

The McMinn County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on March 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm, in the Blue Room of the McMinn County Courthouse.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Curtis.

2. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Commissioner McPhail.

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Commissioner Simpson.

4. ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Scott Curtis - Present
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 February 12, 2024 were provided to the McMinn County Commissioners.

MOTION made by Commissioner McPhail, and seconded by Commissioner Millsaps, to approve the minutes of February 12, 2024 meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote.

6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS

A. A Resolution to Approve Contract Between McMinn County Sheriff's Department and AFS.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #24-014 along with a copy of the contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-014

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
CONTRACT BETWEEN MCMINN COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND AFS

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 Sheriff, Joe Guy, recommends entering into contract with AFS; and

WHEREAS, this contract is to provide repair services for the "sinking corner" in the Sheriff's Office Training Room; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be the Contractor shall endeavor to begin work within 150 days of the contract and shall endeavor to complete the work within an estimated 120 days of the start date of the work. The contract price is \$31,098.72 with \$9,329.62 as a deposit and \$21,769.10 due upon completion.

(Res. # 24-014 con't)

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION ON THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, that the Contract with AFS be approved.

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

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

- B. A Resolution to Homeland Security Grant Contract Between the State of Tennessee, Department of Military, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, and McMinn County.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #24-015 along with a copy of the grant contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-015

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY, TENNESSEE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND MCMINN COUNTY

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, this grant, in the amount of \$30,647.75, begins September 1, 2023 and is for funding of training, exercises, planning and equipment purchases allowable under the FFY 2023 Homeland Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH 2024 that this Commission does hereby agree to the contract with State of Tennessee, Tennessee Emergency Management for its Homeland Security Grant the amount of \$ 30,647.75;

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 Simpson, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

- C. A Resolution to Approve the Contract Between McMinn County Election Commission and the State of Tennessee, Department of State, Division of Elections.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #24-016 along with a copy of the grant contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-016

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN MCMINN COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION AND THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

(Res. # 24-016 con't)

WHEREAS, McMinn County Elections Commission has previously requested approval for purchase of voting supplies pending approval of a State Grant to assist with the purchase; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee, Department of State, Division of Elections has approved the grant for \$187,050.00 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, that this Commission does hereby approve this contract.

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

- D. A Resolution to Approve the Contract Between McMinn County Election Commission and the State of Tennessee, Department of State, Division of Elections.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #24-017 along with a copy of the grant contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-017

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN MCMINN COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION AND THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, McMinn County Elections Commission has previously requested approval for purchase of voting supplies pending approval of a State Grant to assist with the purchase; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee, Department of State, Division of Elections has approved the grant for \$18,326.34 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, that this Commission does hereby approve this contract.

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 Carter, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

E. A Resolution to Approve the Contract Between McMinn County and State of Tennessee Department of Health.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #24-018 along with a copy of the contract.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-018

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN MCMINN COUNTY AND STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WHEREAS, it is the conviction of McMinn County, that every individual in the County has good health care readily available; and

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 previously entered into a contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Health to protect and improve the physical health of the county citizens through the prevention of conditions that may threaten good health; and

WHEREAS, the total appropriation for which the County shall be billed is \$68,910 and

WHEREAS, McMinn County Health Department does provide these services and both parties do hereby agree to these provisions in the contract for FY 2023-2024.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH 2024, that this Commission does hereby approve this contract.

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 McPhail, and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

7. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

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

Fund: #General Fund #101			Date: 3/21/2024	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Federal Through State	Other Federal Through State	47590-ELECTS	18,327.00	
Election Commission	Other Supplies & Materials	51500-499-ELECTS		18,327.00

(con't)

Explanation: To budget revenue and expenditures related to State of Tennessee Elections Security Grant. No local match.				
State of Tennessee	Other State Grants	46980-COLLA	151,200.00	
Sheriff's Department	Other Supplies & Materials	54110-499-COLLA		151,200.00
Explanation: To budget revenue and expenditures related to State of Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs Collaborative Grant.				
Revenue Oher Gov. & Citizens Groups	Donations	48610	125,000.00	
Tourism	Capital Outlay	58110-799		125,000.00
Explanation: To budget contribution from Athens Parks Foundation for Eureka Trail Land Purchase.				
Federal Through State	Other Federal Through State	47590-ELECE	187,050.00	
Election Commission	Other Supplies & Materials	51500-499-ELECE		108,200.00
Election Commission	Voting Machines	51500-731-ELECE		78,850.00
Explanation: To budget revenue and expenditures related to State of Tennessee Election Division Grant for Purchase of voting equipment and supplies. No local match.				
State of Tennessee	Other Public Safety Grant	46290	30,000.00	
Sheriff's Department	Overtime & Holiday Pay	54110-187		30,000.00
Explanation: To budget revenue & expenditures related to the Tennessee Highway Safety Office Alcohol Countermeasures Grant.				

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

- Chairman Scott Curtis – Aye
- 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

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

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

FUND: 141 General Purpose School			Date: 2/12/2024	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Other Governments & Citizens Groups	Other	48990	21,500.00	
Board of Education Services	Other Charges	72310-599		21,500000
Explanation: To budget Utrust mini grant for FY 2023-2024.				

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

- Chairman Scott Curtis – Aye
- 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

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

(con't)

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

FUND: OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS #189			Date: 3/21/2024	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
RESERVE	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	48,410.00	
Other General Gov't Projects	Data Processing Equipment	91190-709		48,410.00
Explanation: To budget expenditures related to Environsuite Air Quality Monitoring System at Meadow Branch Landfill from Waste Connections Host Fee Reserve.				
Revenue Other Sources (Non-Rev)	Other Loans Issued	49500	3,247,463.00	
Education Capital Projects	Building Construction	91300-706		3,247,463.00
Explanation: To budget revenue and expenditures related to EESI loan program.				

MOTION made by Commissioner McPhail and seconded by Commissioner Simpson to approve these budget amendments.

- Chairman Scott Curtis – Aye
- 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

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

8. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

9. RESOLUTIONS

- A. A Resolution to Approve and Amendment to the Lease Between McMinn County and L3Harris Technologies, Inc for ADS-B Instrumentation Site at the McMinn County Airport.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 24-019 along with a copy of the lease.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-019

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE BETWEEN McMINN COUNTY AND L3HARRIS TECHNOLOGIES, INC FOR ADS-B INSTRUMENTATION SITE AT THE MCMINN COUNTY AIRPORT

WHEREAS, the satellite based advanced communication system (ADS-B) at the McMinn County Airport was originally between ITT Advanced Engineering and Sciences and McMinn County; and

WHEREAS, ADS-B is a satellite based system and networked flight information systems whose benefits include improved cockpit safety, full airspace coverage, increased airspace capacity & efficiency, more direct routes, lower fuel cost, accurate real-time information, better control of noise abatement; and

WHEREAS, since McMinn County allows the tower system to be located at the airport, McMinn County Airport receives extended SBS benefits at no cost to the community or the airport; and

WHEREAS, the amendment changes ITT Corporation to L3Harris Technologies and changes the renewal from GFY 25 to a date that coincides with the FAA contract for said services.

(Res. # 24-019 con't)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MCMINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, that this Commission does approve the amendment of the original lease to maintain the McMinn County Airport's use of the FAA National Airspace System at no cost and to promote a safer and more efficient operation of regional airport traffic, and FURTHER AUTHORIZES the County Mayor to execute the necessary documents 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 Crisp, and seconded by Commissioner Millsaps to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote

B. A Resolution to Approve Woods Foundation Board Funding Recommendation.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 24-020 along with various applications.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-020

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE WOODS FOUNDATION BOARD
FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Woods Foundation was created to make recommendations to the McMinn County Commission on projects and organizations eligible for proceeds from the funds available from the sale of the Woods Memorial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, per the Woods Memorial Hospital Excess Sales Agreement, thirty-five percent of the previous year's interest is available to make contributions, \$73,280 of \$209,373; and

WHEREAS, the McMinn County Commission is charged with approving the recommendations of the Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, the Woods Foundation Board has reviewed the applications and recommends the following organizations receive contributions:

Tennessee Wesleyan University Dental Hygiene Program	\$10,000
Good Faith Clinic	\$5,000
YMCA	\$10,000
Nourish One Child Feeding Program	\$5,000
Boys and Girls Club, Etowah Unit	\$10,000
Shower Bus Ministry of McMinn County	\$10,000
Leukemia Lymphoma Society	\$10,000
Asthma and Allergy Awareness, Keyshawn Tatum Fund	\$1,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION ON THIS 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, that this Commission does hereby approve the recommendation of the Woods Foundation Board to grant \$61,000 of the available \$73,280 to the approved causes, AND FURTHERMORE, grants authority to the County Mayor to execute the necessary documents to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

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

Attest:

(Res. # 24-020 con't)

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

10. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

None.

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

None.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY MAYOR

Mayor Gentry said the Opioid Abatement Council met on March 7th. He said commissioner Cass is on that committee. Mr. Gentry said the meeting lasted a couple of hours and had some presentations from the Tennessee Department of Health on their latest Opioid statistics for the area. He said UT SMART Initiative attended also. Mr. Gentry said they decided on the application process and that has been completed and a press release will be sent out Friday. He said they will have two years to obligate the money and four years to spend it. He said the budget committee will handle the other money that comes in from Brown and Greer that is a different settlement that goes to the county. Mr. Gentry said "where money can make a difference, we want to make the biggest difference."

Mayor Gentry said people have ask about the delinquent tax sale. He said motion for default has been filed and hopefully Clerk and Master is going over all that because the county has some properties several people in the community is interested in. Mr. Gentry said there is a piece of property he wants people to know about in the county. It is the old gas station on Highway 11 in Riceville that is very noticeable. He said there is \$21,200 owed against it. Mr. Gentry said they have for sale signs and are accepting bids for what is owed on it. He said once they get a firm offer on that then they will advertise that McMinn County has received an offer on the property. Then folks have 10 days to raise that offer. At the end of the 10 days, they call everybody that made an offer on it and have a face to face bid off. County Attorney Tim Hill said this property already went through the actual tax sale and there were no bidders so McMinn County bid on it.

Mayor Gentry said they got the site plan back on the new Health Department hopefully in a couple of weeks will bring it to the properties committee.

Mayor Gentry said they had 25 core drillings at the landfill. He said they monitor them for several days for water inflow. They said right now everything is looking good.

Commissioner Crisp wanted to know where the site plan for the Health Department is. Mr. Gentry said its on Elizabeth Street.

Mayor Gentry said he got news today on Charter fiber which has gone by 1276 homes at this point and got about 1800 more to go. Commissioner King wanted to know if the mayor has heard anything from AUB. Mr. Gentry said he has not.

13. APPROVAL OF NOTARY APPLICATIONS

Notaries to be elected March 25, 2024

AMY B. ARNWINE
JESSICA BABB

CATHY M GARLAND
PATRICIA D GIBSON

(con't)

TRESSIA BLEVINS
DAVID MITCHELL BRYANT
FRED S BURKE
BETH C BUSH
GLENDA CULBERTSON
AMY CHRISTINE ELKINS
ELISHA F ELLIOTT
DIANA V. ELROD

LARRY W HOLLAND
TERESA A. KWIRAM
RYAN LAIN
KERRI LAWSON
AIDA M LOPEZ
DAVID LEE MARDEN
LORI WEST

MOTION made by Commissioner McPhail, and seconded by Commissioner Slack, 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 6:22 pm.

MELINDA KING
McMinn County Clerk

Attest:

Deputy Clerk (date)