

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, September 24, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, the Honorable Greg Lynch, County Mayor, the Honorable Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, Doug Shults, County Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Dwight Bennett "Yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, absent, Esq. Bill Hensley, "Yes", Esq. James Howell, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "Yes".

8- Present

1- Absent

Esq. Gene Wilson opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. Doug Bowman.

Agenda Item #4
Approve Minutes

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett, said motion seconded by Esq. Doug Bowman to approve the minutes of August 27, 2012 (Regular Session), September 6, 2012 (Special Call), and September 10, 2012 (Special Call).

8-Aye

0-No

1-Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #5
Recognize Visitors and Citizens

None

Agenda Item #6
Elect a Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell to nominate Esq. Mickey Hatcher as Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett to nominate Esq. Bill Hensley as Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Esq. Sue Jean Wilson moved for nominations to cease.

Vote for Esq. Mickey Hatcher:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Bill Hensley, "No", Esq. James Howell, "Yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "Yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "No", Esq. Dwight Bennett, "No", Esq. Gene Wilson,

“Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Mickey Hatcher, absent, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”.
5-Yes
3-No
1-Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item # 7

Elect a Vice-Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year

Motion made by Esq. James Howell to nominate Esq. Bill Hensley as Vice-Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman that nominations cease.

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland to nominate Esq. Doug Bowman as Vice-Chairperson for the Unicoi County Commission for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Vote for Esq. Bill Hensley

ROLL CALL: Esq. Dwight Bennett, “Yes”, Esq. Doug Bowman, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “No”, Esq. Mickey Hatcher, absent, Esq. Bill Hensley, “Yes”, Esq. James Howell, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “No, Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, “Yes”.

6-Yes
2- No
1- Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #8

Conduct Public Hearing to consider exceeding state certified tax rate

Motion made by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell approve exceeding state certified tax rate.

5- Yes
2- No
1- Abstained
1- Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item # 9

Consider Resolution fixing the tax levy in Unicoi County, Tennessee for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012

Motion made by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to approve tax rate at 2.6838. Esq. Sue Jean Wilson stated that in the future everyone that sits on the commission needs to be very careful in what and how we place our votes, when it comes to financial situations in the next two years. Esq. Doug Bowman stated it has been a long process.

4- Yes
4- No (Esq. Dwight Bennett indicated Conflict of Interest)
1- Absent

Esq. Bill Hensley asked if anyone would care to reconsider their vote. Esq. Doug Bowman stated the school system would have to quit paying teachers if the budget is not passed by October. County Mayor, Greg Lynch addressed the commission stating tax

bills could not be mailed out without knowing the rate and this would hold up the city and the county on taxes. Esq. Sue Jean Wilson stated there are certain items this commission has to fund one way or another, bonds for the school, lawsuit, whatever it is we have to pay it and there is no other way to go about it than this way at the present time. Esq. Bill Hensley stated he would give one more opportunity before moving on; anyone who voted no could reconsider now. Esq. Gene Wilson stated he would reconsider his vote.

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Doug Bowman to bring the item back up for a revote. Esq. Kenneth Garland asked if this is legal. County Attorney, Doug Shults stated that a negative vote can asked to reconsider and change their vote.

5- Yes

3- No (Esq. Dwight Bennett indicated a Conflict of Interest)

1- Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #10

Consider and act upon the adoption of the Estimated Budget Resolution for the fiscal year 2012-2013

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to approve the adoption of the Estimated Budget Resolution for the fiscal year 2012-2013.

5- Yes

3- No (Esq. Doug Bowman and Esq. Dwight Bennett indicated Conflict of Interest)

1- Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item # 11

Approve Bonds-Patsy Bennett and Mike Hensley

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to approve bonds for Patsy Bennett (Assessor of Property) and Mike Hensley (Sheriff). Esq. Gene Wilson stated that he believes the commission should do some shopping on this matter because this is the bonding company we have had for years and they haven't done anything for the county. County Mayor, Greg Lynch stated we are in the process with the County Attorney to determine if the bonding company is in default on one issue that they did not come through on. Mr. Lynch stated that during the next budget session, they plan to look for another bonding company. Esq. Dwight Bennett stated that next year it should be advertised on several months early to see if more responses come in, instead of waiting like we do on a lot of issues until the very last and saying we have to do it right now.

7- Yes

1- No

1- Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #12

Committee reports

Esq. Doug Bowman state that the Buildings and Grounds committee decided to postpone any work and the records storage due to possible changes to the jail.

Esq. Dwight Bennett wanted to remind everybody on the ambulance authority, that if they received a call from a citizen to refer the call to Heather (Leach) in the County Mayor office and let her take the information.

Agenda Item #13
Budget Amendments

None

Agenda Item #14
Elect Notaries

None

Esq. Gene Wilson stated he wanted to commend Esq. Sue Jean Wilson for the job she did as chairman over the last two years.

Agenda Item #15
Motion for adjournment

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to adjourn the meeting of September 24, 2012.

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK

MICKEY HATCHER, CHAIRMAN