

The McMinn County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on August 17, 2026, 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 McMinn County Mayor.

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 – Absent
- Travis Crisp – Present
- Scott Cass – Present

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Copies of the Minutes of the Regular Session on July 20, 2026, were provided to the McMinn County Commissioners.

MOTION made by Commissioner King, and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the minutes of July 20, 2026, meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote.

6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINANCE RESOLUTIONS

- A. A Resolution to Approve the Sale of Surplus Scrap Metal.

Mr. Luallen presented resolution #26-051.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-051

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
THE SALE OF SURPLUS SCRAP METAL

WHEREAS, McMinn County has authority to declare items as surplus that are no longer deemed necessary or adequate to properly perform the duties of county government as prescribed by law; and

(Res. # 26-051 con't)

WHEREAS, McMinn County Landfill Director, Charlie Donaldson wants to issue a request to declare scrap metal from three BoMags and one John Deere as surplus property; and

WHEREAS, this equipment has been used only for parts over the past several years and is no longer necessary to keep.

BoMag S/N 101570110598
BoMag S/N 101570110214
BoMag S/N 101570110172
John Deere 850C S/N 824632

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION ON THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve the recommendation of the McMinn County Mayor.

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

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

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

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-052 along with a copy of the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-052

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

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 \$24,606.99 in grant funding applicable to the maintenance of 800/700Mhz radios as well as to sustain hazmat and law enforcement Perimeter Team equipment; and

WHEREAS, this grant is 100% funding with no match by 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 AUGUST 2026 that this Commission does hereby agree to enter into contract with Tennessee Emergency Management Agency to receive grant funding of \$29,702.75, the public welfare requiring it, 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

(Res. # 26-052 con't)

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

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

Motion carried by voice vote

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

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-053 along with a letter of request from MCEDA. Lindsey Ferguson, Executive Director of McMinn County Economic Development, answered questions and gave a brief presentation of the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-053

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

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has made available grant money to promote tourism; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County Tourism desires to make an application for said funds in the maximum amount of \$100,000 for outdoor tourism recreation access for biking and kayaking and

WHEREAS, McMinn County’s Eureka Trail continues to gain popularity with numerous requests for bike rentals from those visiting the area with no bike access; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun has made significant progress improving its Blueway access on the Hiwassee River and has the opportunity to provide kayak/canoe rentals; and

WHEREAS, the grant will allow for the purchase of said equipment through vendor systems that do not require staffing the locations; and

WHEREAS, the grant will require a maximum match of \$10,000 from available Hotel/Motel funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2026, that this Commission does hereby authorize the application for the Tennessee Tourism Enhancement Grant 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 Crisp and seconded by Commissioner Cass 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: 08/13/2026	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
State of Tennessee	Other Federal through State	47590-PSN	10,808.00	
Sheriff's Department	Other Supplies & Materials	54110-499-PSN		10,808.00
Explanation: To budget revenue and expenditures related to State of Tennessee Department of Financial Administration Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant. Commission Approved 3/19/2026.				

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 – Absent
- 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 Fund			Date: 08/03/2026	
Department	Account	Folio	Debit	Credit
Other Local Revenue	Contributions & Gifts	44570	5,000	
Special Education Program Support	Other Equipment	72220-790		5,000.00
Explanation: To enter the budget for a donation from the Bachman Foundation for Specialized Equipment in FY 26-27.				
Other Local Revenue	Sale of Equipment	44530	9,612.00	
Technology	Other Equipment	72250-790		9,612.00
Explanation: To enter the budget for IT equipment sold in FY 25-26 and moved to Technology budget in FY 25-26.				

Fund: 141 General Purpose School			Date: 08/03/2026	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Reserve	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	7,943.31	
Maintenance of Plant	Other Equipment	72620-790		7,943.31
Explanation: To enter the remaining budget from FY 25-26 for a safety grant from Tennessee Risk Management Trust to carryover to FY 26-27.				

FUND: General Purpose School Fund # 141			DATE: 08/03/2026	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT

(con’t)

Special Education Program	Contracts with Private Agencies	71200-312	80,932.00	
Special Education Program	Speech Pathologist	71200-171		60,775.00
Special Education Program	Social Security	71200-201		3,768.02
Special Education Program	State Retirement	71200-204		3,038.75
Special Education Program	Life Insurance	71200-206		108.00
Special Education Program	Medical Insurance	71200-207		9,930.00
Special Education Program	Employer Medicare	71200-212		881.23
Special Education Program	Retirement-Hybrid Stabilization	71200-217		2,431.00
Explanation: To move funds from Contracts to cover salary and benefits for a Speech Pathologist in FY 26-27.				
FUND: General Purpose School Fund # 141		DATE: 08/03/2026		
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Restricted	Restricted for Support Services	34565	25,066.00	
Special Education Program	Educational Assistants	71200-163		13,311.50
Special Education Program	Social Security	71200-201		825.31
Special Education Program	State Retirement	71200-204		698.18
Special Education Program	Life Insurance	71200-206		108.00
Special Education Program	Medical Insurance	71200-207		9,930.00
Special Education Program	Employer Medicare	71200-212		193.01
Explanation: To budget a portion of the Special Education TN Care Funds from reserves for an educational aid in FY 26-27. This portion will be full time and IDEA will be funding half of the position.				
Revenue	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	9,500.00	
Operation of Plant	Plant Operation Equipment	72610-720		9,500.00
Explanation: To purchase a floor scrubber for Niota Elementary, the item was damaged during the floor renovations by the vendor, and they discounted their final price to cover machine. But that was FY 25-26 funds, so this is to move it into Fy 26-27.				
Revenue	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	528,104.00	
Transportation	Transportation Equipment	72710-729		528,104.00
Explanation: To purchase two 72 passenger buses and two 15 passenger buses from Unassigned Fund Balance in FY 26-27.				

FUND: General Purpose School Fund # 141 Innovated School Models (ISM) #955		DATE: 07/07/2026		
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
State Revenue	Other Vocational	46790	1,125,063.62	
Regular Education Program	Other Supplies and Materials	71100-499		18,000.00
Regular Education Program	Regular Instruction Equipment	71100-722		72,402.55
Vocational Education Support	Instructional Supplies & Materials	71300-429		85,432.45
Vocational Education Support	Software	71300-471		23,245.00
Vocational Education Support	Other Supplies and Materials	71300-499		20,30.00
Vocational Education Support	Vocational Instruction Equipment	71300-730		204,694.53
Transportation	Transportation	72710-729		138,000.00
Regular Capital Outlay	Architects	76100-304		33,250.00
Regular Capital Outlay	Other Contracted Services	76100-399		23,542.00
Regular Capital Outlay	Building Construction	76100-706		389,688.83
Regular Capital Outlay	Building Improvements	76100-707		116,506.23
Explanation: To enter the remaining budget for the Innovative School Models (ISM) Grant for FY 26-27. Original grant of \$5,500.00 was approved on 02/09/2023 by BOE.				

(con't)

MOTION made by Commissioner King and seconded by Commissioner Millsaps 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 – Absent
- Travis Crisp - Aye
- Scott Cass – Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

FUND: Other Capital Projects # 189			Date: 08/13/2026	
DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	FOLIO	DEBIT	CREDIT
Reserve	Unassigned Fund Balance	39000	15,000.00	
General Administration Projects	Building Const. (Expo/Show Barn	189-91110-706-Show		15,000.00
Explanation: To budget contribution for Show barn improvements from FY 2025-2026.				

MOTION made by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Crisp 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 – Absent
- Travis Crisp - Aye
- Scott Cass – Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote, as recorded:

8. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Kelley Shepherd, Jennifer Shepherd and Monica Shepherd Belcher came before the County Commission to ask for a \$5,000 donation to go toward what they call Project # 2 which will be a World War II mural on the wall downtown Athens. Mayor Gentry said the request would go before the Budget Committee and they’ll make their recommendation.
- Jeffrey Wier came to speak to the commission. He said he worked for McMinn County Sheriffs office from November 1st, 2016, to June 10th of 2016. He had concerns about his employment and use of his sick days. He also was upset because he had never been given an Employee Handbook.

Jason Luallen told Mr. Weir the procedures for the Finance department when a new employee is hired.

Joe Guy, McMinn County Sheriff spoke and said Mr. Wier just misunderstood what he said about the sick days. There were no promises made, no attempt to mislead anyone. Sheriff said he regrets the confusion.

(con't)

- Myrl Vaughn wanted to inform the county commission about a tree that fell out next to the road near his property on County Road 119. He said the tree fell across the road blocking the road and took a power line out. He called Volunteer Electric to come out. They got the tree off the electric line and repaired it but the tree was still blocking the road. His concern was the county road department never came out to move the tree off the road a private citizen removed the tree.

9. RESOLUTIONS

A. A Resolution Adopting Public Chapter 1090.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-054 along with a copy of Chapter 1090.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-054

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING PUBLIC CHAPTER 1090

WHEREAS, Tennessee Public Chapter 1090 was recently adopted to provide clarity to developers and citizens developing property outside of municipal boundaries but inside municipal planning regions; and

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 1090 removes jurisdictional authority from municipalities and municipal regional planning commissions to exercise zoning plans, ordinances, permits and other development rules outside the boundaries of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 1090 is permissive and requires majority vote approval of the county commission to take effect; and

WHEREAS, upon passage the municipalities in McMinn County with regional planning commissions will be notified.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, that this Commission does adopt Public Chapter 1090 and place all land use regulations outside the municipal boundaries under the authority of the McMinn County Regional Planning Commission.

(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 King to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

B. A Resolution to Approve the Statutory Bonds/Insurance for McMinn County Elected Officials.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-055.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-055

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE STATUTORY BONDS/INSURANCE FOR MCMINN COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, TCA 8-19-101 requires that public officials execute a surety bond upon taking public office; and

(Res. # 26-055 con't)

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 749 has modified TCA 8-19-101 to allow a county government to purchase an insurance policy in lieu of individual bonds so long as the policy has limits of not less than \$400,000 per occurrence; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County has said insurance coverage through Tennessee Risk Management Trust for the following public officials in the amount of \$400,000 per occurrence; and

- County Mayor, Sheriff, Highway Commissioner, Register of Deeds,
- Circuit Court Clerk, including Commissioner and Receivership,
- County Clerk, Clerk & Master, including Commissioner and Receivership,
- Property Assessor, Director of Finance; and

WHEREAS, McMinn County has executed public officials’ bonds for the following officials and amounts; and

- Trustee - \$25,000,000
- Constables- \$8,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, that this Commission does approve these surety bonds and insurance coverage for McMinn County Officials, and FURTHER approves the Finance Director, County Mayor, Register of Deeds and County Clerk to execute all related documents, the public welfare requiring it.

(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.

C. A Resolution to Approve Contributions to the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-056 along with a letter of request from McMinn County Living Heritage Museum Executive Director Brett King.
RESOLUTION NO. 26-056

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE
MCMINN COUNTY LIVING HERITAGE MUSEUM

WHEREAS, as part of America’s 250th anniversary celebration and the 80th anniversary of the 1946 Battle of Athens, the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, in partnership with Tennessee Wesleyan University, is developing a high-quality documentary style film of one of McMinn County’s most significant events; and

WHEREAS, the documentary will honor the McMinn County veterans’ courage to restore honest elections and accountable government; and

(Res. # 26-056 con't)

WHEREAS, McMinn County believes the lessons learned from the Battle of Athens are relevant today and should not be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, the lasting significance of the Battle of Athens should be told in a professional digital audio/visual documentary style that can be shared universally; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Wesleyan University and the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum have secured professional video services and request assistance from the McMinn County Tourism fund in the amount of \$8,000 to produce the documentary; and

WHEREAS, the nationwide impact of the Battle of Athens deserves to be preserved and shared with all of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve funding in the amount of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) to the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum to produce a professional documentary style digital film commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Athens to share the bravery of McMinn County veterans and their lasting national impact on local government reform.

Orig signed by John M. Gentry)
McMinn County Mayor

Attest:

(Orig signed by Melinda King)
County Clerk

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

Motion carried by voice vote.

D. A Resolution to Recognize Tad Simpson for his Honorable Twenty Years of Service as a McMinn County Commissioner.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-057. Mayor Gentry presented this resolution and said its an honor to be able to present this resolution and we've been really blessed to have Tad Simpson. Mr. Gentry said he has done an outstanding job of being a county commissioner representing District One and just being always prepared, phone calls, very thought-provoking questions and worked out, had the best interest, even though he represented District One, he was a McMinn County Commissioner and just it's an honor to be able to present this resolution to thank him for his 20 years of service as a McMinn County Commissioner and his devotion to doing things the right way with integrity and he had a set of principles and has a set of principles and those principles came through with how he served as county commissioner.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-057

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE TAD SIMPSON FOR HIS HONORABLE TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE AS
A MCMINN COUNTY COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, Tad Simpson selflessly served on the McMinn County Commission from 2006 to 2026; and

WHEREAS, Tad Simpson's tenure on the McMinn County Commission has been characterized by thoughtful preparation, deliberate questioning and sound decision making; and

(Res. # 26-056 con't)

WHEREAS, Tad Simpson gave special attention to constituent relations ensuring that the people of the First District received efficient and effective service from their county government; and

WHEREAS, Tad Simpson has directly affected McMinn County by serving the commission as long term chairman of the Emergency Services Committee and a significant voice on the Budget, Properties, Solid Waste and Financial Management Committees; and

WHEREAS, Tad Simpson's sound conservative values helped keep McMinn County debt-free for over two decades without a single property tax increase; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of McMinn County would like to thank Tad Simpson for his numerous contributions to his community and wish him many years of happiness and success; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve this resolution to honor Tad Simpson for his dedication and willingness to serve the citizens of McMinn County.

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 Carter to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

E. A Resolution to Honor Charles Slack for his 16 Years of Distinguished Service as a McMinn County Commissioner.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-058. Mayor Gentry said that Charlie is going on to serve as Commissioner of Highways and thanked him for his 16 years of service as a McMinn County Commissioner and kind of one of the more favorite sons of District 4 and well beloved and we wish him well tonight as he's battling some health issues. Also wants to thank him for his service as a McMinn County Commissioner.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-058

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR CHARLES SLACK FOR HIS 16 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS A
MCMINN COUNTY COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, Charles Slack has served on the McMinn County Commission for 16 years representing the Fourth Civil District and left his mark on countless projects that benefited the citizens of McMinn County; and

WHEREAS, Charles Slack consistently displayed a passion for serving the citizens of McMinn County and for making the community around him a better place; and

WHEREAS, Charles Slack has helped influence positive action in McMinn County by voting to approve responsible budgets that require government to live within its means and by supporting various improvements in the areas of economic development and emergency services; and

(Res. # 26-058 con't)

WHEREAS, Charles Slack decided to further his public service as McMinn County Highway Commissioner beginning September 1, 2026; and
WHEREAS, the citizens of McMinn County would like to thank Charles Slack for his numerous contributions to the county as Fourth District Commissioner.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve this resolution to honor Charles Slack for his contributions to McMinn County as county commissioner.

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 King to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

F. A Resolution to Honor Dan Evans for his Twelve Years of Distinguished Service as a McMinn County Highway Commissioner.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-059. Mayor Gentry said Dan Evans served three terms, 12 years as Commissioner of Highways. He said he appreciates him for putting his name on the ballot and serving McMinn County.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-059

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR DAN EVANS FOR TWELVE YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS
MCMINN COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, Dan Evans was elected by the citizens of McMinn County to serve as their Highway Commissioner in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Dan Evans’ public service career also included serving on the McMinn County Board of Education and prior staff assignments with the McMinn County Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, during Dan Evan’s three terms as Highway Commissioner notable improvements were made to the department including the construction of new office and maintenance facilities and the comprehensive modernizing of the department’s equipment inventory; and

WHEREAS, Dan Evans endeavored to provide the best highway maintenance and capital construction possible with the available revenues; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of McMinn County would like to thank Dan Evans for his numerous contributions to the community and wish him the very best in his future endeavors; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve this resolution to honor Dan Evans for his career contributions to McMinn County.

(Res. # 26-059 con't)

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 McPhail to approve this resolution.

Motion carried by voice vote.

G. A Resolution to Honor Rhonda Cooley for her 20 Years of Distinguished Service as a McMinn County Circuit Court Clerk.

Mr. Gentry presented resolution # 26-060. Mayor Gentry said we want to honor Rhonda Cooley for her 20 years of distinguished service in McMinn County Circuit Court Clerk's office. He said there will be a special event for her retirement at the Justice Center on Wednesday from 2 to 4.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-060

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR RHONDA COOLEY FOR HER 20 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS A
MCMINN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

WHEREAS, Rhonda Cooley's distinguished public service career has included service with the McMinn County Sheriff's Department, eight years as circuit court deputy clerk and twenty years as the McMinn County Circuit Court Clerk; and

WHEREAS, as Circuit Court Clerk, Rhonda has managed the staffing, financials and legal proceedings of general sessions court, circuit civil court, circuit criminal court and juvenile court; and

WHEREAS, Rhonda's knowledge, dependability, and willingness to assist others have made a lasting and meaningful contribution to the citizens of McMinn County; and

WHEREAS, the efficient and effective operation of the court system is a direct result of Rhonda Cooley's commitment to the integrity of the court system and its role in good government; and

WHEREAS, Rhonda Cooley has earned the respect and appreciation of her colleagues, members of the legal community, elected officials and citizens; and

WHEREAS Rhonda's retirement marks the conclusion of a distinguished career in public service and provides an opportunity for this Commission to recognize and express its sincere gratitude for her many years of dedicated and quality service.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MCMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, that this Commission does hereby approve this resolution to honor Rhonda Cooley for her twenty years of service as McMinn County Circuit Court Clerk and wishes her a joyful retirement.

(Res. # 26-060 con't)

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.

10. ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

None.

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

Chairman Curtis—I just want to say that we continue to pray for Charlie and thank him for his years of service as a commissioner

Commissioner Simpson—I would like to say it has been an honor to serve the citizens of District 1 here in McMinn County as an elected official for the past 22 years. I feel McMinn County has accomplished a lot of good things during these years, and with the leaders and employees, I feel like it will continue. Thank you.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE COUNTY MAYOR

- Health Department punch list set for August 28th. Looking at August 1st, 2nd and 5th for moving and will do an official dedication on November 12.
- Swearing in will be August 31st at 9:00 am. Then if anyone wants to join us, we are doing a presentation on the report that has been received on the crossing of the Eureka trail

13. APPROVAL OF NOTARY APPLICATIONS

Notaries to be elected August 17, 2026

KELLIE ANN COLLINS	KATHY LEANN SMITH
CRISTIAN FERNANDEZ	CALLISTA SMITH
ANGEL C GABLE	MICHAEL VIK
MELISA GOODWIN	GIDGET WALDEN
ASHLEY L JOHNSTON	CHARLENE M. WEBB
STEPHANIE RICHESON	MARK WELLS

MOTION made by Commissioner McPhail, and seconded by Commissioner Cass, to approve these notary applications.

Motion carried by voice vote.

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

None.

There being no other business, Chairman Curtis declared the Commission meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

MELINDA KING
McMinn County Clerk

Attest:

Deputy Clerk (date)