

LOUDON COUNTY COMMISSION
STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF LOUDON
May 2, 2011
6:00 PM

**Leadership
Loudon
County Group
Presented**

Chairman Bledsoe invited Debbie Henry, President of the Leadership Group Alumni, to come forward to introduce the current members of the Leadership Loudon County Group to the Commission and to explain the purpose of the Group.

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 2nd day of May, 2011.
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, Shaver, 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 2, 2011 Agenda be adopted.
Mayor Herron requested an addition to the Agenda of an item concerning a request for additional funds for new architectural drawings for Greenback School.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Harrelson** to adopt the Agenda as amended.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.

**(4)
Minutes for
April 4, 2011
Approved**

Chairman Bledsoe requested that the April 4, 2011 County Commission Meeting Minutes be approved and accepted.
Commissioner Franke asked the Chairman if this was the appropriate time to request a change to these Minutes due to the withdrawal of a Notary Application since the Notaries were approved at this meeting. Discussion followed with the conclusion that these minutes could be approved with **Commissioner Meers** requesting removal of the withdrawn name when he presents tonight's Notary applicants.
A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Jenkins** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve these minutes.
Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** unanimously.

(5)
County Safety
Record
Plaque
Presented

Jason Bagett from Tennessee Risk Management Insurance Company, carrier for the County's Workman's Compensation and Property Casualty and Liability Insurance, presented a Plaque to **Mayor Herron** commemorating the County's Outstanding Safety Achievement for the 2010-2011 year. He cited the contributions of **Tammy Reynolds, Employee Benefits** and **Leo Bradshaw, County Purchasing Agent**, to this achievement.

(6)
Comments:
Agenda Items

Chairman Bledsoe asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items on the planned Agenda come forward.

Frank Hahn spoke about what he thought was a discrepancy in one of the figures used by Director of Schools Honeycutt when he made his recent school funding justification presentation regarding the per student cost increase. He also expressed concern about the cost of educating students who live outside the County, currently about 245, who cost the county \$3,600. per student, per year for a total of over \$867,000. per year.

Richard Truitt spoke about the request for funding from the adequate facilities tax for rubberizing the track at Loudon High commenting that this was not his understanding of what this tax was meant to be used for and he did not feel that this was an appropriate use of these funds.

He also spoke on the item requesting funding for the County Fire and Rescue Squad for grant matching citing that he thinks this is a relatively small amount of money and that this group is volunteer and performs a great service for the County and he hopes the Commission will find money to support this request.

Pat Hunter also spoke about the Fire and Rescue Squad request citing their service to the County and their volunteer status and supporting approval of their request for grant match funding.

She also spoke on the \$250,000. request for funds to pay for a redo of the Greenback School architectural plans citing a number of items from various Budget Committee and Commission Meetings on the School Building Project and feels that the County can't afford to keep spending money on redoing drawings and plans. She suggests that all the drawings be reviewed now to look at more cost savings before proceeding further.

(7)
Roane
State
Community
College
Lease
Approved

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

1. Request Consideration of Approving a Lease for Roane State Community College.

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit 050211-A

(8)
County
Employees
Sick Leave
Bank
Approved

2. Request Consideration of Approving Initiating a County Employees Sick Leave Bank.

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

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Maples, Shaver, 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 announced the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050211-B

(9)
Beverage
Container
Recycling
Refunds Act
Supported

3. Request Consideration of Approving a Resolution Supporting the “Tennessee Beverage Container Recycling Refunds Act”

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

Upon voice vote the motion **Passed** with one dissenting vote.

Resolution 050211-C

Loudon County Director of Schools, Wayne Honeycutt, requested consideration and possible action on the following items:

(10)
Funding
Request to
Use Adequate
Facilities Tax
To Rubberize
New Track
at Loudon
High School
Failed

1. Request Funding from Adequate Facilities Tax for Rubberizing the New Track at Loudon High School.

Lengthy discussion on this request included **Commissioners Franke, Miller and Shaver** all stating that they agreed with the public speaker who objected to the use of the Adequate Facilities Tax for this purpose and that it’s not high on the priority list given the other higher priority projects still to be funded. The track is being funded through a Diabetes Grant of \$250,000. which would have included this cost but recent increases in oil prices has caused a cost increase. An additional \$50,060. is needed by June 30th to deliver the contract on time. **Mr. Honeycutt** stressed that the Schools had gotten an extremely good deal on the pricing of this track and they wanted to take advantage of the opportunity to provide such a facility for the County. **Commissioner Shaver** commented that even though it was a good price, there are higher priorities for the County and that he would not be able to support this request. **Commissioner Yarbrough** asked for clarification on the Grant approval and commented that this was another reason for the Commission to look at the entire grant approval procedures process and make clear to everyone involved what the procedures were so that there would be less confusion in the future. **Commissioner Meers** said that he would support this request because he wants the school to have good facilities but this was the last time he would do this. In the discussion, several Commissioners noted that the School Board has money available to them, that has already been provided by the Commission in their funding, that they could allocate to this project without asking the Commission’s approval. It’s up to them to decide what their priorities are. **Commissioner Harrelson** asked if the Commission could vote against this request but come back with a proposal to take the money from another source. **Commissioner Shaver** reiterated that the School Board has money they could use and that it’s not up to the Commission to tell them where to find the funding.

Chairman Bledsoe asked the Commissioners if anyone would object to a “Special Called Meeting” in the near future to approve something if the School Board did come up with an alternate proposal that required Commission approval and no one objected.

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

Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted **Aye: Duff, Yarbrough, Jenkins, and Meers: (4)**

The following Commissioners voted **Nay: Shaver, Franke, Bledsoe, Harrelson, Miller, and Maples: (6)**

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

Thereupon the Chairman announced the motion **Failed: (4, 6, 0)**

(11)
Funding
To Re-do
Architectural
Drawings
For New
Greenback
School
Approved

2. Request Funding of \$250,000. Cost to Redo the Greenback School Building Architectural Drawings

Mayor Herron had provided a copy of a letter from Don Shell, CEO of Community Tectonics, explaining the changes they were recommending to the drawings, the cost savings they anticipated, and requesting payment of additional fees for their work.

Mr. Honeycutt described the changes explaining that some facilities had been downsized and some redirected or eliminated for a cost saving of approximately \$6-\$8 million. Community Tectonics fee for this work is \$250,000. and they are also requesting an additional \$181,000. to complete payment for work they are doing on the current plans. **Mr. Honeycutt** stated that their lawyers were skeptical regarding whether or not this additional \$181,000. was a legitimate charge and were looking into this, therefore, he was not requesting these funds at this time.

Commissioner Miller made a **motion** with a second by **Commissioner Franke** to approve this request and for the money to come from the School Adequate Facilities Tax Fund. He cited that this was exactly what this fund was created to be used for and that it was an excellent use of funds to spend \$250,000. to save \$6-\$8 million.

Commissioner Franke encouraged the School Board to keep looking at ways to reduce the cost of the School Building Program. **Commissioner Meers** asked if it was possible to request the School Board to ask Mr. Shell to look at all the other plans to see if they could also be downsized for savings. **Commissioner Shaver** stated that he would support this request but that this is part of a disturbing trend on continued waste in the use of funds. He stated that the schools should build “what they need and no more” and encouraged them to find cost savings everywhere.

Commissioner Meers asked what the School Board was planning to do with the old Greenback School and **Mr. Honeycutt** replied that there had been no discussion on this issue but that, if the schools didn’t reuse the buildings, they could come back to the County. **Commissioner Yarbrough** commended the Director and the School Board for this savings effort and stated that the County needed a Capital Improvement Plan and a Debt Management Plan for the County and that the School Board needed to assess their needs and provide those requirements to these plans up front so they can be anticipated.

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

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

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

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

Exhibit 050211-D

(12)
National
Safe
Boating
Week
Recognition
Proclaimed

Loudon County Commissioner, Steve Harrelson, requested consideration and possible action on the following item:

1. A Resolution Proclaiming May 21-27, 2011 as “Boat Smart, Boat Safe, Wear It” National Safe Boating Week

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Harrelson** with a second by **Commissioner Jenkins** to approve this resolution.

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

Commissioner Harrelson presented the resolution to members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Group, led by Wayne Schnell, expressing the County’s appreciation for the excellent service they provide. Mr. Schnell thanked the County and stressed the importance of safe boating practices, made some recommendations to boaters, and concluded with the hope that the County can have a safe, fatality free, season on the water.

Resolution 050211-E

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

(13)
Loudon
County
Fire Rescue
Additional
Funding
Approved

1. Consideration of a Request from Loudon County Fire Rescue for Additional \$3,650.00 Funding for Grant Match.

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

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

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

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

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

(14)
Donate
Surplus
Vehicle
To Fire
Rescue
Approved

2. Consideration of Recommendation to Donate Surplus Vehicle to Loudon County Fire Rescue.

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Miller** with a second by **Commissioner Shaver** to approve this recommendation.

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

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

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

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

(15)
Fund 101
Approved

2. Consideration of a Recommendation to Approve Amendments in the Following Funds:

- a. County General Fund 101

A **motion** was made by **Commissioner Shaver** 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, Shaver, Franke, Bledsoe, and Duff: (10)**

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

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

Therefore the Chairman announced the motion **Passed: (10, 0, 0)**

Exhibit 050211-F

(16)
Fund 141
Approved

e. General Purpose School Fund 141

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit 050211-G

(17)
Fund 142
Approved

f. School Federal Projects Fund 142

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit 050211-H

(18)
Fund 171
Approved

g. General Capital Projects Fund 171

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: Jenkins, Meers, Maples, Shaver, Franke, Bledsoe, Duff, Yarbrough, Harrelson, and Miller: (10)**

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

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

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

Exhibit 050211-I

(19)
Summary
Financial
Statements
Distributed

Budget Director, Tracy Blair, requested that records reflect that the Summary Financial Statements for the month of April 2011 have been distributed.

Exhibit 050211-J

(20)
Notaries/
Bonds
Approved

Loudon County Commissioner, David Meers, made a **motion** with a second by **Commissioner Maples** to approve the following **Notaries and Bonds:**

Kathy E. Finger; Jackie McKee; Faye B. Townsend; Mary Beth Wilson; Jarrell Thomas Lusby; Shena W. Morales; Sandra Tilley; Chrisman A. Dager; Angela R. Kizer; Imogene Tibbs; Janice G. Kelly; Deborah Diane Collins; Ashley N. Chambers; Julia D. Bunch; and Imogene Blevins.
and Bonds: Abby Clendenen; and Lindsey Boyd Lander.

Commissioner Meers also made a request that the name of **Nathaniel Dale Costner be stricken from the Minutes for April's meeting** due to Mr. Costner's withdrawal of his application and the refunding of his fee following the approvals. In accordance, the County Clerk struck a line through the name and made a notation in the Minutes records for April 2011 to that affect.

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

Exhibit 050211-K

(21)
Comments:
Non-Agenda
Items

Chairman Bledsoe asked that any visitor wishing to address the Commission regarding items not on the Agenda come forward.
Frank Hahn spoke on the Blount County Budget Committee reviewing their budget line-by-line and being able to shave 4 cents off their county property tax rate. He recommended that the Loudon County Budget Committee do the same and indicated that he believes this committee has more power than it's exerting.

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

(22)
Adjournment

There being no further business, a **motion** being duly made and seconded, the May 2, 2011 County Commission Meeting stood adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY MAYOR