

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 6, 2016

8:30 am

---

**PRESENT:** Mayor Leon Humphrey, Dr. Kevin Ward, Danny Ward, Bobbie Gouge-Dietz, Roger Colbaugh, Charles VonCannon, and Ray Lyons.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Lyons.

Quorum present.

Ray mentioned a change to the agenda regarding Commissioner Randall Jenkins. The change was to strike Mr. Jenkins presentation out of the agenda.

**Adopt Agenda:** Motion was made by Bobbie Gouge-Dietz, second by Danny Ward to approve agenda with change. Motion Carried

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Danny Ward, second by Kevin Ward to approve the March 2, 2016 minutes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comments:** Roy Livingston had a few questions for the Finance Director, Christa Byrd. He wanted to know what the term “Other Charges” meant. Finance Director, Byrd commented that “Other Charges” are basically a legitimate business expense that does not have a category it fits into neatly. Mr. Livingston’s also had a question regarding the Finance Directors budget in regard to the reimbursements from the School and Highway Departments. Mrs. Byrd made comment that this money goes back to the General Fund to reimburse the county for the Finance Departments cost. Mr. Lyons added that we have a contract with the School Department, Food Service, and Highway Department stating how much as a percentage that these departments reimburse the county for the Finance Department’s work.

**Old Business:** None to discuss

### **New Business**

---

- **Recent Bids:** Finance Director, Christa Byrd, reviewed a list of recent bids
- **County General Update:** Mayor Humphrey discussed the several vacancies that we currently have in Carter County. The vacancies Mayor Humphrey mentioned included: a Judicial Commissioner, Eighth District County Commissioner, Eighth District Parks and Recreation Board Member, Audit Committee, and electing a County Attorney. Mayor Humphrey also discussed the meeting that will be on April 6, 2016 at 10 AM with Buildings and Grounds chair, Law Enforcement chair, the Mayor, Chief Parrish, and Reedy and Sykes regarding possible changes to the courthouse to improve security.
- **County Highway Department Update:** Mr. Roger Colbaugh began by stating that the Highway Department has started their summer tasks of slope mowing and paving. Mr. Colbaugh stated that the Highway Department is currently prepping a lane off of Cedar Grove and should be completed next week. They have completed paving over the Railroad Grade Bridge project. The Highway Department is beginning work on the leased property from the School Department. The final goal for this property is to store

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 6, 2016

8:30 am

---

equipment and salt. With exception to the paperwork, the Cedar Grove Project is complete. Mr. Colbaugh gave all credit for the Cedar Grove Project to the mayor for his hard work in getting this completed. Mr. Von Cannon wanted to know why federal government has not allocated Federal maintenance money to the Little Stoney Creek Road, White Oak Road, Walnut Mountain Road, and Extension of Dennis Cove Road to maintain them since they lead into National Forrest. The mayor used Secure Rural Schools Funding to get the Dennis Cove road paved.

- **County School Department Update:** Dr. Ward discussed ACT boot camp, literacy programs, and dropout rates. Dr. Ward mentioned that Tennessee Technology has been wonderful to work with our school system. Dr. Ward also mentioned how well the K-12 literacy instruction programs are going. He also hopes to get additional funding to get a reading specialist to work with each one of the schools to achieve our goals in literacy. Dr. Ward also made mention that Carter County was able to meet the extra ninety minute PE time in our elementary schools but have not achieved this fully in our high schools. Mr. Russel will be at Hampton High School on April 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Para-professional salary study.
- **Bobby Gouge-Dietz:** Mrs. Gouge-Dietz commented on how happy she is with the direction education is heading in regard to the literacy program. Mr. Lyons stated that he appreciates that we are digging in on the literacy program as well.
- **Ray Lyons:** Mr. Lyons made comment on meeting the budget deadline in regards to EMS task force. Mr. Lyons stated that Dr. Acuff is doing a great job in the comparison analysis covering topics such as normal expenses and salaries. Mr. Lyons wanted to make sure that the county stresses the importance of meeting all budget deadlines. He also commented that Ms. Culler, Mrs. Byrd, and he are trying their best to work together without having actual meetings to make the budget process more efficient than past years.
- **Charles VonCannon:** Mr. VonCannon stated that Ed Jordan's effort has brought a lot of attention to the county concerning clean-up. He also stated that he agrees that this is an issue that needs attention but his concern is the burden this clean-up will put on the landfill. Mr. VonCannon stated that if we are serious about this issue the commission will need to put some money into this effort in some way. Mr. Lyons mentioned Ed Jordan has a meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 6 PM at the Smokehouse Restaurant. Mr. VonCannon added that the literacy effort is needed at this time. He would also like to get a list of Acronyms from the school department for the committee's understanding of their lingo. Mr. VonCannon also mentioned that the Commissioner of Education will be at Unaka High School on Friday.
- **Danny Ward:** Mr. Ward showed appreciation for everyone's support during his hospital stay. He also brought to the committee's attention that Food City is part of the Adopt-A-Highway program and they have adopted two sections this year for a total of four miles. Mr. Ward wanted to get some clear bags to give organizations to help sort trash from recyclable materials. Mr. VonCannon stated that we could end up with a lot of trash in

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 6, 2016

8:30 am

---

regards to this effort that is not expensed somewhere. Mr. Ward stated that TDOT pays for the trash pick-up for the Adopt-A-Highway program once it gets to the landfill. Mr. Ward also stated that the Tourism meetings have had a lot of great dialogue come from it. He wanted to let everyone know that the meetings for Tourism is held at the airport at 6 PM the Monday after the Commission meeting. Mr. McQueen, the chairman of the Tourism Committee, wanted to thank the individuals that made the committee happen. Mr. McQueen believes that this committee gets more outreach in the county. Mr. McQueen stated that he did invite Mr. Jordan to be at the Tourism Committee meeting and he also expressed Mr. Miller's slogan "The right bags in the right hands".

- **Adjourn:** Motion made by the Mayor, Second by Bobbie Gouge-Dietz

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kennedy

---

Ray Lyons, Approved for File