

Fentress County Board of Commission *Minutes*

Regular Meeting: March 17th, 2025

Location: Historic Courthouse, 101 Main
Street Jamestown, TN 38556

The Fentress County Board of Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Jimmy Johnson, County Executive.

In opening ceremonies, the Clarkrange JROTC presented the colors, Commissioner Larry Cooper led the pledge of allegiance and Brother Dustin Ward led the opening prayer.

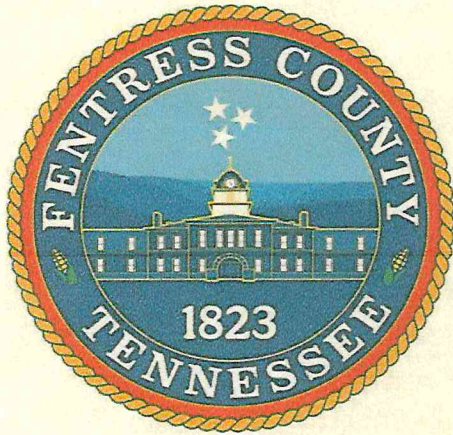
County Clerk Amanda Hicks conducted the Roll Call for the County Commission.

1 st District Commissioner Justin Miller	- Present
1 st District Commissioner Ben Cooper	-Present
2 nd District Commissioner J.P. Reagan	- Present
2 nd District Commissioner Kim Davidson	- Present
3 rd District Commissioner Robert Cooper	- Present
3 rd District Commissioner Benny Hughes	- Present
4 th District Commissioner Lester Gooding	- ABSENT
4 th District Commissioner Leon Stepp	- Present
5 th District Commissioner Larry Cooper	- Present
5 th District Commissioner Rita Pierce Murphy	- Present

A quorum was established with 9 members present. Lester Gooding absent.

Agenda Item#6: Leon Stepp made the motion to approve the **minutes** as presented from the February 18th, 2025 regular meeting. This was seconded by Robert Cooper. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item#7: Ben Cooper made the motion to approve the **agenda** for the March 17th, 2025 meeting. This was seconded by Larry Cooper. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.



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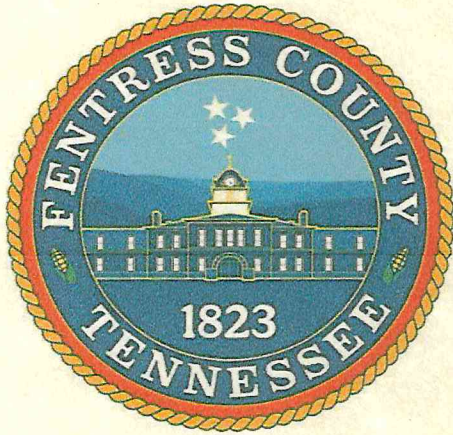
Agenda Item #8: Robert Cooper made the motion to approve the following **notary applications:** Tonya L. French, Deborah Bilbrey, Tracy Smith, Edith Haueisen, Mattheew J. Brown, Allen Kirkland Wright, and Lynn Stephens. This was seconded by Benny Hughes. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item#9 The Commission Presented a **PROCLAMATION** in recognition of Miss Jaden Evans for her athletic accomplishments in her two years of wrestling at YAI.

Agenda Item#10: Budget Amendments for approval as submitted by the Finance Director Tyler Arms.

FUND 101 HAZARD MITIGATION Kim Davidson made the motion to approve the amount of **\$184,620** for the generator grant at Clarkrange Highschool. This was seconded by Leon Stepp. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper pass, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for. 8 for, 0 against, 1 pass, 1 absent. Motion passes.

FUND 101 SOUTH FENTRESS PARK Benny Hughes made the motion to approve the amount of **\$100** for rental fees. This was seconded by Rita Pierce Murphy. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Robert Cooper pass, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for. 8 for, 0 against, 1 pass, 1 absent. Motion passes.



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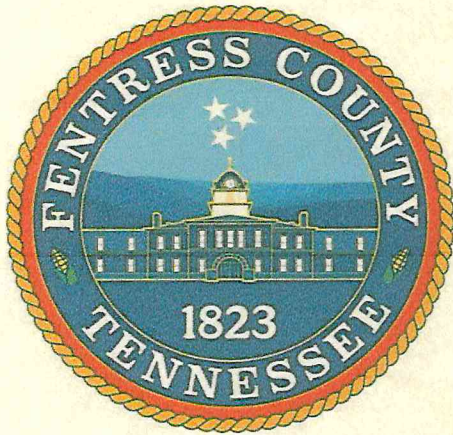
FUND 141 BOARD OF EDUCATION Larry Cooper made the motion to approve the amount of **\$45,920.85** reallocating grant money from the Center Program to the Home Program. This was seconded by J.P. Reagan. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for. 9 for 0 against 1 absent. Motion passes.

FUND 141 BOARD OF EDUCATION Kim Davidson made the motion to approve the amount of **\$20,452.89** for the GP Student Body Ed Program. This was seconded by Ben Cooper. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for. 9 for 0 against 1 absent. Motion passes.

FUND 141 BOARD OF EDUCATION In the amount of **\$6891.40**. This was not required to be voted on because it was only a line item transfer.

FUND 131 HIGHWAY Robert Cooper made the motion to approve the amount of **\$71,074** for sale of equipment and insurance recovery. This was seconded by Leon Stepp. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for. 9 for 0 against 1 absent. Motion passes.

Agenda Item #11: Benny Hughes made the motion to approve the **road classifications** for Gallaher Lane, Long Branch Court and West Fentress Rd. This was seconded by Robert Cooper. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call: Justin Miller for, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for,



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Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for. 9 for 0 against 1 absent.
Motion passes.

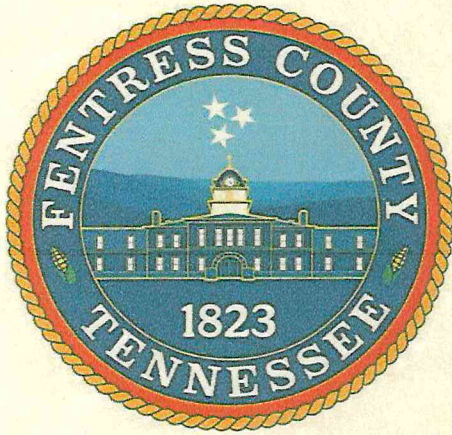
Agenda Item #12: Ryan Reed Road Superintendent addressed the commission and requested that remaining funds from **FUND 176** be moved to **FUND 131**. All of the roads that were obligated in FUND 176 have been repaired and the remaining funds will be used to address urgent paving needs within fund 131. Robert Cooper made the motion to approve the request. This was seconded by Rita Pierce Murphy. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for, Lester Gooding absent, Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller for. 9 for 0 against 1 absent. Motion passes.

Agenda Item #13: Ben Cooper made the motion to approve the **Highway Department Employee Policy**. This was seconded by Leon Stepp. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item #14: Larry Cooper made the motion to approve the **lease** with Upper Cumberland Workforce located at 207 N. Smith Street. The lease revenue is to be placed into the general fund. This was seconded by Benny Hughes. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item #15: Larry Cooper made the motion to approve the **lease** with Putnam County Board of Education located at 207 N. Smith Street. The lease revenue is to be placed into the general fund. This was seconded by Robert Cooper. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item #16: Larry Cooper made the motion not to proceed with the **TCRS Actuary Study**. This was seconded by Robert Cooper. Executive Johnson called for



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discussion and comment, none were presented. Roll Call Vote: Leon Stepp for, Rita Pierce Murphy for, Larry Cooper for, Ben Cooper for, Justin Miller against, J.P. Reagan for, Kim Davidson for, Benny Hughes for, Robert Cooper for, Lester Gooding absent. 8 for 1 against 1 absent. Motion passes.

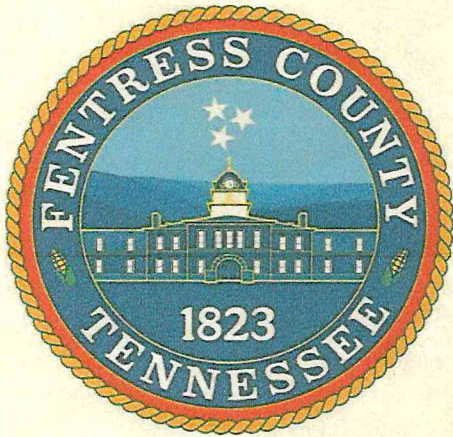
Agenda Item #17: Robert Cooper made the motion to approve the appointment of Daryl Widebeck as the Fentress County **Veterans Service Officer**. With the start date of April 1st 2025. This was seconded by Leon Stepp. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item #18: The consideration of **Volunteer Firefighters** who are county employees being eligible for pay if there is a dispatched fire call while they are on shift at their county job was moved to committee meetings to be discussed.

Agenda Item #19: Kim Davidson made the motion to update the language in the **employee handbook** concerning **drug testing**. The new language in the reasonable suspicion testing section will require the test to be taken by close of business the same day it is requested or it will be deemed a failed test. This was seconded by Rita Pierce Murphy. Executive Johnson called for discussion and comment, none were presented. Voice Vote Results 9 “ayes” 0 “nays” 1 absent. Motion Passes.

Agenda Item #20 Any other Business: None Presented.

FYI'S –In the packet not discussed in the meeting, Summary Financial Statement ending February 2025 & all funds' cash flow 2024-2025 and Labor Force Estimates for LWDA.



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The Meeting of the Fentress County Board of Commission **ADJOURNED** at 6:30 p.m.
on a Motion by Benny Hughes which was seconded by Larry Cooper. Voice Vote
Results 9 "ayes" 0 "nays" 1 absent.

Certification of Approval of the March 17th, 2025 Minutes on this 21st Day of April,
2025.

Jimmy Johnson, County Executive

Amanda A. Hicks, County Clerk

