

**1. CALL TO ORDER, 2. PRAYER & PLEDGE, 3. OPEN MEETING, 4. ROLL CALL**

Be it remembered that the Bedford County Commissioners, acting as the County Legislative Body met in a regular session in the Bedford County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Tennessee on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Chairman Chad Graham called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Commissioner John Brown. Sheriff Austin Swing opened the meeting. County Clerk Donna Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

LINDA YOCKEY	MARK THOMAS	BRENT SMITH
JIMMY PATTERSON	BILL ANDERSON	JULIE SANDERS
DON GALLAGHER	PHILIP FARRAR	JANICE BROTHERS
BRIAN FARRIS	GREG VICK	JEFF SWEENEY
ANITA EPPERSON	SYLVIA PINSON	JOHN BROWN
CHASTITY GUNN		

With 16 commissioners present, Chairman Graham called the meeting to order. Commissioners Ed Castleman and Tony Smith were absent.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2019 COMMISSION MINUTES**

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Pinson. Passed by voice vote.

**6. NOTARY APPROVALS**

County Clerk Donna Thomas submitted an additional name for the April Notary List: Rebecca A. Robinson. Commissioner Yockey moved to approve the notary applicants/renewals as submitted by the County Clerk. Second by Commissioner Sweeney. Passed by voice vote.

FROM: BEDFORD COUNTY CLERK RE: NOTARY APPLICANTS FOR April 2019  
 TO: RULES AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE DATE: 02-19-19

NAME	NEW/RENEW	RECOMMENDED BY
1. Marie Moore	Renew	
2. MaQuanita Pearson	Renew	
3. Arleen Alfonso-Hernandez	Renew	
4. Kim Buhler Smith	Renew	
5. Janis I. Anthony	Renew	
6. Benjamin R. Craig	Renew	
7. James E. Richardson	Renew	
8. Vance D. Clay	Renew	
9. Tracy M. Brown	Renew	
10. Marva Fox	Renew	
11. Susan McGee	Renew	
12. Amanda Kelly	Renew	
13. Adrianna Mejia	New	Thomas/Yockey

**7. APPOINTMENTS**

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

**9. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. RULES AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**1. Online Sales Tax Resolution 19-15**

Mayor Graham remarked that the County Mayor's Association asked each county to pass this symbolic resolution encouraging the state legislative body to authorize the collection of online sales tax. This tax is on internet purchases where the counties are not getting their part of the sales tax.

**9.A.1. Online Sales Tax Resolution 19-15 (continued)**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve. Second by Commissioner Vick.

Commissioner Yockey asked if there was any idea how much this would mean for Bedford County. Mayor Graham said there is a dispute between cities and counties as to how the funds would be distributed. There is some thought that the tax might be distributed according to whether the address receiving the package is in the city or the county. Commissioner Vick remarked that the bill will go to the Finance Committee in the House on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Passed by voice vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-15

**TO URGE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL SALES TAX REVENUE FROM OUT-OF-STATE SELLERS**

**WHEREAS**, county governments in Tennessee are the primary providers of numerous essential government services including, but not limited to, public K-12 education, jails and law enforcement, road building and maintenance, election administration, property assessment, solid waste disposal, and record keeping and administration for the various state courts; and

**WHEREAS**, county governments are limited by law regarding the forms of taxation and revenue generation which they are authorized to use, making the local sales tax an important source of revenue for counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee asked the TACIR to study revenue sources of cities and counties in Tennessee and the services each provide; and

**WHEREAS**, representatives of counties and cities on the TACIR working group agree that the current distribution of the uniform local sales tax rate for out-of-state sellers is inequitable and should be eliminated; and

**WHEREAS**, the TACIR working group recommends that local sales tax revenue from out-of-state sellers be distributed based on the destination of the purchaser.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Bedford County Legislative Body meeting in Regular Session at Shelbyville, Tennessee, on this 9 day of April, 2019, that the members of the General Assembly representing the people of Bedford County are strongly urged to work for the passage of legislation to provide for an equitable distribution of local sales tax revenue from out-of-state sellers by distributing the tax based on the destination of the purchase; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the county clerk shall mail certified copies of this resolution to the members of the Tennessee General Assembly representing the people of Bedford County.

Adopted this 9 day of April, 2019.

APPROVED: Chad Davis  
County Mayor/Executive

ATTEST: Jonna Thomas  
County Clerk

**B. LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**

**C. COURTHOUSE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

1. **Resolution 19-16 of County-City Officials to form a Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment & Tourism Development**
  - a. **County Commissioners on Economic Development Committee: Jeff Sweeney, Don Gallagher**
  - b. **County Commissioners on Tourism Committee: Greg Vick, Sylvia Pinson**

Mayor Graham remarked that the city and county have agreed to appoint someone for these committees. There was some misunderstanding and initially it was thought that 2 people were needed for each, however only 1 person is to be appointed to each. He asked that Jeff Sweeney be appointed to the Economic Development Committee and Sylvia Pinson be appointed to the Tourism Committee.

Commissioner Farris moved to approve. Second by Commissioner Anderson. Passed by voice vote.

9.D.1. Resolution 19-16 of County-City Officials to form a Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment & Tourism Development (continued)

RESOLUTION NO. 19-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE TO JOIN WITH BEDFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND FORM A JOINT OVERSITE COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL RECRUITMENT AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND TO APPOINT UP TO TWO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the Bedford County Mayor and the County Commissioners held a joint meeting with the City of Shelbyville Mayor, City Councilmembers and the Economic Development and Tourism Board on March 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Bedford County Mayor and County Commissioners held a follow-up meeting with the City of Shelbyville Mayor and City Councilmembers on March 20, 2019; and

WHEREAS, it was the stated desire of both the representatives of the City of Shelbyville and Bedford County to form a Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shelbyville will appoint up to two (2) City Councilmembers and Bedford County Commission will appoint up to two (2) Bedford County Commissions to serve on the Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development; and

WHEREAS, the County Commission will appoint any other qualified citizens, as required, to serve on the Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNTY COMMISSION OF Bedford County, Tennessee as follows:

1. The Bedford County Commission will form a Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development with the City Councilmembers.
2. The Bedford County Commission will appoint up to two (2) Commissioners to serve on the Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development.
3. The Bedford County Commission will appoint any other qualified citizens, as required, to serve on the Joint Oversight Committee for Industrial Recruitment and Tourism Development.

PASSED AND ADOPTED IN REGULAR SESSION OF THE BEDFORD COUNTY COMMISSION SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE ON APRIL 9, 2019.

APPROVED:

  
Chad D. Graham, County Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Donna Thomas, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
John T. Bobo, County Attorney

2. Resolution 19-17 authorizing County Highway Department to perform work for all City/County Governmental entities

Commissioner Brothers moved to approve. Second by Commissioner Gallagher. Passed by voice vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-17

TO AUTHORIZE THE BEDFORD COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO PERFORM WORK FOR ALL CITY/COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES IN BEDFORD COUNTY

WHEREAS, *Tenn. Code Ann. §54-7-202(d)(2)*, empowers the county governing body (Board of County Commissioners) to authorize the county road department to perform work for other governmental entities as long as the cost of the projects so authorized is reimbursed to the county road department; and

WHEREAS, numerous Governmental Entities in Bedford County have requested that the Bedford County Highway Department perform certain work for these entities; and

WHEREAS, the Bedford County Superintendent of Highways advises that such work can be performed by the County Highway Department without any adverse effects upon the county work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Bedford County, that the Bedford County Highway Department under the direction of the Superintendent of Highways of Bedford County, is authorized to perform work for Governmental Entities in Bedford County during the 2019-20 fiscal year. The said Superintendent of Highways shall itemize the costs to the Bedford County Highway Department and bill these entities for the full amount of such cost incurred by the Bedford County Highway Department, which shall be paid immediately upon completion of said work to the Bedford County Trustee. The County Trustee shall deposit all funds received from these entities by reason of this authorization to the county highway fund. This authorization shall be effective upon adoption, the public welfare requiring it.


Approved at the regularly scheduled meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

Bedford County Mayor

  
Chad Graham

ATTEST:

Bedford County Clerk

  
Donna Thomas

**10. QUARTERLY REPORTS**

- a. Clerk & Master – Absent**
- b. County Clerk** – Donna Thomas reported that in her office YTD transactions are up 3% and revenue for Bedford County is up 9%. She also talked about possible new legislation that would require all notings of lien to be performed at the County Clerk offices. This could be thousands of additional transactions each year and an increase in revenue to Bedford County.
- c. Circuit Court Clerk/Driving School Director** – Michelle Murray reported that the driving school held 11 classes this quarter with a total of 336 students and \$50K collected. She said there are now 2 additional troopers assigned to Bedford for a total of 6 troopers and that could mean more dollars collected. Murray also reported that through the Circuit, General Sessions, and Juvenile Court \$374K was collected in revenue for Bedford County. Commissioner Thomas asked if they ever have to write off uncollectable funds. Murray said they work with people as much as possible, even putting them on payment plans if needed. If someone is really indigent the judge can determine that they do not have to pay.
- d. Property Assessor** – Ronda Clanton reported that her office is very busy with almost 500 transfers this quarter. Each of those accounts has to be touched 3 or 4 times. They have had 3 large subdivisions and 2 or 3 small ones, with possibly more to come. New construction is booming and her staff is busy with inspections. Personal property is in full swing until the end of April. The appeal process starts June 3. The new office is coming along great. She thanked Jeff Sweeney for watching over the process. Commissioner Vick asked about the 4 apartment complexes under Section 8 housing that had not paid their property tax and are currently appealing. He asked for a status of the law suit. Clanton said they have to pay the undisputed portion, however the court cases are ongoing. Vick asked how much is outstanding. Clanton estimates \$20M in assessments is involved. She said that when the property gets tax credits they believe that amount should come off of their appraisal and they appeal. Vick remarked that because of these type situations, Section 8 housing is a bad idea. Commissioner Brent Smith asked if Bedford County is on par with other counties as far as the number of Section 8 housing. Clanton stated that based on the size of our county we are ahead of the other counties. She said they tend to build in Bedford and Lawrence Counties. Smith suggested there should be a discussion on a moratorium on Section 8 housing. Clanton said she does not know if the government would allow a moratorium. Mayor Graham remarked that the finance director factors tax delinquencies into the budget.
- e. Director of Schools** – Don Embry reported that they are in the middle of testing season. High school graduations are set for May 17 and 18. They are currently taking bids on the new Learning Way addition. The bid opening is April 23. He is recommending that the school board advertise to take bids for land on the northern part of the city for an additional elementary school. The new Cascade high school is 95% complete on the inside and should be completed on time. The maintenance department will be sealing the floors and the furniture should be delivered the first part of June. Commissioner Brent Smith asked how the student count has increased over last year and Embry said they are up 80 students. Commissioner Anderson asked if the water line issues have been resolved. Embry said the water lines are being installed right now and the bids on the septic system will be opened on April 23.
- f. Highway Superintendent** – Absent (report submitted)
- g. Election Registrar** – Summer Leverette reported that there are currently 23,947 registered voters with 658 inactive. They are in the process of verifying addresses and will probably have more inactive soon. Leverette said they are very excited about the move and she thanked Jeff Sweeney for his oversight and help. Mayor Graham remarked that Sweeney had stepped up to help oversee the ongoing construction and has done a great job.
- h. Trustee** – Tonya Davis thanked the IT department for their support during her move. She also thanked Jeff Sweeney and Helen Raby and her crew for their help. She mentioned that the Trustee's office will be going to the cloud due to increased security and lower cost. She said they are now on the county's network and have the internet speed required to do this. She walked the commissioners through her report. She also provided information and studies regarding a proposed tax freeze for commissioners' consideration before the study on April 22. Commissioner Brent Smith asked how it is looking compared to this time last year. Davis said this year's amount turned over as delinquent is more than last year. Smith asked for a ballpark figure of outstanding delinquent property tax. Davis said about \$400K. Commissioner Vick asked what is the drug control fund? Robert Daniel said those are fines that are used for drug education, etc. Commissioner Thomas asked about the overpayment line item. Davis said that is refund for overpayment of property tax.
- i. Register of Deeds** – Johnny Reed reported 344 deeds, 101 quit claims, 11 TRD's, 33 plats and 44 notice of completions. He said that the legislation to get the 2.6% back from the state is moving well and looks as though it may be done over a 3-year period. Commissioner Thomas asked how much money that would mean for Bedford County. Reed said it would be \$20K-\$23K per year. Reed said his new office is close to completion and thanked the mayor and Jeff Sweeney. Commissioner Vick asked if there was any movement to increase the fee on recording quit claim deeds. Reed said they have tried for years to get that done but it is not going to happen.

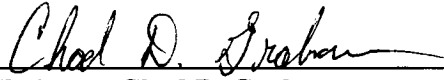
**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Graham said the Commission received a thank you note for The Waters for contributions to their Valentine's Ball.

Commissioner Sweeney thanked everyone for their support of the Arrowhead Ranch fish fry. He said they had a great turnout and it was their best event so far.

**12. ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Graham declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



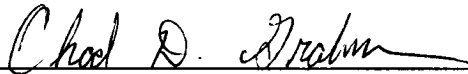
**Chairman Chad D. Graham**  
**Bedford County Board of Commissioners**

**I certify that the minutes were completed on the 12th of April and delivered to the Bedford County Mayor's Office.**



**Donna Thomas**  
**Bedford County Clerk**

**I certify that I received these minutes on the 15 day of April, 2019.**



**Chad D. Graham**  
**Bedford County Mayor**

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