

The McMinn County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on March 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm, in the Blue Room of the McMinn County Courthouse.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman McPhail.

2. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Cass.

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Commissioner Millsaps.

4. ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by, McMinn County Clerk Melinda King as recorded:

- Chairman Scott Curtis - Absent
- Tim King - Present
- Roger Masingale - Present
- Jerry Millsaps – Present
- J. W. McPhail - Present
- Brent Carter -Present
- Tad Simpson - Present
- Charles Slack – Present
- Travis Crisp – Present
- Scott Cass – Present

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Copies of the Minutes of the Regular Session on January 27, 2025 were provided to the McMinn County Commissioners.

MOTION made by Commissioner King, and seconded by Commissioner Carter, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025 meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote.

6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS

- A. A Resolution to approve the Contract Between McMinn County and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-007

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN
MCMINN COUNTY AND THE
TENNESSEE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

WHEREAS, McMinn County is both a host and risk county for the Watts Bar Nuclear Facility; and

(Res.# 25-007 con't)

WHEREAS, McMinn County desires to be prepared to respond to the unlikely occurrence of an emergency event at the nuclear plant; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency has made available a grant to fund emergency preparedness in McMinn County in the event of a radiological event associated with the operations of the nuclear power plant; and

WHEREAS, the grant covers a five-year period from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2029 in the amount of \$467,608.73 to cover the one full-time fixed nuclear facility planner and approved equipment; and

WHEREAS, in addition to reporting requirements, McMinn County shall commit to participating in radiological preparedness drills and exercises and provide support in periodic planning and communications with the State.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH 2025 that this Commission does hereby approve the contract between McMinn County and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency for emergency preparedness in the event of radiological emergencies.

AND FURTHERMORE RESOLVES to give authority to the County Mayor or his designee to execute and administer the duties of said contract.

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Slack, and seconded by Commissioner Masingale, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

B. A Resolution to approve the Lease Between McMinn County and Congressman Chuck Fleischmann.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-008

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MCMINN COUNTY AND
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK FLEISCHMANN

WHEREAS, in order to properly perform the duties of county government as prescribed by law, it is often in McMinn County’s interest to enter into contracts with other entities; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County has entered into a lease agreement contract with Congressman Chuck Fleischmann for the rental of the congressman’s office on the top floor of the Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the lease amount shall be set at \$300 per month for a term of two years to last to the end of the constitutional term of the 119th Congress; and

WHEREAS, both parties wish to enter this lease so that McMinn County citizens will have a local accessible venue to the services of their United States Congressman and staff; and

(Res.# 25-008 con't)

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does approve the lease agreement with United States Congressman Chuck Fleischmann and FURTHERMORE resolves to grant authority to the County Mayor to execute the documents and duties stated therein to satisfy the intent of this resolution.

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Crisp, and seconded by Commissioner King, to approve this resolution.

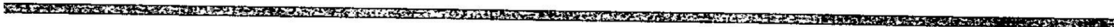
7. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Mr. Luallen presented the following budget amendments, a copy of which was provided to each Commissioner.

memo

McMinn County Juvenile Services

To: Jason Luallen
From: Melissa Hughes
CC: John Gentry, Wylie Richardson
Date: 3/5/25
Re: McMinn County Juvenile Detention Budget



Comments: Due to the unforeseen volume of youth that had to be in held in Juvenile Detention this fiscal year 24/25, Juvenile Services has almost exhausted the entire budget for this line item. Youth charged with certain offenses or in certain circumstances where the youth poses a safety risk to themselves or the community are placed in juvenile detention. McMinn County Juvenile Services is requesting additional funding in the amount of \$5,000 to finish out the rest of this fiscal year,

Fund: #General Fund #101			Date: 03/13/2025	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
RESERVE	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	5,000.00	
Juvenile Service	Contracts with Gov't Agencies	54240-309		5,000.00
Explanation: To budget additional expenditures related to juvenile detention projected to complete FY 24-25.				

(con't)

Fund: #General Fund #101			Date: 03/13/2025	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
RESERVE	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	6,272.00	
Other Local Health Services	Contracts with Gov't Agencies	54240-309		6,272.00
JOURNAL ENTRY REQUIRED				
RESERVE	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	6,272.00	
RESERVE	Restricted for Tobacco Settlement	39130		6,272.00
Explanation: To budget funds for tobacco cessation education from Tobacco Settlement Reserve.				
Fund: #General Fund #101			Date: 03/17/2025	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
RESERVE	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	15,967.00	
Election Commission	County Official/Admin Office	521500-101		14,832.00
Election Commission	Social Security/Medicare	51500-201		1,135.00
Explanation: To budget additional expenditures related to hiring an Administer.				

MOTION made by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Masingale to approve these budget amendments.

- Chairman Scott Curtis – Absent
- Tim King - Aye
- Roger Masingale - Aye
- Brent Carter - Aye
- J. W. McPhail – Aye
- Jerry Millsaps - Aye
- Tad Simpson - Aye
- Charles Slack – Aye
- Travis Crisp - Aye
- Scott Cass – Aye

Mr. Luallen presented the following budget amendments, a copy of which was provided to each Commissioner. These did have School Board approval.

Funds:141 General Purpose School			Date: 02/07/2025	
Revenue	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	5,984.00	
Regular Education Program	Other Charges	71100-599-MVP		5,984.00
Explanation: To move from Unassigned Fund Balance to establish a budget for McMinn Virtual Program in FY 24-25. This Covers 4 full time students enrolled for semester with certified online teacher.				

FUND: General Purpose School Fund # 141:			DATE: 01/31/2025	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Revenue	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	46,263.00	
Regular Education Program	Instructional Supplies & Materials	71100-429-MVP		4,375.00
Regular Education Program	Other Charges	71100-599-MVP		41,888.00
Explanation: To move funds from Unassigned Fund Balance to establish a budget for McMinn Virtual Program in FY 24-25. This covers1500 Mosyle One K12 License fees and 28 full time students enrolled for semester with certified online teacher.				

MOTION made by Commissioner King and seconded by Commissioner Cass to approve these budget amendments.

- Chairman Scott Curtis – Absent
- Tim King - Aye
- Roger Masingale - Aye
- Brent Carter – Aye

(con't)

J. W. McPhail – Aye
Jerry Millsaps - Aye
Tad Simpson - Aye
Charles Slack – Aye
Travis Crisp - Aye
Scott Cass – Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

8. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

9. RESOLUTIONS

A. A Resolution to Honor Veterans Service Officer Susan Peglow for Her Outstanding Service as VSO.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 25-009. Mayor Gentry read the resolution presented to Susan Peglow. Ms. Peglow introduced Justin Weir the new VSO to everyone. Mr. Weir gave some dates to remember and invited all elected officials to Vietnam Veterans Day at Niota Depot on March 28, at 11:00 am and All Call at the Regional Park April 30th which is an all-day Veterans Event from 8-5pm.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-009

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER SUSAN PEGLOW FOR HER
OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS VSO

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow has worked as the McMinn County Veterans Service Officer since 2015; and

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow’s experience as a veteran and nurse has put her in a unique position to understand the level of sacrifice required when men and women answer the call to preserve our nation’s liberty; and

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow assisted thousands of veterans in our community and played a vital role as their advocate with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow’s countless hours of work over the last decade have facilitated millions of dollars in federal benefits paid to local veterans and widows; and

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow’s life centers around serving the veterans she loves through organizing special programs and events such as dances, parades, Veterans and Memorial Day services, and nursing home visitation; and

WHEREAS, Susan Peglow has spent a lifetime sacrificing for others and making sure their needs are met while never asking for praise or recognition; and

WHEREAS, Susan has decided to retire from full-time service to spend well-deserved time with her family.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does hereby recognize the positive impact Susan Peglow has made on the veterans and veteran’s families of McMinn County, therefore making McMinn County an overall better place to live, AND FURTHERMORE, wishes Susan many years of joyful retirement.

(Res.# 25-009 con't)

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Carter, and seconded by Commissioner Cass to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote

- B. A Resolution to Approve the Contract Between McMinn County and the State of Tennessee Department of the Military and Tennessee Emergency Management Agency for Funding of Emergency Preparedness

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 25-010 along with a copy of the Grant Contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-010

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN
McMINN COUNTY AND THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY AND TENNESSEE
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
FOR FUNDING OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS, in order to properly perform the duties of county government as prescribed by law, it is often in McMinn County’s interest to enter into contracts with other entities; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County desires to enter into contract with Tennessee Emergency Management Agency to acquire \$33,935.53 in grant funding applicable to the administrative duties of the McMinn County Director of Emergency Management; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract is for the period commencing on October 1, 2023 and ending on September 30, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does hereby agree to enter into contract with Tennessee Emergency Management Agency to receive grant funding of \$33,935.53 for Emergency Management Assistance.

AND FURTHERMORE RESOLVES to grant authority to the County Mayor or his designee to carry out the duties of said contract.

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Cass, and seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote

C. A Resolution Authorizing McMinn County to Apply for a State of Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Grant.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 25-011 along with a copy of the Grant Contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-011

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MCMINN COUNTY TO APPLY FOR A
STATE OF TENNESSEE AGRICULTURAL ENHANCEMENT GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has made available grant funds to enhance agricultural related activities; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County desires to make an application for said funds in the maximum amount of \$150,000 to enhance the utilization of the McMinn County Show Barn and Layman Expo Center for agricultural related activities; and

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes the strong agricultural heritage of the county and its impact on the local economy and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, improvements needed at the facilities include wash racks, portable livestock pens, fencing, and expansion of the electrical and plumbing systems to name a few; and

WHEREAS, the grant is 50/50 and requires a match of \$150,000 which has been budgeted in fund 189; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does hereby authorize the application for the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Grant with the required financial match, AND FURTHER RESOLVES to grant authority to the County Mayor to execute any and all documents necessary to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Millsaps, and seconded by Commissioner Crisp to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote

10. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

A. A Resolution to Confirm the Re-Appointment of Ed Kyker to the Woods Hospital Foundation Board.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 25-012.

(Res.# 25-012 con't)

RESOLUTION NO. 25-012

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ED KYKER
TO THE WOODS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD

WHEREAS, the excess proceeds plan, that resulted from the sale of Woods Memorial Hospital District, created a foundation to oversee the proceeds realized from the sale of the hospital district; and

WHEREAS, the excess proceeds plan calls for each of the commission districts to have one appointment on this foundation board to be nominated by the two commissioners from each respective district; and

WHEREAS, each appointment to the Woods Hospital Foundation Board is subject to confirmation by the full McMinn County Commission for a six year term; and

WHEREAS, District Two Commissioners J.W. McPhail and Jerry Millsaps wish to nominate Ed Kyker, a citizen of the Second Civil District of McMinn County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does hereby confirm the re-appointment of Ed Kyker to the Woods Hospital Foundation Board.

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner King, and seconded by Commissioner Millsaps, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

- B. A Resolution to Confirm the Re-Appointment of Marilyn Miller to the Woods Hospital Board.
 - C.
- Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 25-013.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-013

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MARILYN MILLER TO THE WOODS
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD

WHEREAS, the excess proceeds plan, that resulted from the sale of Woods Memorial Hospital District, created a foundation to oversee the proceeds realized from the sale of the hospital district; and

WHEREAS, the excess proceeds plan calls for each of the commission districts to have one appointment on this foundation board to be nominated by the two commissioners from each respective district; and

WHEREAS, each appointment to the Woods Hospital Foundation Board is subject to confirmation by the full McMinn County Commission for a six year term; and

WHEREAS, District Four Commissioners Scott Cass and Charles Slack wish to nominate Marilyn Miller, a citizen of the Fourth Civil District of McMinn County to a second term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF MARCH, 2025, that this Commission does hereby confirm the re-appointment of Marilyn Miller to the Woods Hospital Foundation Board for a 6 year term.

(Res.# 25-013 con't)

(Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

MOTION made by Commissioner Cass, and seconded by Commissioner Slack, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, COUNTY OFFICIALS, COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Millsaps—Recreation Committee met last month and looking at redoing the Bicentennial Park and will be having a meeting tomorrow night with the engineers and invited anyone that wants to come to the meeting.

Commissioner McPhail—Budget Committee met and approved a funding supplement for the perspective Election Commission Administrator for 2 months.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY MAYOR

Mayor Gentry said the Airport T-Hanger bid opening was Thursday and did come in overbid. He said they did do alternate bids of 6, 8 and 10 of the six units is right around what is funded if they do not do the apron with it. He said there is a long lead time for the money that funds that so before they call an Airport Committee meeting, he wants to have a full recommendation for some other funding resources to get more hanger space.

Mayor Gentry the pre-bid meeting was held Wednesday March 12th that bid opening will be this Thursday March 20th at 1:00. He said they probably had 4 or 5 general contractors and several sub-contractors were there. After talking to the state, they have been bidding these out over the last couple of months and they have been coming in under budget.

Mayor Gentry said that Commissioner Millsaps mentioned doing a joint meeting with the County Forrest Committee with any of the county commissioners especially those on the Recreation Committee tomorrow at 5:00. He said 3 firms will come in and give their pitch on what they can do for us on the County Forrest Property. Mr. Gentry said that Bicentennial pre-bid is this Thursday at 11:00 am and then the full bid will be April 10th at 2:00 pm. Landfill road pre-bid will be this Thursday and formal bid will be April 11th.

Mayor Gentry said Airport Engineering has to be done every 5 years. So they have placed that add in the paper for request for qualifications which will be due March 25th then the Airport Committee will select which Engineering firm they want to use for the next five years which is a requirement of the FAA.

Mayor Gentry said he talked to the Budget Committee at the meeting today about the Calhoun/Charlston Utility Committee about going forward with the project at Exit 36 and putting that to bid. Mr. Gentry said they have right around \$867,000 to go towards that project and will be meeting with developers to see what they may be able to do with that amount and covering operations of maintenance on that line until an end user is there to cover operations.

Mayor Gentry said he thinks the schools plan to present plans on April 1st in a public meeting to talk about plans for the schools.

13. APPROVAL OF NOTARY APPLICATIONS

Notaries to be elected March 17, 2025

STEPHANIE ARNETT	L JOANNE MORGAN
MARY BARHAM	BARBARA C MOSES
JOHN BOHANNON	E. L. PARKER, III
CANDACE OLIVIA BROCK	KATHY LYNN PRICE
MISTY BURGESS	ANDREA M RODERICK
MARCHIE CAIN	KIMBERLY SCHIESTEL
DOTTY E CHASTAIN	SHONA SCOTT
KATHERINE CORTES	RAMIE D SIMPSON
SABRINA DERRICK	LESLIE K. SKIDMORE
DEBORAH M ELSEA	MEGAN SLACK
LISA M EVERETT	CARY D. SMITH
CHRISTY A FOSTER	LORELEI C STEED
JORDAN GAINES	KRISTI R SWAFFORD
STEFANIE M GHORLEY	AMBER N. WARREN
MARY ANN HELTON	ROGER S WATSON
TIMOTHY L. HILL	CYNTHIA A WELLIVER
CRAIG HOLT	SARAH E. KELLY

MOTION made by Commissioner Simpson, and seconded by Commissioner King, to approve these notary applications.

Motion carried by voice vote.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

There being no other business, Chairman Curtis declared the Commission meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

MELINDA KING
McMinn County Clerk

Attest:

Deputy Clerk (date)