Road Board Districts in Weakley County and take such action as may be necessary to re-district the county in accordance with law.
4. To approve a contract with the State Department of Transportation, State Project 92019-1208-94, described as State Route 190.

Resolution No. 2002-13 - Resolution Condemning Terrorism

Resolution No. 2002-14 - Resolution to Urge the General Assembly to Preserve the Practice of Sharing Certain State Revenues with Local Governments.

Resolution No. 2002-15 - Resolution to Reapportion the Weakley County Commission, Weakley County School Board and Weakley County Road Board (9 Districts).

Resolution No. 2002-16 - Resolution to Reapportion the Weakley County Commission, Weakley County School Board and Weakley County Road Board (10 Districts).

Resolution No. 2002-17 - Resolution to Approve Contract with the State Department of Transportation, State Project 92019-1207-94.

WEAKLEY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEETING

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2001

The Special Called Meeting of the Weakley County Legislative Body met on October 23, 2001, 6:00 p.m. in the County Commission Room at the Weakley County Courthouse.

County Executive Ron Gifford called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Wendell Verdell gave the invocation.

All members present gave the pledge to the Flag.

County Clerk Pat Scarbrough took roll call with 19 members present and one member, Bonnie Castleman, absent. Later in the meeting Commissioner Castleman answered roll call.

County Executive Gifford introduced Miles Minnell, Executive Director of the Association of Tennessee Valley Government. Ms. Minnell made a presentation and showed a video on the Tennessee Valley Authority. Ms. Minnell stated that this should be of interest to the Local Government and that Local Government should take an active stance on deregulation and the importance of deregulation to local government.

County Executive Gifford recognized the Emergency Management Director, David McAlpin. Mr. McAlpin gave handouts to the Commissioners with guidelines to Homeland Security. The Commissioners were urged to read and study these guidelines.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-13:

A Resolution Condemning Terrorism.

Commissioner Vincent gave the Legislative Committee Report and stated that this resolution passed his committee unanimously. Commissioner Farmer made a motion and Commissioner Vincent placed a second. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 19 ayes and one absent. The Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-14:

A Resolution to Urge the General Assembly to Preserve the Practice of Sharing Certain State Revenues with Local Governments.

Commissioner Vincent gave the Legislative Committee Report and this resolution passed this committee unanimously. Commissioner Phebus stated that it also passed the Finance Ways and Means Committee unanimously. A motion was made by Commissioner Phebus to place this resolution on the floor and Commissioner Buckley placed the second. Discussion was called and the question. County Clerk Scarbrough called the roll with 19 ayes and one absent. The Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-15:

A Resolution to Reapportion the Weakley County Commission, Weakley County School Board and Weakley County Road Board (9 Districts).

Commissioner Westbrook gave the Rules Committee Report and there was a vote of five ayes and five nays and the resolution was not recommended.

Commissioner Vincent made a motion and Commissioner Sinclair placed a second. Discussion was called. Commissioner Westbrook commented that if this Resolution passed, it would require that two Private Acts be amended in the Legislature to redistrict the School Board and the Road Board. In order to ratify a Private Acts there must be two-thirds majority vote of the County Commission or a vote of the people. Commissioner Farmer commented that with this nine-district plan, he would completely lose his district. Further comments concluded that District No. Two would be the district to disappear.

The record will show that Commissioner Bennie Castleman answered roll call and the roll call reflects twenty members present and none absent.

Commissioner Vincent made a statement agreeing that the nine-district plan was not perfect, but in spending a lot of time going over the map; in his opinion, he supports the nine-district plan 100 percent. This plan best represents the people and the taxpayers of this County.

Commissioner Buckley agreed with Mr. Vincent and his concerns. He further noted that 16 commissioners voted for a ten-district plan that would not require private acts, and the school board, road board and the number of county commissioners would remain the same. Commissioner Buckley urged the County Commission to vote out the nine-district plan and go back to the ten-district plan.

Commissioner Page commented that the ten-district plan voted for, was not the original ten-district plan that came out of the Rules Committee. There have been numerous changes made since the original ten-district plan was submitted. Commissioner Phebus stated that he voted for the ten-district plan but this was a non-binding vote to get a consensus of the Commission and that Commissioner Vincent worked out a better plan than the ten-district plan originally submitted.

Commissioner Salmon stated that he did not believe this plan would work. He felt that moving a few people in Gleason, Dresden and Latham would not help and would probably made several of the people upset. Commissioner Salmon urged the Commission to vote down the nine-district plan and put the ten-district plan back before the Commission.

County Executive Gifford stated that by law the County Commission reapportions the County after each Federal Census for voting purposes to serve the people. The County Election Commission establishes the voting precincts, once the County Commission reapportions the County.

Commissioner Castleman felt that an eight-district plan would be better, and that a nine-district plan would be better than ten. Commissioner Castleman stated that he had been misplaced, but this did not bother him, especially if this nine-district plan is what is best for this County.

Commissioner Westbrook stated that at one time there was a seven-district plan and then went to a ten-district plan that created all the problems that the Commission is experiencing now. Commissioner Buckley wanted to go on record to show that he was for the ten-district plan because he felt that it was for the good of the people and what was best for the people of Weakley County.

Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 11 ayes and 9 nays. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-16:

Resolution to Reapportion the Weakley County Commission, Weakley County School Board and Weakley County Road Board (Ten-District Plan).

Commissioner Westbrook gave the committee report from the Rules Committee and the Committee recommended the passage of 2002-16. Commissioner Phebus made a motion to table the resolution and Commissioner Owen placed a second. Motion to table is non-debatable and a voice was taken with the ayes carrying. Resolution No. 2002-16 was tabled.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-17:

A Resolution to Approve a Contract with the State Department of Transportation, State Project 92019-1207-94.

This resolution did not go before the Road Board or the Public Works Committee. Commissioner Broussard made a motion to place this resolution on the floor and Commissioner Farmer placed a second. Discussion was called and Commissioner Parham questioned what was involved with this Resolution. Commissioner Broussard asked for an opinion from Road Supervisor, Jimmy Freeman. The bridges are located on Highway 190 north of Highway 54 and are bridges over Thompson Creek and the Middle Fork Bridge over the Obion River. Commissioner Westbrook questioned if the commissioners had read over the contract and resolution and stated that this is not a County Bridge or Road and that the County is not responsible for this. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 20 nays. The motion failed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-18:

A Resolution to Urge the General Assembly to Enact a Private Act providing for a Newly Constituted Board of Education Following Reapportionment of the County.

Commissioner Westbrook gave the Committee on Rules Report and this resolution was not voted on in committee. Commissioner Phebus made a motion and Commissioner Stewart placed a second. Discussion was called. Discussion and clarification on amending the Private Acts dealing with the School Board is a housekeeping resolution. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 20 ayes and none was opposed, the Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-19:

A Resolution to Reapportion Districts for the Election of the Weakley County Highway Commission and to Urge the General Assembly to Enact a Private Act Providing for a Newly Constituted County Highway Commission.

Commissioner Westbrook gave the Rules Committee report and there was not a formal vote on this resolution. Commissioner Sinclair made a motion and Commissioner Castleman placed a second. Discussion was called and Commissioner Vincent asked if the set up of the Districts was okay, and Commissioner Westbrook stated that it was legal. Question was called and the County Clerk called the roll with 20 ayes and none opposed the motion carried.

County Executive Gifford stated that there was a housekeeping measure to take care of while the commission was in session. In order to repeal a Private Act that we have operated under, a petition be signed by each of the Commissioner and sent to Senator Herron and Representative Maddox.

Commissioner Stewart announced that the Financial Management Committee has received twelve resumes for the position of Finance Director. The Financial Management Committee members received copies of the resumes submitted and a meeting will be called as soon as possible once the members have reviewed them.

County Clerk Scarbrough requested that the Beer Board Members meet with her after the Commission meeting to set up a beer board hearing.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Broussard placed a second. The Special Called Meeting of the Weakley County Legislative Body adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk