

# COURTHOUSE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Minutes for June 18, 2019  
3rd Floor Bedford County Courthouse  
Consecutive after Law Enforcement



**Present:** Co-Chair Jeff Sweeney, Commissioners Brian Farris, Brent Smith

**Absent:** Commissioners Gunn – vaca, Sanders – son at hospital

**Others Present:** Mayor's Exec Asst, Liz Barnett; County Commissioners: Biff Farrar, Jimmy Patterson, Greg Vick, Anita Epperson, Sylvia Pinson, Mark Thomas, Linda Yockey, Bill Anderson, Don Gallagher, Janice Brothers; BCSD Jail Director, Mary West; Times Gazette Reporter, John Carney; IT Director, Josh Carney; Probation Director, Joyce Reed; Juvenile Director, Cynthia West; e-911 Director, Phillip Noel; Asst Fire Chief, Brian Cantrell; Sheriff, Austin Swing; EMA Director, Scott Johnson; EMS Director, Ted Cox

1. **Call the meeting to order** – Co-Chair Sweeney, 6:14 PM
2. **Prayer** – Commissioner Farris
3. **Roll Call** – 2 absent
5. **Approval of the June 18, 2019 Courthouse and Property Committee minutes** – Motion to approve (Smith, Farris) unanimous
6. **Zoning Reports** – Director Chris White present. Homeless shelter reported in the County operating illegally & indeed there was. We were able to work with the owner & get him in compliance & get these people another place to stay.
7. **IT Reports** – Director Josh Carney on vacation. Report was emailed to the Mayor's office & forwarded to Commissioners.
8. **Health Dept** – No one present
9. **Fire Dept Report** – Chief Thomas provided an update on firefighter training & recertifications. Commissioner Farris: How long does it take to get someone ready from interview-to-uniform? His gear, benefits, training, education, all of it. Yockey: Isn't it the same as an estimation of their 3-year salary? Thomas: What about equipment cost? And their turnout gear, alone, is \$8-9k each. And you can no longer share gear. That gear has a 12-13 year turnaround, whether it's been used or sitting on a shelf, it's got to be replaced. To replace a little at a time is in our budget this year. Farris summarized: It's a costly investment to get them to that point. Thomas: I lose some because they don't keep their certifications current. It's not a 'I get a job, I keep this job' situation. There are several certifications that must be renewed along the way to keep your job. Smith: What about injuries, back injuries? Thomas: They are fewer & fewer because our response crews is now 4 instead of just 2; two on an ambulance & two on a firetruck. This has cut back on injuries & our workers' comp a lot, very minimal. Sometimes an occasional dehydration during training.

**10. 911 Communications Director Report** – Director Phillip Noel reminded everyone that CSX announced railroad closures for Bell Buckle, June 25-27, & Wartrace, June 27-29, changing crossing bars.

Noel: GIS pricing enterprise license could be \$31,500/year. There are different levels of licenses: basic, pro, advanced. And each level has levels. 911 paid \$1,800 up front then \$700 for yearly maintenance.

This agenda item to go on July's CH & Property agenda for Josh Carney to research/provide more detailed information for considerations.

Chris White: Commended Phillip & how fortunate the County is to have him. The Governor appointed him to the TN Emergency Communication Board. So we now have a Board Member right here in Bedford County, an asset.

**11. Motion to approve all reports** – (Sweeney, Farris) unanimous.

**12. Old Business**

- a) **Bell Construction Update** – Sewer issue resolved
- b) **Cascade Update:** Expecting to see asphalt early next week!

**13. New Business**

- a) Commissioner Farris met with Brian Grissom regarding complex security. Haven't seen the actual report, however the initial report is that no add'l personnel will be needed. There were some security changes that definitely were needed. CH security expense will definitely be less than the total that's currently in this budget. Most attacks take place in the foyer area, per Grissom. Whatever needs to be added will come from the CH security fund.
- b) Yockey: This Committee should bless the recommendation of the Annex being dedicated to Eugene Ray.

**14. Announcements**

- a) Elections Commission moving Tuesday, next week.
- b) Pinson: Will there be an open house of the Justice Complex prior to lockdown? Sweeney: Yes.

**15. Adjourn 6:36 PM** (Sweeney, Farris) unanimous.