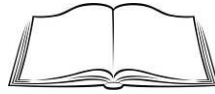


# RULES AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes for August 20, 2019  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Bedford County Courthouse at 5:00 PM



**Present:** Chairman Biff Farrar; Commissioners Jimmy Patterson, Greg Vick, Anita Epperson, Ed Castleman

**Absent:** Zero

**Others Present:** Mayor's Exec Asst, Liz Barnett; Finance Director, Robert Daniel; County Commissioners: Sylvia Pinson, Mark Thomas, Linda Yockey, Bill Anderson, Julie Sanders, Don Gallagher, Brent Smith, Chasity Gunn, Jeff Sweeney, Janice Brothers; Jail Director, Mary West; Times Gazette Reporter, John Carney; IT Director, Josh Carney; Probation Cindy Herring, Rebecca Snyder; Juvenile Director, Cynthia West; EMS Director, Ted Cox; e-911 Director, Phillip Noel; Asst Fire Chief, Brian Cantrell; Sheriff, Austin Swing; Workhouse, Ronnie Prince; EMA Director, Scott Johnson; Animal Control, Maria Hughes, Jerry Bowman for 11-b Zoning

1. **Call the meeting to order:** Chairman Biff Farrar, 5:00 PM
2. **Roll Call:** Castleman
3. **Prayer:** Chairman Biff Farrar – Prayed especially for the Ray family, served the County for 40 years.
4. **Approval of July 16, 2019 Rules and Legislative Committee minutes** – Motion made to approve, (Vick, Patterson) unanimous.
5. **Consideration of placing the approval Commission minutes on Sept. 10, 2019, County Commission Agenda** – Motion made to place items on county commission agenda, (Epperson w/o recommendation, Vick) unanimous.
6. **Consideration of placing the notary applicants on the October 8, 2019, County Commission agenda as requested by County Clerk, Donna Thomas** – Motion made to approve, (Vick, Patterson) unanimous.
7. **Veterans Officer Report** – Distributed prior to the meeting. 58 vets transported; 69 visited the office. 325 vets transported to date; 449 by office to date. Motion made to approve report, (Vick, Epperson) unanimous.
8. **Community Clinic Report** – FYI. No approval needed.
9. **Ag Center Report** – Commissioner Anderson commended the Ag Board, Helen, 16% under budget despite all the upgrades.
10. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - a) **TCAT Update** – Commissioner Vick: Letter of Intent to Dept of Economic Development. Letter received back, very encouraging response. Austin Consulting proposing best placement of their site for TCAT at Business Park. TCAT needs 15-20

acres; Austin Consulting agrees. Everything progressing nicely. Yockey inquired about in/egress options.

- b) **Rural Broadband Update** – Commissioner Vick: Also progressing nicely. Consortium of parties working together on this. Congressman DesJarlais’ team has offered full support & assistance if needed.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Washington, D.C. Update** – Commissioner Vick: President is most interested in broadband in rural communities, will level the playing field in urban areas, making every effort possible working with USDA. Came away with contact list of everyone in the White House with email addresses & phone numbers of everyone that can help. We’re all wide open & want to improve Bedford County. This administration is headed in the right direction.

Commissioner Farris: Very impressive trip, much more than expected, very informative, accommodating. Addressed opioid problem.

- b) **Resolution USDA Rural Development Grant** – Commissioner Vick: Real need for flooring in ag center. We need this resolution in order to apply for the grant. Hwy Dept will provide an in-kind contribution for site prep in the amount of \$11k. Grant amount is \$45k. Vick moved to approve & send to Commission, (Vick, Patterson) unanimous.

## 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Commissioner Farrar – Interviewed 8 architectural firms for the new elementary school, very professional meeting. Possible sites for the school narrowed down to 3 locations.
- b) TCCA Regional Meeting reminder to Commissioners at Henry Horton on Sept 3. Commissioner Yockey recommended the Mayor’s office put a basket together as a door prize like the Commissioners used to do in the past.
- c) Horse show time!

**13. ADJOURN:** 5:30 PM (Farrar, Vick) unanimous.