

COUNTY COMMISSION-REGULAR SESSION

JANUARY 18, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT:

COUNTY COMMISSION MET PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT IN REGULAR SESSION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 18, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M. IN BLOUNTVILLE, TENNESSEE. PRESENT AND PRESIDING WAS HONORABLE RICHARD VENABLE, COUNTY CHAIRMAN AND TERESA JACOBS, COUNTY CLERK OF SAID BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,

TO WIT:

The Commission was called to order by County Chairman Richard Venable, SGT. Phillip White opened the commission and Commissioner Larry Crawford gave the invocation. The pledge to the flag was led by Sgt. Phillip White.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AND ANSWERING ROLL WERE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| DAVID AKARD | MARK IRESON |
| | SAMUEL "SAM" JONES |
| | DWIGHT KING |
| MICHAEL COLE | TONY LEONARD |
| LARRY CRAWFORD | MICHAEL HUNTER LOCKE |
| ANDREW CROSS | |
| JOYCE NEAL CROSSWHITE | JESSICA MEANS |
| JOHN GARDNER | ARCHIE PIERCE |
| HERSHEL GLOVER | MATT SLAGLE |
| CHERYL HARVEY | GARY STIDHAM |
| | ZANE VANOVER |
| | TRAVIS WARD |

19 PRESENT, 5 ABSENT
ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: CALTON, CARR, HAYES,
HORNE, MCMURRAY

The following pages indicate the action taken by the Commission on approval of notary applications and personal surety bonds, motions, resolutions, and other matters subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners.

Motion was made by Comm. Gardner and seconded by Comm. Jones to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of the County Commission held on December 21, 2023. Said motion was approved by Roll Call Vote. 19 Yes, 5 Absent.

Agenda subject voting report

075

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

1 Mayor/Chairman Richard S. Venable presiding. Call to order by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy

Description Sullivan County Commission

January 18, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Chairman Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:05:13 PM
Voting stop time 6:05:46 PM
Voting configuration Roll Call - Attendances
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Present | 19 |
| Total Present | 19 |
| Total Seats | 28 |
| Absent | 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| No group | 19 | 0 |
| Total result | 19 | 0 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | |
| Gardner, John () | X | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | |
| Hayes, David () | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | |
| King, Dwight () | X | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | |

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
January 18, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Commission Room
Historic Sullivan County Courthouse

AGENDA

- ❖ Call to Order by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy
- ❖ Mayor Richard Venable presiding.
- ❖ Invocation
- ❖ Pledge to the American Flag
- ❖ Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk
- ❖ Guest Speakers, Proclamations, Recognitions & Presentations
- ❖ Proclamation Honoring Coach John McCrary for exemplary community service to Sullivan County
- ❖ Speaker: Greene County Mayor Kevin Morrison
- ❖ Speaker: Warriors Path State Park Manager Chris Cole
- ❖ Appointments
- ❖ Approval of Commission Minutes from Previous Meeting
- ❖ (Minutes are provided to commission members electronically and are available to the public at www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes)
- ❖ Approval of Notaries Public
- ❖ Public Comment
- ❖ Consent Agenda (Items 2, 3)
- ❖ Resolutions
- ❖ Announcements and Adjournment



Proclamation

Mr. John McCrary

WHEREAS, John McCrary spent half a century dedicated to the betterment of youth in Sullivan County and elsewhere in the region, encouraging countless students to excel and leading by example every step of the way; and

WHEREAS, Coach McCrary has left a legacy through that leadership, including the more than two dozen former student athletes who went on to themselves become coaches; and

WHEREAS, Coach McCrary began his coaching career in 1966 as assistant coach at Lynn View High School, becoming head coach at that Sullivan County school in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Coach McCrary moved on to be head basketball coach at Sullivan North High School when the school opened in 1980 and continued to lead the Golden Raiders basketball team until he stepped down in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Coach McCrary was offered and accepted the position of head coach at Twin Springs High School in neighboring Scott County, Virginia shortly after departing Sullivan North, further burnishing his life-long role of community service with an emphasis on guiding and encouraging students to dream big, aim high, work as a team and succeed on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, when he retired in 2016, after 50 years of "holding court," Coach McCrary's long and illustrious career tallied almost 700 wins by his teams at three different schools, including more than 200 during his 13 years at Twin Springs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on behalf of the Sullivan County Commission, I, Mayor Richard S. Venable, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2024 to be Coach John McCrary Day in Sullivan County, Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join in recognizing Coach McCrary's outstanding contributions to Sullivan County and the region, during which he served as an exemplary leader for our youth and his colleagues in the county educational system.

Subscribed this 18th day of January 2024.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Sullivan County, Tennessee to be affixed in Blountville on this 18th day of January 2024.



Richard S. Venable

Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor

BEFORE THE COUNTY MAYOR OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In Re:)
SOUTH FORK UTILITY DISTRICT)
OF SULLIVAN)
COUNTY, TENNESSEE)

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT OF UTILITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

The undersigned Commissioners of South Fork Utility District of Sullivan County, Tennessee ("the District"), do hereby certify that a vacancy exists on the District Board of Commissioners, due to the resignation of Commissioner Diann Lockner. Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 7-82-307(a), the members of the Board of Commissioners hereby certify the nomination of the following qualified individuals for appointment to such vacancy, being listed in order of preference:

- 1. Robert Bebber
2. Vicki Sams
3. Gail Dillon

Wherefore, the District petitions the County Mayor of Sullivan County, Tennessee, to make an appointment from such nominees to fill the said vacancy within 21 days from and after the date of filing of this certification with the County Mayor.

In accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated § 7-82-307(a)(5)(A), a copy of this certification is being sent to Richard S. Venable, County Mayor for Sullivan County, Tennessee. This 14th day of December, 2023.

Commissioner: [Signature]
Commissioner: [Signature]
Commissioner: [Signature]
Commissioner: [Signature]

Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

079

Before the Mayor of Sullivan County, Tennessee

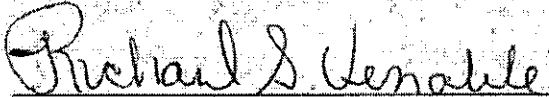
**IN RE: South Fork Utility District
Sullivan County, Tennessee**

Order Appointing Utility District Commissioner

WHEREAS, the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Mayor, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307, that a vacancy has occurred upon said utility board by resignation of Commissioner Diann Lockner; and

WHEREAS, the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners further certifies that the nominee, Robert Bebber, is qualified to fill said vacancy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by Sullivan County Mayor, Richard S. Venable, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307 that nominee, Robert Bebber, shall be appointed to the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners.


Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor

Said order confirmed and entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this 18th day of January 2024


Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk

Agenda subject voting report

080

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

3 Approval of Commission Minutes Motion to approve by: Comm. Gardner
 2nd by: Comm. Cross, Jones

Description

Chairman Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:26:30 PM
Voting stop time 6:26:52 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Yes | 19 |
| Abstain | 0 |
| No | 0 |
| Total Present | 19 |
| Absent | 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| No group | 19 | 0 |
| Total result | 19 | 0 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Abstain | No | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|---------|----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | | | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | | | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | | | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | | | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | | | |
| Gardner, John () | X | | | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | | | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | | | |
| Hayes, David () | | | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | | | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | | | |
| King, Dwight () | X | | | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | | | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | | | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | | | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | | | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | | | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | | | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | | | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | | | |

SULLIVAN COUNTY CLERK
 TERESA JACOBS COUNTY CLERK
 3258 HIGHWAY 126 SUITE 101
 BLOUNTVILLE TN 37617
 Telephone 423-323-6428
 Fax 423-279-2725

Notaries to be elected January 18, 2024

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| TODD CASSIDY | CHRISTY PERRY |
| MAKENNA RYLEE CHAFIN | KENNY BO PERRY II |
| COURTNEY ANNE CLEEK | AMBER JOLENE PROCTOR |
| CALVIN D CLIFTON | KALEY MELISA RASNICK |
| CHARLOTTE MCDANIEL COMAGE | KATRINA J. ROBINSON |
| KAREN LAVONNE FORD | REBECCA ROCKWELL |
| JUSTIN DOUGLAS GRAHAM | DEBBIE SCOTT |
| HEATHER L HAYES | ROBIN STEVENS |
| BETH HOBBS | LAGENIA B TURNER |
| BRIANNA MARIE LUXTON | CARLEY VERBAL |
| RHONDA L MARSH | BRANDI N VESTAL |
| JOSEPH E. MAY | PAT WHOLEY |
| RICKY LEE MCVEY II | KIMBERLY RAE WITHERSPOON |
| SUSAN WOLFORD OSBURN | HANNAH YATES |

PERSONAL SURETY
 \$10,000 U.S. SPECIALTY INSURED

**UPON MOTION MADE BY COMM. CROSS AND SECONDED BY COMM. GARDNER TO APPROVE
 THE NOTARY APPLICATIONS HEREON, SAID MOTION WAS APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF
 THE COMMISSION.**

19 YES, 5 ABSENT

STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

APPROVAL OF NOTARY

SURETY BONDS

January 18th, 2024

Name of Notary

Personal Surety

Personal Surety

Teresa Pierson

Barry Epps

Deloris W. Hubbard

UPON MOTION MADE BY COMM. CROSS AND SECONDED BY COMM. GARDNER TO APPROVE THE NOTARY BONDS OF THE ABOVE NAMED INDIVIDUALS, SAID MOTION WAS APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COMMISSION.

19 YES, 5 ABSENT

Agenda subject voting report

083

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

3.1 Approval of Notaries Public Motion to approve by: Comm. Gardner
 2nd by: Comm. Cross

Description

Chairman Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:28:23 PM
Voting stop time 6:28:39 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Yes | 19 |
| Abstain | 0 |
| No | 0 |
| Total Present | 19 |
| Absent | 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| No group | 19 | 0 |
| Total result | 19 | 0/5 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Abstain | No | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|---------|----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | | | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | | | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | | | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | | | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | | | |
| Gardner, John () | X | | | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | | | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | | | |
| Hayes, David () | | | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | | | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | | | |
| King, Dwight () | X | | | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | | | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | | | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | | | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | | | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | | | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | | | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | | | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | | | |

Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 2 Resolution No. 2024-01-02 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE FY 2023 NO KID HUNGRY GRANT FUNDS IN THE 2023-24 BUDGET.

Item 3 Resolution No. 2024-01-03 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION to APPROVE AN EXPENDITURE/APPROPRIATION FROM THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING AT THE SULLIVAN EAST HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD.



Agenda subject voting report

085

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

3.3 Consent Agenda (2, 3)

Description

Motion to approve by Akard
2nd by Gardner

In accordance with Commission Rules, three minutes is allowed per person/group; a total of thirty minutes will be devoted to public comment.

Chairman

Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:29:38 PM
Voting stop time 6:29:52 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Yes | 19 |
| Abstain | 0 |
| No | 0 |
| Total Present | 19 |
| Absent | 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| No group | 19 | 0 |
| Total result | 19 | 0 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Abstain | No | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|---------|----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | | | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | | | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | | | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | | | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | | | |
| Gardner, John () | X | | | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | | | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | | | |
| Hayes, David () | | | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | | | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | | | |
| King, Dwight () | X | | | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | | | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | | | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | | | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | | | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | | | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | | | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | | | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | | | |

Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

RESOLUTIONS

January 18, 2024

OLD BUSINESS

(NONE)

NEWS BUSINESS

Item 2 Resolution No. 2024-01-02 (CONSENT)

APPROVED

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE FY 2023 NO KID HUNGRY GRANT FUNDS IN THE 2023-24 BUDGET.

Item 3 Resolution No. 2024-01-03 (CONSENT)

APPROVED

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION to APPROVE AN EXPENDITURE/APPROPRIATION FROM THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING AT THE SULLIVAN EAST HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD.

Item 4 Resolution 2024-01-04

APPROVED

Sponsors: Vanover/Glover

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT'S RECYCLING PROGRAMS CONTINUED GROWTH AND FUTURE EXPANSION, WITH A FOCUS ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS TO INCREASE RECYCLING EFFORTS WHICH ENHANCE DIVERSION OF RECYCLABLES FROM THE SOLID WASTES STREAM

Item 5 Resolution 2024-01-05

APPROVED

Sponsors:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UTILIZING FUNDS FROM THEIR FUND BALANCE TO PURCHASE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT.



Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

Item 2
 No. 2024-01-02

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of January 2024.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE FY 2023 NO KID HUNGRY GRANT FUNDS IN THE 2023-24 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education School Nutrition Fund has received funding through the state of Tennessee to support summer feeding; and

WHEREAS, the funds granted to Sullivan County Department of Education School Nutrition Fund for the 2022-23 year were \$26,000.00. However, all the funds were not obligated prior to June 30th;

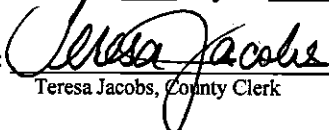
WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education School Nutrition Fund is recognizing the carryover funds in the 2023-24 budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Sullivan County Department of Education to recognize said grant funds; not to exceed the above amount (\$16,081.00). The revenue and expenditure account codes for the grant are as follows:

| Account Number | Account Description | Amount |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 47990-062 | Other Federal Grants | 16,081.00 |
| 73100-100 | Personnel | 5,536.00 |
| 73100-200 | Employee Benefits | 545.00 |
| 73100-700 | Capital Outlay | 10,000.00 |

This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Approved this 18th day of January, 2024.

Attest: 
 Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Approved: 
 Richard S. Venable, County Mayor

Sponsored By: Joyce Crosswhite

Co-Sponsor(s): Zane Vanover

2024-01-02 ACTIONS: 01/18/24 Approved on Consent 19 Yes, 5 Absent



Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

Item 3
 No. 2024-01-03

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of January 2024.

RESOLUTION to APPROVE AN EXPENDITURE/APPROPRIATION FROM THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING AT THE SULLIVAN EAST HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD.

WHEREAS on January 4, 2024, the Board of Education during its regularly scheduled meeting approved the expenditure from the Sullivan County Board of Education Undesignated Fund Balance to secure a qualified architect to design this project and place it out for bids; and,

WHEREAS the Board of Education also approved total expenditures of the project up to \$350,000.00;

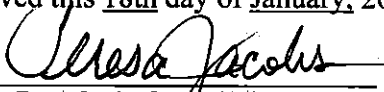
NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Purchasing Agent to secure an architect and bids to complete this project.

This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Waiver of Rules Requested

Approved this 18th day of January, 2024.

Attest:


 Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk


 Richard S. Venable, County Mayor

Sponsored By: Joyce Crosswhite

Co-Sponsor(s): Zane Vanover, Hershel Glover, Dwight King, Michael Cole, Tony Leonard
 2024-01-03 ACTIONS 01/18/24 Approved on Consent 19 Yes, 5 Absent



Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

Item 4
No. 2024-01-04

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of January, 2024.

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT'S RECYCLING PROGRAMS CONTINUED GROWTH AND FUTURE EXPANSION, WITH A FOCUS ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS TO INCREASE RECYCLING EFFORTS WHICH ENHANCE DIVERSION OF RECYCLABLES FROM THE SOLID WASTES STREAM

Whereas, recycling in Tennessee protects the environment, conserves natural resources, promotes energy efficiency, and supports economic development; and

Whereas, annually, Sullivan County disposes of 11,547 tons of solid waste paying average landfill disposal fees of approximately \$243,000.00; and

Whereas, during the same period, Sullivan County's conventional collection programs recycled 3,239 tons of material saving landfill disposal fees of approximately \$84,214.00; and

Whereas; Sullivan County has performed above standard for diversion rate of recycled materials. State of Tennessee requires Sullivan County to divert 25% of its solid waste to recycling streams. We have met and exceeded that mark every year, but it is becoming more difficult due to the remarkable growth in our county and the increase in solid waste produced; and

Whereas, the recycling industry is composed of haulers, collectors, processors, brokers, recycling equipment sales and manufacturers, and end users, or manufacturers who use recycled feed stock and make recycled content products from material; and

Whereas, through the recognition and promotion of economic growth of business, growth of population, and environmental benefits of recycling, Sullivan Counties recycling industry is growing at an unprecedented rate; and

Whereas, the significant benefits of recycling provide, saving space in local landfills, protecting the natural resources of not only Sullivan County but surrounding counties, energy savings, and additional revenue stream for Sullivan County to at least provide a break even point for processing material for recycling, and.



Whereas, manufacturing of recycled products requires, on average, seventeen times less energy than manufacturing the same products out of virgin materials; and

Whereas such, in addition to the traditionally understood benefits of recycling as a conservation and waste management tool, recycling is becoming known as an economic and energy source to help combat the nation's growing economic and energy crisis; and

Whereas, Sullivan County has the opportunity to work with other local governments and forge private relationships to set Sullivan County as a leader in the recycling industry for East Tennessee and surrounding region; and

Whereas, at this time Sullivan County Solid Waste and Recycling has reached its limit of material that we can process due to manpower and equipment. This is being improved with the building of a new recycling plant, but Sullivan County has a vision to grow and keep up with demand for the future; and

Whereas, the new Sullivan County Recycling Plant will be a hub for the area, this will promote job creation through recycling, lower the disposal costs through cost avoidance, and generate revenue from the sale of commodities thereby assisting in funding Sullivan Counties Solid Waste and Recycling department; and

Whereas, Sullivan County purpose is to promote and participate in the benefits stated above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Sullivan County will participate with the opportunity to promote and increase recycling, collection of recyclables, and use of the new Recycling Plant supported by the Sullivan County Commission, through providing recycling education, seeking grant funding where available, reporting of commodity data to the state; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: Any financial participation will be debated and approved by separate resolutions or through the appropriate department budget through existing processes.

This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Waiver of Rules Requested

Approved this 18th day of January, 2024.

Attest:


Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk


Richard S. Venable, County Mayor

Sponsored By: Zane Vanover

Co-Sponsors: Hershel Glover, Dwight King, Michael Cole, Tony Leonard, Joyce Crosswhite, everyone voting in the affirmative.

2024-01-04 ACTIONS 01/18/24 Approved on Waiver of Rules 19 Yes, 5 Absent



Agenda subject voting report

091

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

33 Item 4 Resolution No. 2024-01-04 Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite
Vote

Description

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT'S RECYCLING PROGRAMS CONTINUED GROWTH AND FUTURE EXPANSION, WITH A FOCUS ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS TO INCREASE RECYCLING EFFORTS WHICH ENHANCE DIVERSION OF RECYCLABLES FROM THE SOLID WASTES STREAM

Chairman

Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:31:43 PM
Voting stop time 6:31:59 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Yes | 18 19 |
| Abstain | 0 |
| No | 0 |
| Total Present | 18 19 |
| Absent | 0 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|
| No group | 18 | 0 |
| Total result | 18 19 | 0 5 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Abstain | No | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|---------|----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | | | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | | | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | | | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | | | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | | | |
| Gardner, John () | X | | | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | | | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | | | |
| Hayes, David () | | | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | | | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | | | |
| King, Dwight () | X | | | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | | | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | | | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | | | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | | | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | | | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | | | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | | | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | | | |

Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
244th Annual Session

Item 5
No. 2024-01-05

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of January, 2024.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UTILIZING FUNDS FROM THEIR FUND BALANCE TO PURCHASE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Highway Department wishes to streamline operations and minimize down time to efficiently maintain and preserve approximately 850 miles of roadways: and

WHEREAS, through research of needed specialized equipment, it was determined to include specific purchases as follows: --2- tandem dump trucks (one was totaled in November), grader, road tractor, print machine, water wash truck.

WHEREAS, said fund request to make these purchases is available within the Highway Department's fund balance with no new money needed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session on the 18th day of January 2024 hereby authorizes the Sullivan County Highway Department to utilize their fund balance in the amount of 1,100,000.00 to purchase much needed specialized equipment to continue providing maintenance, repair, and preservation of Sullivan County's roadways. Said equipment purchases as per the list attached. Account Codes to be assigned by the Director of Accounts and Budgets.

WAIVER OF RULES REQUESTED

This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Approved this 18th day of January, 2024

Attest: *Teresa Jacobs*
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Approved: *Richard S. Venable*
Richard S. Venable, County Mayor

Sponsored By: Commissioner Dwight King
Co-Sponsor: Commissioner Hershel Glover

2024-01-05 ACTIONS: 01/18/24 Approved on Waiver of Rules 19 Yes, 5 Absent



Agenda subject voting report

093

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission January 18 2024

1/18/2024

35 Item 5 Resolution No. 2024-01-05 Sponsors: King/Glover
Vote

Description

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UTILIZING FUNDS FROM THEIR FUND BALANCE TO PURCHASE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT.

Chairman

Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 6:34:36 PM
Voting stop time 6:34:51 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Yes | 19 |
| Abstain | 0 |
| No | 0 |
| Total Present | 19 |
| Absent | 5 |

Group voting result

| Group | Yes | Absent |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| No group | 19 | 0 |
| Total result | 19 | 0 |

Individual voting result

| Name | Yes | Abstain | No | Absent |
|----------------------|-----|---------|----|--------|
| Akard, David () | X | | | |
| Calton, Darlene () | | | | X |
| Carr, Joe () | | | | X |
| Cole, Michael () | X | | | |
| Crawford, Larry () | X | | | |
| Cross, Andrew () | X | | | |
| Crosswhite, Joyce () | X | | | |
| Gardner, John () | X | | | |
| Glover, Hershel () | X | | | |
| Harvey, Cheryl () | X | | | |
| Hayes, David () | | | | X |
| Horne, Daniel () | | | | X |
| Ireson, Mark () | X | | | |
| Jones, Sam () | X | | | |
| King, Dwight () | X | | | |
| Leonard, Tony () | X | | | |
| Locke, Hunter () | X | | | |
| McMurray, Joe () | | | | X |
| Means, Jessica () | X | | | |
| Pierce, Archie () | X | | | |
| Slagle, Matt () | X | | | |
| Stidham, Gary () | X | | | |
| Vanover, Zane () | X | | | |
| Ward, Travis () | X | | | |

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

4-H

School Clubs and Community Based Clubs

- Agents met **73** monthly in-school clubs: **69** in-school clubs 4th and 5th grades, **(3)** 6th,7th,8th grades and **(1)** High school
- **1039** 4-H members are currently enrolled in school clubs, *an increase from May 2022*
- **8** New School clubs added-Kingsport City School: **Jefferson Elementary**
- **170** youth participated in Public Speaking. **32** youth attended the county contest, **4** attended sub-region
- **24** youth participated in Demonstration contest. **1** youth attended the county contest, **1** attended region
- **78** posters were entered at the club level and **37** advanced to the county wide contest
- **52** youth participated in the County Photography Contest
- **170** speeches were presented at the club level with **32** of those advancing to the County Public Speaking Contest. **3** speeches were given at regional level.
- **42** participants in local Bread baking contest

Clover Bowl

- **59** youth participated in the County Clover Bowl Competition, and **3** teams advanced to the regional level. At the regional level, the 5th grade team placed **2nd out of 20** teams and **80** participants.

Camping

- **85** youth participated in Junior camp, *an increase of 39 youth from 2022*. **10** volunteers contributed an estimated **\$7,135** with **\$28.54** being the TN volunteer donation hourly rate for 2023. An approximate total **\$3,665** was generated in program fees to use for county camp programming and scholarships.
- A total of **94** youth attended overnight camping programs: Junior/Jr. High Camp

Project Based Clubs

- **Poultry: 36** youth participated in the Chick Chain Project, **18** youth participated in the show and sale that was hosted.
- **Impact:** Multi-County poultry show raised over **\$3,585** in chicken sales. Breed winners and Poultry Skill-a-thon winners awards were made possible by the following local donors: Appalachian Fair, Rural King of Bristol, Tractor Supply of Piney Flats.
- **Chick-Chain feedback:** 4-H Dad reports, *"I have not spent as much time with my son in a while, and because of the Chick Chain Project we were able to spend more quality time and bond during the time spent caring for the chicks."*
- **Creative Arts & Design:** **8** 4-H members participated in a week-long Quilt-focused day camp.

- A 4-H alumni and volunteer taught a log-cabin design quilting class. She noted it was a full circle moment because she was a state winning creative arts and design project winner and attended the National 4-H Event as a 4-H member. She said *"It was rewarding to give back the program that ignited my passion for sewing, and the 4-H members really seemed to enjoy learning the art of quilting!"*
- **STEM:** Started new STEM Club after-school in **3** county Middle schools with Polymer focus; **21** members
- **Virtual Vet Science:** **5-16** youth(average) participated in the Virtual Vet club through county office from Sept-May.
- **County Beef Show:** the Sullivan County Cattlemen Association and Holston Ruritan Club provided \$500 in-kind contribution for the County Show; **22** 4-H exhibitors and **46** head of cattle.
- **County Sheep/Goat Show:** **12** exhibitors with **41** head of sheep and **10** exhibitors with **35** head of goats.

Judging Teams

- **Horse Hippology/Horse Bowl:** **1** Junior participant placed **5th** individual out of **32**. **3** Junior High participants placed **4th** Team overall with individual placements of **9th, 11th and 22nd**, respectively out of **54** participants. **Junior High** team qualified for **State Junior High Hippology Contest**.
- **Horse Judging:** Senior High: **7th** High Individual
- **Livestock Judging:** Junior High participant placed **#31** out of **132** participants. Senior High participant placed **#18** out of **72** participants. Sullivan County had **(2)** individuals compete.
- **Poultry Judging:** Junior High Team had a **3rd** Team placement and a **6th** individual placing
 - **Impact and feedback**
 - 4-H member stated *"It is cool to learn why my hens lay certain eggs the way they do. That's why I think judging practices are important."*
 - 4-H Mom & Volunteer, *"After my daughter participated in the Poultry Judging contest and won a 6th individual placing, she has been a different child. She has come out of her shell and is more engaging with the family."*
- **Grill Master Challenge:** **14** youth participants- **12** of **14** participants placed in the top ten in their respective classes and the Junior High team placed **2nd** place overall for tabletop display and Senior High Team placed **3rd** overall for tabletop display. A Junior, Junior High and Senior High Team with **(2)** 4-Hers competing as individuals.
 - **Impact:** **9** of **14** 4-H members report they learned a new skill and now confidently grill at home.

Senior High, Honor Club, & Volunteer Involvement

- 2 attended Junior High Academic Conference
- 1 Senior High member Level 2 state finalist
- 2 Honor Club initiates
- 11 Honor Club meetings were held in 2023
- 2 All Stars initiates
- 2 youth attended Eastern Region Spring All Star Conference
- 2 youth attended Eastern Region Fall All Star Conference
- 1 youth and 1 Volunteer attended Congress Readiness Day and TN 4-H Congress
- 4-H All Star and Honor Club members in County contributed a total of 240 hours of time yielding an economic impact of \$6,748.80
- 42 volunteers served and gave 672 hours yielding an economic impact of \$18,896.64.

Appalachian Fair: 291 entries and 26 exhibitors in the 4-H Building. Out of the Upper 8 counties, Sullivan County had the **2nd highest county entry.**

Winter Wonderland, Multi-County Craft day: 35 youth
Joann's of Kingsport donated supplies.

Farm Expo: An in-kind contribution of \$900 was provided to Sullivan County 4-H. 4-H Club members performed a total of 64 hours of service work to prep, display and clean-up area for local Farm Expo that has 7,000 plus in attendance over 2 days.

Family & Consumer Sciences

Food Safety

Preserving foods through canning allows consumers to enjoy their favorite food products year-round. With the rapid prices of food products increasing, food preservation education is paramount. Through 6 hands-on food preservation workshops, **65 participants** were taught evidence-based canning principles and applied their skills increase confidence to preserve food safely at home

- **Workshop locations:** Sullivan County Extension Office, Dobyns-Bennett High School, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel
 - **Participant feedback:** "The workshop was very informative, and I learned a lot about the canning process."
 - "I was surprised to learn how meticulous yet simple the canning processes are."

Community Health

The **Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program** is a CDC-recognized is a community-based, low-impact recreational exercise program that incorporates modifiable range-of-motion, strengthening, endurance, and balance exercises and relaxation techniques to help manage arthritis symptoms. Classes meeting twice per week for 8 weeks.

- Through 3 class offerings reaching 33 individuals, participants reported increased strength and improved mobility since start of program and learned the importance of working and stretching small joints to continue activities of daily living (ADLs).

- **Participant feedback:** "I really enjoyed this class; the instructor adequately explained how different exercise can help daily function."
- "[The program was] fun, helped get results, even though improvement was doubted."
- "I feel so relaxed and energized after sessions and look forward to it weekly!"

Matter of Balance is an evidence-based program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. Through 6 program offerings, 65 participants completed this fall prevention course programs resulting in estimated medical cost savings of **\$41,203.00**

- As a result of the program, participants report starting new walking routines with friends/neighbors, taking movement breaks during long periods of sitting, and identifying indoor facilities to walk in when weather is not optimal.
- **Participant feedback:** "I recognized the importance of perseverance and exercising even when don't feel like it."
 - "Hiking as always been my preferred form of exercise. After gaining weight and experiencing arthritis in my knees, I stopped. However, because of the program, I worked to shift my mindset by retraining to identify resources (walking stick) and improve balance and strength to start hiking again rather than substituting simply walking. I am starting with short distances with the intent to build up the confidence to start hiking long distances again."

Walk Across Tennessee Sullivan County is an 8-week walking program designed to encourage community members to create/maintain physical activities and challenges participants to walk the length of Tennessee, approximately 440 miles.

- **160 participants/10 teams (ages 5-84) walked 13,092 miles over 8-week period.**
- Participants received weekly newsletters with educational resources including exercise/wellness tips and topics, recipes, and encouragement that accompanied individual and team leaderboards.
- Colonial Heights Wal-Mart sponsored prizes for the top team and top individual with the most reported mileage at the end of the program.

Consumer Economics

THDA Homebuyer's Education online education is available for first-time homebuyers. With 44 single loans completing course and the average house price of \$200,000. This resulted in approximately **\$8,800,000** in economic impact. Based on county tax rate (2.40), this brought roughly **\$55,880** property tax revenue to Sullivan County.

THRIVE (Tennessee Health Resources in Vaccine Education) aims to support a healthier Tennessee through vaccine/health education and awareness. By bringing data-based vaccine information to the residents of Sullivan County, THRIVE aims to alleviate fears regarding vaccinations and provide evidence-based information to allow individuals to make informed decisions about their health. (cont.)

Chair yoga is an accessible, low-impact stretching class designed for individuals with limited mobility that offers gentle solutions to help participants regain flexibility, strength, and peace of mind.

- **Number of Programs: 7; Number of Locations: 5; Number of Participants: 114**
- **Participant feedback:** "For years, I was afraid of exercising—coming to Chair Yoga has shown me that anyone can exercise!"

Arthritis Foundation's Walk with Ease program is a community-based physical activity and self-management education program. The multi-component program includes health education, stretching and strengthening exercises, and motivational strategies to get participants safely moving toward better health.

- As a result of the program that reached **12 individuals**, participants report a reduction of pain and discomfort of arthritis; increased balance, strength and walking pace; and confidence maintaining physically activity
- **Participant feedback:** "I enjoyed this program! In two short months, Walk with Ease helped to decrease my hip pain through structured walking."

Key THRIVE Events:

- **Three** vaccine clinics were held in partnership with Sullivan County Department of Health at the Salvation Army of Bristol, Reedy Pointe, and Grace House
- **Four** free medical clinics were hosted at Community Baptist Church in partnership with Providence Medical Clinic.
- Resource clinic for the unhoused in partnership with Community Baptist, Providence Medical Clinic, Soup for the Soul, Lion's Club, and Healing Hands Health.
 - **64** unhoused individuals were served a hot meal and provided access to a free medical examination, flu/COVID-19 vaccines, clothing, winter preparedness items, haircuts, eye examination and eye glasses, and assistance developing a resume and applying for a new birth certificate.

TNCEP (Tennessee Nutrition and Consumer Education Program) is a partnership between University of Tennessee Extension, the Tennessee Department of Human Services and the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. The characteristic of TNCEP that makes it different from other nutrition education programs is that it is coalition-driven.

- More than **50** students participated in **4** cooking and nutrition camp offerings at the Extension office (**3** summer, **1** fall). Students learned basic cooking skills, healthy eating, and making kid-approved recipes!
- In collaboration with **Head Start**, more than **50** preschool students participated in a nutrition and physical activity program designed to stimulate all the senses
- Through series of evidence-based programs, more than **100** adults improved healthy eating patterns by adhering to the USDA Dietary guidelines, improved diet quality with an estimated reduction of **healthcare costs of \$1340**, and were physically active as a result of Extension programming. Additionally, more than **70** participants report an acquired skill of food budget management.

Agriculture & Natural Resources

- **22** Master Gardener Program graduates
- **136** Master Gardener Volunteers – **10637** volunteer hours valued at **\$338,256.60**
- Participants of a fruit tree grafting class grafted **560** successful fruit tree grafts - **\$14,000.00**
- **32** commercial pesticide applicators earned **5** points each toward their annual certification to legally continue to spray for their company.
- **23** beef producers completed the UT Extension Master Beef Producer certification qualifying them for 50% cost-share in the Tennessee Dept of Ag Cost-Share Program (TAEP).
- TAEP – **1074** projects represent **\$2,809,083** in Sullivan County between 2006 and 2022.

Impact: In March 2009, a community member attended my fruit tree grafting workshop for the first-time. He grafted 10 trees and planted the trees on his farm in Butler, TN that year. He has since retired and moved to his family farm in Butler, TN. For the past thirteen years, he has grafted trees through my workshop and has grown his orchard to 110 trees. As a result of participating in the Sullivan County Fruit Tree Grafting Workshop in 2009, he continues to share his grafting skills with his family and Johnson County community members



4-H Youth Development

Carrie Kruska, Extension Agent

Maggie Malone, Extension Agent

Agriculture/Natural Resources

Chris Ramsey, Extension Agent & County Director

Family & Consumer Sciences

Lydia Hoskins, Extension Agent

Noah Crusenberry, THRIVE Program Assistant

Vacant, TNCEP Program Assistant

UT/TSU Extension, Sullivan County

140 Spurgeon Lane

Blountville, TN 37617

423.574.1919

Sullivan County



AND THEREUPON COUNTY COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M. UPON MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER AKARD TO MEET AGAIN IN REGULAR SESSION ON FEBRUARY 15, 2024.

Richard S. Venable

RICHARD VENABLE

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN