



BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COURTHOUSE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MINUTES

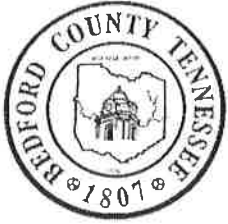
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Time: Consecutive After Law Enforcement
Location: Second Floor Courtroom, Bedford County Courthouse

Present: Chairman Julie Sanders, Co-Chairman Jeff Sweeney (via phone); Commissioner Brian Farris (via phone)

Absent: Commissioner Brent Smith, Commissioner Chasity Gunn

Others Present: County Commissioners: Greg Vick, Anita Epperson, Linda Yockey, Sylvia Pinson, EMA Director: Scott Johnson, Planning and Zoning Director: Chris White, IT Director: Josh Carney, GIS/Media Manager: John Carney, Assistant to Mayor Graham: Anna Frazier, EMS: Chris Cox, Randy Saddler with Shelbyville Record Shop, and other not identified
Via Phone/Internet: Commissioner Brian Farris, and others not identified

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Julie Sanders, 5:54 P.M.
- 2. Prayer:** Chairman Sanders
- 3. Roll Call:** Commissioners Brent Smith and Chasity Gunn absent
- 4. Approval of April 21, 2020 Courthouse & Property Committee meeting minutes:** Motion made to approve, (Farris, Sweeney) unanimous.
- 5. Zoning and Planning Report:** Report submitted. Director White was present. Director White stated despite the economic hardships based on the COVID-19 epidemic, his office numbers are up. Chairman Sanders said it's great that our numbers are up and that people are still building. Commissioner Sweeney thanked Director White and his staff for the work they have done and the system they have implemented (during modified work schedules). Commissioner Yockey asked if the new fee schedule for re-inspections, based on the number of times a person requests re-inspection, has reduced or had the desired effects for the requests for re-inspections. Director White said the new fee schedule has decreased the request for re-inspections.
- 6. IT Report:** Report submitted. Director Josh Carney was present. Director Carney discussed the county's IT challenges and needs during COVID-19 and the modified work schedules.
- 7. Fire Department Report:** Report submitted. Chief Thomas not present, Assistant Chief Brian Cantrell was present to answer questions.
- 8. 911 Communications Report:** Report submitted. Director not in attendance.
- 9. Motion to approve all reports:** (Sweeney, Farris) unanimous.



BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COURTHOUSE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MINUTES

10. Old Business

- a) **Bell Construction Updates:** Judicial Center - Commissioner Sweeney said the grading and sod install have been completed and thanked Mary West for her assistance in having inmates complete the work. The maintenance building will be finished by 5/27/20.
- b) **Learning Way School:** Per Commissioner Sweeney, \$4,600 to redo asphalt work approved by recent owner's meeting.
- c) **Property sub-committee renewal:** Motion to renew sub-committee made by Commissioner Farris, Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a) **Workhouse as possible option for juvenile detention facility** – Commissioner Yockey said on May 27th Commissioners Yockey and Sweeney along with Kline Swinney architects will look at architectural drawings to make a recommendation to an eventual feasibility committee. Commissioner Sweeney stated that Mark Anderson (Director of Licensing) has agreed to allow the county to move juveniles into the former workhouse if there is a two to three-year plan regarding corrections including some roof repair and work in the kitchen. A budget is forthcoming to share with the committee.

Chairman Sanders said that Robert (Finance Director) has been asked to provide a cost comparison study between keeping juveniles in county or sending them to other centers.

Commissioner Sweeney commented to look at the big scheme of things – it is important to educate and train juveniles that are coming in that there is a better life, otherwise the county may spend \$80,000 dollars per person if they go to prison. Long-term versus short-term costs is something that should be added to the comparison scenario.

b) **Alternative location for driver's license facility** – EMA Director Scott Johnson requested an alternative location for the driver's license station. Director Johnson said when the station was originally put in a public safety building, the current space was the only county-owned space available at that time. The state does not pay to use the current EMA space. Director Johnson asked for an increase in the utility costs this year because the station keeps the doors open. There are issues with overflow parking on EMA's side and with neighboring businesses due to the volume of visitors the driver's license station receives. The number of visitors in the station's waiting room often exceeds the maximum number allowed by the Fire Marshall. County Clerk Donna Thomas is open to the possibility of her office processing gun permits and license renewals. Director Johnson requested a sixty-day study on alternative locations for the driver's license station and for the station to remain closed during the sixty-day study.

Mayor Graham said under the executive order the mayor has the authority to manage county buildings. Mayor Graham previously talked to Director Johnson about waiting until the end of the month to open the facility but is not comfortable going beyond that date without hearing from the committee the results of the study session.

Commissioner Yockey asked about a copy of the agreement between the county and state.

Chairman Sanders said she has requested a copy.

Chairman Sanders asked the wishes of the committee.

Commissioner Farris made a motion to hold off opening the driver's license station for sixty days to conduct a study.



**BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COURTHOUSE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Chairman Sanders made a second motion.

Chairman Sanders said she will talk to Mayor Graham about the committee which will include Director Johnson, County Clerk Thomas, a member of the Property and Courthouse committee and others.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

13. Adjourn: (Sanders motioned, Farris) unanimous. 6:25 P.M.