

LOUDON COUNTY COMMISSION

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF LOUDON

March 4, 2013

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 4th day of March, 2013. The **Honorable Roy Bledsoe** called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Miller** 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** **Chairman Bledsoe** requested that the March 4, 2013 Agenda be adopted. A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Quillen** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to adopt the Agenda. Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
- (4) **Minutes for Feb 4, 2013 Comm Mtg Approved** **Chairman Bledsoe** requested that the February 4, 2013 County Commission Meeting Minutes be approved and accepted. A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Yarbrough** 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. **Richard Truitt** came forward to speak on the funding for completing Phase I of the School Building Program. He asked if anyone knew what the level of debt for Loudon County was. He believes it's somewhere around \$97 million. He said that the additional funding currently projected would take that total up to \$156 million. He pointed out that this was quite a lot of debt.

Pandora Vreeland spoke about the Corrections Partnership Commission saying that she agreed that the Mayor and Sheriff should be voting members. She also believes that she and other County residents could help to fix the County Jail issues and they would like to be appointed to this Commission. She stated that you can't fix the problems by building more facilities.

Kim Greenway, principal of Loudon Elementary School, thanked the Commission for what's already been done on the School Building Program and spoke in support of going forward to complete Phase I by joining the Elementary School and Fort Loudoun Middle School. She feels that this would be in the best interest of the students.

Jason Vance, Director of Schools, also thanked the Commission for considering the funding to complete Phase I of the building program. He stated that it was important to finish up this part of the plan and he feels that connecting the two schools is in the best interest of the schools.

Pat Hunter spoke about the Solid Waste Commission and her concern that the Commission doesn't have a vetting process for the appointees. She has done some checking and found that one of the appointees has not paid his property taxes for the past two years. She said that this person was a very vocal member of the Commission and that people listened to him. She feels that the County Commission should know who this person is. She also said that there are additional issues with members of the Solid Waste Commission that need to be looked at and she hopes the County Commission will address these.

Estelle Herron, Loudon County Mayor, requested consideration and possible action on the following items:

(6)
Solid Waste
Commission
Appointments
Not Approved

1. Request Consideration of Approval of the Following Board/Committee Appointments:

a. Loudon County Solid Waste Commission

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** to approve this request. There was **no second** for his motion and, therefore, no further consideration at this meeting.

Resolution 030413-A

(7)
County
Corrections
Partnership
Apts Approved

b. County Corrections Partnership Committee

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Maples** to approve these appointments.

Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.

Resolution 030413-B

(8)
Interlocal Agreement
Btwn Loudon
County & Loudon
Co. Library Bd
Approved

2. Request Consideration of Approval of a Resolution to Accept the Interlocal Agreement Between Loudon County and the Loudon County Library Board.

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

Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.

Resolution 030413-C

(9)
Request to TDOT to Designate Dixie Lee Junction As Signature/Gateway Intersection Approved

3. Request Consideration of a Approval of a Resolution Requesting that the Tennessee Department of Transportation Designate the Intersection of Hwy 70/S.R.1 and Hwy 11/S.R.2 (Dixie Lee Junction) as a Signature/Gateway Intersection and to Incorporate Aesthetic Improvements in the Proposed Redesign of this Intersection.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Yarbrough** to approve this request.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
Resolution 030413-D

(10)
Financing for Remaining \$10M for Phase I of School Bldg Program Approved

4. Request Consideration of Financing the Remainder of Phase I of the School Building Program.
Mayor Herron explained that this was a request for approval of the financing for the remaining \$10M of the first \$43M for the School Building Program for a period of 10 years. This was Option 2 of the four presented by the Independent Financial Advisors. The \$43M was previously approved on October 3, 2011.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Harrelson, Miller, and Jenkins: (9)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: Yarbrough: (1)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
Thereupon **Chairman Bledsoe** announced the motion **Passed: (9, 1, 0)**

Loudon County Purchasing Director, Leo Bradshaw requested consideration and possible action on the following item:

(11)
Updated Occupational Safety & Health Program Plan Approved

1. Request Consideration of Approval of a Resolution to Establish an Updated Occupational Safety and Health Program Plan, Devise Rules and Regulations, and to Provide for a Safety Director and the Implementation of Such a Program.
A motion was made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to approve this request.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
Resolution 030413-E

Loudon County Commissioner, Don Miller

(12)
Letter to State Legislators Against Open Burning Approved

1. Request Consideration of Approval of Sending a Letter to Our State Legislators Expressing Our Opposition to Allowing Open Burning in Loudon County.
A motion was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to approve this request.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.
Exhibit 030413-F

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

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

(13)
Fund 101
Approved

a. County General Fund 101

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

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 030413-G

(14)
Fund 112
Approved

b. Jail Courthouse Maintenance Fund 112

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Harrelson** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to approve this recommendation.

Discussion resulted in a motion by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Quillen** to amend the original motion so that it approves an amount "up to \$45,000" for the cost of a Jail Feasibility Study..

Commissioner Harrelson was in agreement with the amendment.

Upon roll call vote on the Amendment 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 Amendment to the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Upon roll call vote on the original motion with the amendment 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 as Amended **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 030413-H

(15)
Fund 119
Approved

c. Centre 75 Maintenance Fund 119

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Franke** with a second by **Commissioner Meers** to approve this recommendation.

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 030413-I

- (16)
Fund 131
Approved
- d. Highway Department Fund 131
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this recommendation.
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 030413-I
- (17)
Fund 141
Approved
- e. General Purpose School Fund 141
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this recommendation.
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 030413-K
- (18)
Fund 142
Approved
- f. School Federal Projects Fund 142
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Quillen** to approve this recommendation.
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 030413-L
- (19)
Fund 143
Approved
- g. Central Cafeteria Fund 143
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Duff** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve this recommendation.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Miller, Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, and Harrelson: (10)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**
Exhibit 030413-M
- (20)
Fund 176
Approved
- h. Highway Capital Projects Fund 176
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Yarbrough** with a second by **Commissioner Maples** to approve this recommendation.
Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Quillen, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, and Miller: (10)**
The following Commissioners voted **Nay: (0)**
The following Commissioners were **Absent: (0)**
Thereupon the Chairman declared the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**
Exhibit 030413-N

(21)
Summary
Financial
Statements
Distributed

Budget Director, Tracy Blair, requested that records reflect that the Summary Financial Statements for February 2013 and Approved Minutes for the January 22, 2013 Budget Committee Meeting have been distributed.

Exhibits 030413-O&P

(22)
Notaries
Approved

Loudon County Commissioner, David Meers, made a **motion** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve the following Notaries: ***Janie S. McCullah; Katherine M. Turbyfill; Paula Jeanine Ryan; Sharon K. Snodderly; Allison P. Scarbrough; Heather Jenkins; Rachelle Thomas; Tina L. Patty; Pamela D. Johnson; Melody Hoover; M. Jill Osborne; Jace William Haun; Ashley H. Shudan; Jennifer Costner; Holley E. Chitwood; Gary J. Steigerwald; Bobbi Lynn Mager; Darcy B. Smith; Darlene Alexander; and Melanie Crowder.***

Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.

Exhibit 030413-Q

(23)
Comments:
Non-Agenda
Items

Chairman Bledsoe asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items not on the Agenda come forward.

Richard Truitt spoke about his preference for an elected School Superintendant. He believes that the school system has been taken over by bureaucrats and feels that there are currently people in the school system who would be good superintendants. He also believes that a professional would correct some of the existing problems and put the community back into participating in how County schools operate. He said that he has reviewed ACT scores comparing Loudon County to other counties and that Loudon County students don't meet the basic skill levels. He cited that 70% of the County budget goes to the schools and that there has been \$1.4M spent in raises to the schools over the past few years.

Wayne Schnell spoke about a Tea Party initiated petition drive for Home Rule Charter government for Loudon County. He described the process required to get this item brought up for the County to vote on. He stated that they would need about 2500 signatures to get this on the ballot. He believes that Charter Government would give citizens more control over the County Government. He cited several areas of concern for his group in this regard. He stated that they want to foster open government.

Commissioner Miller responded to **Mr. Schnell's** comments saying that he hasn't formed an opinion in either direction on this issue at this point but that he is researching past experiences with Charter Governments and their outcomes to help reach an opinion. He cited an example of how Charter Governments, under state law, do not give citizens the right to vote on property tax rates. **Mr. Schnell** responded that according to their research he did not believe this to be the case.

Justin Burnett spoke stating that he believes the County is not doing enough to protect our community and especially emphasized the schools. He made specific recommendations regarding how the schools could be made more secure. He asked the Commission to approve the Sheriff's proposal to have SRO's at the County schools.

Pandora Vreeland, who is part of the group seeking Home Rule Charter Government for the County, spoke about the benefits of Home Rule and about the qualifications of the people in the leadership roles of this initiative. She provided biographies for herself, **Wayne Schnell**, and **Tom Murphy** stating that she believes their backgrounds and experiences provide them with the skills to make significant contributions to County government.

Exhibits 030413-R-T

Commissioner Quillen spoke in defense of **Schools Director, Jason Vance** stating that she feels that all the negative comments on the schools are unfair.

Jason Vance spoke thanking the Commission for the favorable vote on the funding to complete Phase I of School Building Program. He said that he wants to go ahead with Loudon Elementary to connect the two schools.

Commissioner Meers asked **Director Vance** if he would speak at the next Commission Workshop Meeting on the plans for going forward and **Director Vance** responded that he would.

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

(24)
Adjournment

There being no further business, a **motion** being duly made and seconded, the March 4, 2013 County Commission Meeting stood adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY MAYOR