

**THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION**  
**OF**  
**UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE**  
**August 24, 2015**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, August 24, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, the Honorable Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, Doug Shults, County Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

9- Present

0-Absent

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Esq. Darrell Edwards opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. Loren Thomas.

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**Agenda Item #4**  
**Approve Minutes**

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Walter Garland to approve the minutes of August 13, 2015, County Commission Special Call Meeting.

Motion unanimously approved  
Motion approved. (Copy in file)

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**Agenda Item #5**  
**Recognize Visitors and Citizens**

Michael Harris, a county resident and employee of the Unicoi County Sheriff’s Department urged the commission to uphold Mayor Greg Lynch Veto and give employee insurance coverage at the lower rate. Mr. Harris stated I encourage you to vote to sustain the veto. This will give you an opportunity to take a step back and correct what you have done wrong. I believe that your vote to not fund health coverage for employees was done with disregard for the welfare and safety of the citizens and children of Unicoi County. You knew you were going to decimate the ranks of the Unicoi County Sheriff’s Department, as well as lose valuable trained employees in other areas of county government. Mr. Harris said whether this was a politically motivated vendetta against Sheriff Mike Hensley and other members of the sheriff’s department because of their participation in the investigation and prosecution of crimes against the state and county in times past. But, the observation of a reasonable person would at least have to question that you’re more concerned with satisfying a third party outside this county than you are satisfying the citizens who elected you. Michael Harris stated that I think your past actions border on a violation of your oath of office as county commissioners. You are failing to provide adequate public safety to the citizens of this county. I believe that to be a travesty and I would ask you to please vote to sustain the Mayor’s veto so that you can revisit this subject.

Esq. Walter Garland asked Mr. Harris if he knew that some of the employees on the family coverage are making \$70,000.00 or \$80,000.00. Yes, I know, Harris said.

Esq. Walter Garland asked do you think the taxpayers should pay for these people insurance. Mr. Harris stated "yes, sir. I do." If you have to raise my taxes to pay their insurance, then raise them.

Esq. Walter Garland stated the only people that want their taxes raised are people who are going to get something out of it. There are some people who really need this insurance, I know.

John Day stated about a week ago I started a job service in Unicoi County which is www.jobcircuit.org. This is only for people who are out of work and it's a free service.

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**Agenda Item #6**

**Recognize District Attorney, Tony Clark in Regards to Vote to Pass Resolution for Grant Funding of Regional Drug Task Force**

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to approve Resolution for Grant Funding of Regional Drug Task Force.

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley "Yes", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

9- Yes

0- No

Motion Approved. (Copy in file)

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**Agenda Item # 7**

**Consider Rescinding Vote on Accepting Construction and Demolition (Building Material) at Unicoi County convenience Centers (Vote May 18, 2015, 4-Yes, 5-No)**

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to rescind the vote on accepting construction and demolition (Building Material) at Unicoi County convenience Centers

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley "No", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "No", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

7- Yes

2- No

Motion Approved. (Copy in file)

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**Agenda Item #8**

**Consider Resolution for Capital Outlay Note to Purchase Sheriff's Department Vehicles**

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve Resolution for Capital Outlay Note to Purchase Sheriff's Department Vehicles

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley "Yes", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

9- Yes

0- No

Motion Approved. (Copy in file)

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**Agenda Item #9**

**Consider Unicoi County Commission Solid Waste Committee Recommendation to Select Convenient Center Operator (Contractor) for Industrial Drive (Hoover Site) from Rebid and Selection of Unicoi County (Limestone Cove) Convenient Center Operator (Contractor)**

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Walter Garland to approve Eddie Effler at the Hoover site, with a bid of \$400.00 and John Cooper at Limestone Cove site, with a bid of \$375.00.

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley "No", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Abstain", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

7-Yes

1-No

1-Abstain

Motion Approved. (Copy in File)

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**Agenda Item #10**

**Appoint Civil Service Board Member to Replace Todd Wilcox**

Motion made by Esq. John Mosley to nominated Mike Lewis.

Esq. Walter Garland asked if we are going to take nominations. Chairman Marie Rice stated that we would take nomination for the commission then open it up to the floor.

Motion made by Esq. Walter Garland to nominate Jim Lingel.

Motion made by Esq. Bridget Peters to nominate Mike Carmack.

Chairman Marie Rice asked the commissioners if they wanted to interview the nominations. Esq. Gene Wilson stated that we have the resumes from each of them, that's all we need.

Esq. John Mosley asked Esq. Bridget Peters what she knew on Mr. Carmack. Bridget stated that he is a retiree of the U. S. Navy and currently employed at Nuclear Fuels Service. Esq. Bridget Peters also stated that she feels he would be unbiased, no law enforcement experience and has been here with his family since 2000.

**Motion made by Esq. John Mosley to nominate Mike Lewis**

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “No”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “No”, Esq. Walter Garland, “No”, Esq. Jason Harris, “No”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “No”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “No”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

3-Yes  
6-No  
Motion Fails

**Motion made by Esq. Walter Garland to nominate Jim Lingel**

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “No”, Esq. Marie Rice, “No”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “No”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “No”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “No”, Esq. Glen White, “No”.

3-Yes  
6-No  
Motion Fails

**Motion made by Esq. Bridget Peters to nominate Mike Carmack**

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “No”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “No”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “No”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

6-Yes  
3-No  
Motion Approved

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**Agenda Item #11**

**Present Interfund Loan Documents, including, Notes and Reports on Debt Obligations (No Vote Needed)**

So Noted  
Copy in file

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**Agenda Item #12**

**Consider and Vote on Mayor’s Veto of Commission Vote to Rescind Prior Decision to Choose Option1 on Family Insurance Coverage for Unicoi County and to Change Family Insurance Coverage to Option 4 (Override will require Majority of Commissioners Vote)**

Esq. Kenneth Garland stated that he believes that the mayor has no right to veto any portion of the budget. I’ll read the law, “The county mayor who is not the chair of the county legislation body may veto the entire county budget, but not veto, a portion of it”.

County Attorney Doug Shults said the law on the mayor’s power is not black and white. In my opinion he had the power to veto. The budget wasn’t set when the insurance vote was rescinded. He has the power to veto individual acts of the Commission that may affect the budget, but it’s not the budget. In my opinion, that the veto was valid.

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Walter Garland to override the veto

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “No”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “No”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Glen White, “No”.

6- Yes  
3- No  
Motion Approved.

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Esq. Gene Wilson left the meeting (6:51 pm).

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**Addendum #1**  
**Approve inmate Communications contract with Combined Public communication for Jail Inmate Telephone Service (4Year contract) Recognize Craig Master or Jail Spokesman**

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve inmate communication contact with Combined Public Communication for Jail Inmate Telephone Service (4 year contract).

**ROLL CALL:** Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “No”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Absent”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

8- Yes  
0- No  
1-Absent  
Motion approved. (Copy in file)

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**Agenda Item #13**  
**Financial Reports**

Financial Reports: Unicoi County Register of Deeds, Unicoi County Trustee, Unicoi County Chancery Court, Unicoi County Circuit, Juvenile, and Session Court, Unicoi County Clerk and Unicoi County Sheriff Department.

So Noted

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**Agenda Item #14**  
**Budget Amendments**

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve Resolution to amend the 2015-2016 fiscal year General Fund Budget for Miscellaneous adjustments: Register of Deeds \$4033.00, County Clerk \$24,200.00 and Circuit Court Clerk \$3,301.18.

Motion unanimously approved  
(Copy in File)

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**Agenda Item #15**

**Elect Notaries**

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Jason Harris to approve the following notaries: Janice R Whitson, Shanna A Goddard, Jennifer N Wilson, James S Pate, Steve Estes, Todd Love and Pam Banks.

Motion unanimously approved

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**Agenda Item #16**

**Motion for Adjournment**

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Jason Harris to adjourn the August 24, 2015 County Commission Meeting.

(Motion unanimously approved)

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**GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR**

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**MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK**

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**MARIE RICE, CHAIRMAN**