

# COUNTY COMMISSION-REGULAR SESSION

149

**APRIL 17, 2025**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT:

COUNTY COMMISSION MET PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT IN REGULAR SESSION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 17, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M. IN BLOUNTVILLE, TENNESSEE. PRESENT AND PRESIDING WAS COMMISSIONER JOHN GARDNER, CHAIRMAN AND TERESA JACOBS, COUNTY CLERK OF SAID BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,

TO WIT:

The Commission was called to order by Commissioner John Gardner, Chairman. Sheriff Jeff Cassidy opened the commission and Commissioner Crawford gave the invocation. The pledge to the flag was led by Commissioner Jones.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AND ANSWERING ROLL WERE AS FOLLOWS:

	<b>MARK IRESON</b>
<b>DARLENE CALTON</b>	<b>SAMUEL "SAM" JONES</b>
<b>JOE CARR</b>	<b>DWIGHT KING</b>
<b>MICHAEL COLE</b>	<b>TONY LEONARD</b>
<b>LARRY CRAWFORD</b>	<b>HUNTER LOCKE</b>
<b>ANDREW CROSS</b>	
<b>JOYCE CROSSWHITE</b>	<b>JESSICA MEANS</b>
<b>JOHN GARDNER</b>	<b>ARCHIE PIERCE</b>
<b>HERSHEL GLOVER</b>	<b>MATT SLAGLE</b>
<b>CHERYL HARVEY</b>	<b>GARY STIDHAM</b>
	<b>ZANE VANOVER</b>
<b>DANIEL HORNE</b>	

20 PRESENT, 4 ABSENT

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: AKARD, HAYES, MCMURRAY, WARD

NOTE: WARD IN AT 6:05 PM AND MCMURRAY IN AT 6:12 PM

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. Vanover, and seconded by Comm. Means to approve the minutes of the Work Session held on March 13, 2025, and the minutes of the Regular Session held on March 20, 2025. Approved 22 Yes, 2 Absent.

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025

4/17/2025

2 Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk  
Roll Call

- 150

Description

Roll Call

Chairman

Gardner, John

## Total vote result

Voting start time

5:58:30 PM

Voting stop time

5:59:14 PM

Voting configuration

Roll Call - Attendances

Voting mode

Open

Vote result

Present	18 20
Total Present	19
Total Seats	28
Absent	6 4

## Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	19	0

Total result 20 18 4 9

## 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 ()		
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  
Order of Business  
April 17, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

**COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR SESSION**

- ❖ Call to Order by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy
- ❖ Chairman John Gardner presiding
- ❖ Invocation
- ❖ Pledge to the American Flag
- ❖ Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk
- ❖ Proclamations & Recognitions
  - 1) Proclamation of April as Donate Life Month
  - 2) Recognition of Sullivan County's Outstanding Educators:
    - **Elementary School Teacher of the Year:**  
Caren Venable Dean  
Third Grade at Rock Springs
    - **Middle School Teacher of the Year:**  
Cheryl White  
Eighth Grade Math and RTI at Sullivan East Middle
    - **High School Teacher of the Year:**  
Matthew Harrison  
Spanish at Sullivan East High
    - **Principal of the Year:**  
Mike Wilson, Miller Perry Elementary
    - **Supervisor of the Year:**  
Angie Buckles, Assistant Supervisor, Middle School Curriculum Supervisor, and Special Education at Central Office
- ❖ Speakers/Presentations:
  - 1) **Branch House Family Justice Center**  
Executive Director Lence Hendrix, District Attorney General Barry Staubus.
  - 2) **Property Appraisal Update**  
Property Assessor Donna Whitaker
  - 3) **NETWORKS Sullivan Partnership Quarterly Report**  
Clay Walker
  - 4) **Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, Fallen Officer Memorial**  
Chief Deputy Tracey Kittrell
- ❖ Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2025, Rezoning Hearing/Work Session Meeting and March 20, 2025, Regular Session Meeting (Minutes are

provided to commission members electronically and are available to the public at [www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes](http://www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes))

- ❖ Approval of Notaries Public
- ❖ Public Comment on Agenda Items
- ❖ Public Comment on Items not on the agenda
- ❖ Resolutions on Consent (3, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- ❖ Old Business
- ❖ New Business
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Adjournment

*April as National Donate Life Month*

WHEREAS, Tennessee Donor Services (TDS) is a Donate Life agency and nonprofit organization dedicated to saving and improving lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation throughout Tennessee, and is one of 57 Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, each organ donor HERO can give the gift of life to eight people and each tissue donor can improve another 75 lives; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 American men, women, and children—3,000 of whom are Tennesseans—are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants; and

WHEREAS, the most effective way to address this health crisis is to educate and to encourage Tennesseans to commit to registering their decision to be organ, eye, and tissue donors in the Donate Life Tennessee Registry, DonateLifeTN.org, or at their local Driver Services Center; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County supports saving lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation and finds the cause of such immediate and worthwhile importance that,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard S. Venable with and on behalf of Sullivan County do Proclaim that Sullivan County observes:

**APRIL AS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH**

Furthermore, I ask all citizens to register their decision to be donors in the Donate Life Tennessee Registry at DonateLifeTN.org or their local Driver Services Center.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of  
Sullivan County, Tennessee to be affixed  
in Blountville on this 17th day of April  
2025.



*Richard S. Venable*

Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor

**SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

This certificate is hereby presented to

*Caren Venable Dean*

In Recognition of Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Education  
**Elementary School Teacher of the Year**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade at Rock Springs**

We commend your dedication, hard work, and passion for excellence. Your achievement is a testament to the power of commitment and perseverance.

Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

**COUNTY of SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE**



Presented this 17th day of April 2025

*Richard A. Venable*  
Richard S. Venable  
Sullivan County Mayor

**SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

This certificate is hereby presented to

*Cheryl White*

In Recognition of Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Education  
Middle School Teacher of the Year

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math & RTI at Sullivan East Middle School

We commend your dedication, hard work, and passion for excellence. Your achievement is a testament to the power of commitment and perseverance.  
Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

**COUNTY of SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE**



Presented this 17th day of April 2025

*Richard S. Yonah*  
Richard S. Yonah  
Sullivan County Mayor

**SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

This certificate is hereby presented to

*Matthew Harrison*

In Recognition of Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Education  
High School Teacher of the Year  
Spanish at Sullivan East High School

We commend your dedication, hard work, and passion for excellence. Your achievement is a  
testament to the power of commitment and perseverance.  
Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

**COUNTY of SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE**



Presented this 17th day of April 2025

*Richard S. Venable*  
Richard S. Venable  
Sullivan County Mayor

**SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

This certificate is hereby presented to

*Mike Wilson*

In Recognition of Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Education  
**Principal of the Year**

**Miller Perry Elementary School**

We commend your dedication, hard work, and passion for excellence. Your achievement is a  
testament to the power of commitment and perseverance.  
Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

**COUNTY OF SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE**



Presented this 17th day of April 2025

*Richard S. Venable*

Richard S. Venable  
Sullivan County Mayor

**SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

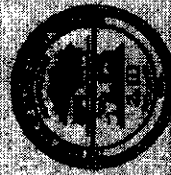
This certificate is hereby presented to

*Angie Buckles*

In Recognition of Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Education  
Supervisor of the Year

Middle School Curriculum Supervisor and Special Education at Central Office  
We commend your dedication, hard work, and passion for excellence. Your achievement is a  
testament to the power of commitment and perseverance.  
Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

COUNTY of SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE



Presented this 17th day of April 2025

*Richard S. Venable*

Richard S. Venable  
Sullivan County Mayor

# SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

This certificate is hereby presented to

*Chuck Carter*

Your dedication and commitment to fostering an environment of excellence and growth for educators have made a significant impact on our school community.

Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Caren Venable Dean - Third Grade at Rock Springs  
Middle School Teacher of the Year: Cheryl White - Eighth Grade Math and RTI at Sullivan East Middle  
High School Teacher of the Year: Matthew Harrison - Spanish at Sullivan East High  
Principal of the Year: Mike Wilson, Miller Perry Elementary  
Supervisor of the Year: Angie Buckles, Middle School Curriculum Supervisor, and Special Education

Congratulations on your well-deserve success!

Presented this 17th day of April 2025



COUNTY OF SULLIVAN  
TENNESSEE

*Richard S. Venable*

Richard S. Venable  
Sullivan County Mayor

# **Agenda subject voting report**

Meeting name

**Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025**

4/17/2025

91 Approval of Minutes  
Vote

**160**

**Description**

Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2025, Rezoning Hearing/Work Session Meeting and March 20, 2025, Regular Session Meeting

**Chairman**

Gardner, John

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time**

**7:25:39 PM**

**Voting stop time**

**7:26:01 PM**

**Voting configuration**

Vote

Comm. Vanover made a motion to approve.  
2nd by Comm. Means

**Voting mode**

Open

**Vote result**

Yes	21 22
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	21
Absent	2

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	21	0

**Total result** 21 22 0 2

**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

161

Notaries to be elected April 17, 2025

AMBER N. BANKS	RENEE KLEINEICK
MICKEY R. BEAL JR.	CHRISTAL HOPE LANE
DONNA BORGES	DANIEL LEATHERS
LINDA S. BROWN	DEBORAH LYNN LITTLETON
LISA ANN CHRISTIAN	LAURA BLIZARD MCMILLAN
ASHLEY A. CLIFFORD	VICKI L. MOODY
HANNAH MARIE DILLARD	B. KEVIN MOODY
JENNIFER DROZDOWSKI	BRANDON LEE MORGAN
SARAH DUGGER	BRITTANY MICHELLE MUSICK
CHRISTINA MICHELE FLEMING	CHESTALENE B. MYERS
RANDEL LEON GIBSON	KYLE POPE II
PAMELA GAYE GIBSON	JAYNA B. PORTER
CONNIE MAE GRAFF	SHEILA POSTELL
REBECCA GWEN HALBROOK	KIMBERLEY DAWN RHOTON
NICHOLAS P. HOPKINS	JOSHUA VANCE SADLER
LISA T. HORNE	RYAN THOMAS SALYER
JAY HOUSE	ANGELA SCOTT
BREANNA HUGHES	ABIGAYLE TAYLOR SHEETS
ANITA D JANTZ	BRIANA STARNES
KAREN RENEE JENKINS	AMY TAYLOR
ELLA ANNETTE KANE	CAROLYN THOMAS
ASHLEY KENDRICK	SHIRLEY P. WALTERS
JAMES KENISON	REBECCA WHEELOCK
AMANDA KETRON	CONNIE WIDENER
JESSICA M. KING	

PERSONAL SURETY

UPON MOTION MADE BY COMM. MEANS AND SECONDED BY COMM. CRAWFORD, THE  
NOTARY APPLICATIONS HEREON WERE APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE COMMISSION.

22 YES, 2 ABSENT

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

162

APPROVAL OF NOTARY

SURETY BONDS

April 17, 2025

**Name of Notary**

**Personal Surety**

**Personal Surety**

**Charlotte D. Thomas**

**Myers N. Massengill II**

**L. Carter Massengill**

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

**22 YES, 2 ABSENT**

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025

4/17/2025

92 Approval of Notaries Public  
Vote

163

Description

Approval of Notaries Public

Chairman

Gardner, John

## Total vote result

Voting start time 7:28:24 PM

Comm. Means made a motion to approve.

Voting stop time 7:28:49 PM

2nd by Comm. Crawford

Voting configuration Vote

Voting mode Open

Vote result

Yes	21 22
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	21
Absent	2

## Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	21	0

Total result 21 0  
22 2

## 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			

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

	Name	Street Address	City
1	Gray Hooker	481 Hooker Road	Blountville
2	Ruth Livingston	304 Pocahontas Trl.	Piney Flats
3	Victoria Hunt	Rockhold Rd	BC
4	Jonno Diaz	3155 Woodway St	Blountville
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
County Commission - Regular Session  
Public Comment 1 - Agenda Topics

April 17, 2025



	Name	Street Address	City
1	Cheryl Cuts	443 W. Sullivan St.	Kingsport
2	Victoria Hart	Rockhold Rd	PL
3	Ruth Livingston	304 Locahontas Trl.	Piney Hill
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

April 14, 2025

Dear Hershel,

Our property assessment has increased by 82%. This is the first time in the 43 years I have lived and worked in Sullivan County, the assessment is at the high end of the market. Property values have been inflated by people flooding into this market from blue states with cash to pay whatever is asked. This is an abnormal market, as a result.

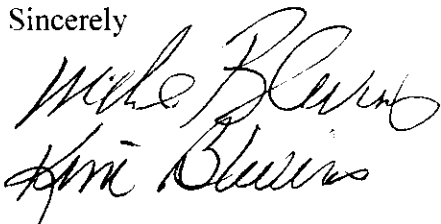
The average home sale in Sullivan County, according to Zillow, is \$242,640 as of March 2025 with a median cost/sq ft of \$159. The typical market value in the county is \$121,000 with the average value at 175,500. Based on the March average, \$40,000 for the lot, and \$159/sq ft value on the house, the average home is 1,274 sq ft.

The average household income in Sullivan County is \$56,481 (2023 census). Estimated household income, now, is \$72,115(US Population.org). Based on estimated numbers, the average household cannot afford the average home. Payment on 240,000 at 6.5% for 30 years is 1,517/month plus 300 for taxes and insurance = \$1,817/mo. This assessment has the potential to add another 150/month to that payment giving a ratio to income of 32.7%, near 5% over what many lenders consider affordable.

Sullivan County has now built two jails in the 43 years we have lived here. The cost to property owners to house 168 state prisoners, currently, and the additional requests to man and run the new jail in the \$3 million range is evidence of reckless spending and management.

These increases will have an enormous negative effect on farmers, businessmen, and homeowners. The assessment should be more in line with the typical numbers. Maybe, we could get DOGE look for waste in the county system.

Sincerely

The block contains two handwritten signatures in cursive. The top signature appears to be 'Mike Blum' and the bottom signature appears to be 'Kim Blum'. Both are written in dark ink.

1737 Allison Road  
Piney Flats, Tennessee

Sullivan County Commission  
CONSENT AGENDA  
April 17, 2025

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Item 3            Resolution No. 2025-04-02

                 Sponsors: Ireson/Hayes

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF A 2003 CHEVY 3500 4 DOOR VEHICLE TO BLUFF CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT THE REQUEST OF SCOTT MURRAY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.**

Item 6            Resolution No. 2025-04-05

                 Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

**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 A COOLING TOWER AT EMMETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

Item 7            Resolution No. 2025-04-06

                 Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REVISION 2 OF THE FY 2025 INNOVATIVE SCHOOL MODELS (ISM) GRANT FUNDS IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND.**

Item 8            Resolution 2025-04-07

                 Sponsors: Ireson/Calton

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO ENTER A CONTRACT TO RESURFACE AND RESTRIPE A SECTION OF COX HOLLOW ROAD TO BE PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF KINGSPORT, SAID SECTION OF ROADWAY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY.**

Item 9            Resolution 2025-04-08

                 Sponsors: Ward/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT \$188,524.**

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025

4/17/2025

4 Resolutions on Consent

Description

Resolutions on Consent Items 3, 6, 7, 8, 9

Chairman

Gardner, John

168

Total vote result

Comm. Calton made a motion to approve.  
2nd by Comm. Vanover

Voting start time

7:53:13 PM

Voting stop time

7:53:35 PM

Voting configuration

Vote

Voting mode

Open

Vote result

Yes	21 22
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	21
Absent	2

Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	21	0
Total result	21	2

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			

**OLD BUSINESS**

Item 1 Resolution No. 2025-02-14

Sponsors: Harvey/Stidham

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN ANNUAL FUND WITHIN THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE FUNDING ASSISTANCE, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.**

Item 2 Resolution No. 2025-03-06

Sponsors: Ireson/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENT IN COMPENSATION OF GENERAL SESSIONS COURT STAFF TO EQUALIZE PAY FOR THOSE FOR COMPARATIVE WORK AND ESTABLISH STARTING COMPENSATION LEVELS GOING FORWARD AND INCLUDE AMENDMENTS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE 2024-25 FISCAL YEAR GENERAL FUND FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE ACCOUNTS.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Item 3 Resolution No. 2025-04-02

Sponsors: Ireson/Hayes

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF A 2003 CHEVY 3500 4 DOOR VEHICLE TO BLUFF CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT THE REQUEST OF SCOTT MURRAY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.**

Item 4 Resolution No. 2025-04-03

Sponsors: Akard/Jones

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 BUDGET FOR THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,672 TO PURCHASE A NEW FORKLIFT.**

Item 5 Resolution No. 2025-04-04

Sponsors: Harvey/Gardner

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A POLICY THAT ANY COUNTY FUNDING TO PARKS AND/OR MUSEUMS SHALL BE PAID WITH OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUES.**

Item 6 Resolution No. 2025-04-05

Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

**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 A COOLING TOWER AT EMMETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

Item 7 Resolution No. 2025-04-06

Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REVISION 2 OF THE FY 2025 INNOVATIVE SCHOOL MODELS (ISM) GRANT FUNDS IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND.**

CONTINUED

Item 8 Resolution 2025-04-07

Sponsors: Ireson/Calton

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO ENTER A CONTRACT TO RESURFACE AND RESTRIPE A SECTION OF COX HOLLOW ROAD TO BE PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF KINGSPORT, SAID SECTION OF ROADWAY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY.**

Item 9 Resolution 2025-04-08

Sponsors: Ward/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT \$188,524.**

Item 10 Resolution 2025-04-09

Sponsors: Pierce/Calton

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$168,660 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – MEDICAL DIVISION – MENTAL HEALTH.**

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 01  
Resolution, No. 2025-02-14

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 20th day of March 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN ANNUAL FUND WITHIN THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE FUNDING ASSISTANCE, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, TO NONPROFIT.**

WHEREAS historically, the Sullivan County Commission has included funding for nonprofit organizations in the county's annual fiscal year budget; and

WHEREAS the total amount of dollars spent to assist nonprofit organizations, as well as the number of organizations seeking and receiving county funding has grown; and

WHEREAS development of the 2025-2026 FY Budget is in its early stages and there is discussion of zeroing out all county funding to nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS instead, a change in process would better benefit the county, the nonprofits in question and county residents, and promote (rather than destroy) the goodwill brought upon Sullivan County for continued partnership with those working in community service to help others; and

WHEREAS county funding not only directly helps nonprofit organizations, but also helps, perhaps more so, indirectly, as "seed money" by providing proof to other potential donors that the organizations have the support and confidence of Sullivan County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Sullivan County Commission approves appropriation of up to and no more than \$200,000 within the General Fund each fiscal year, beginning with FY 2025-2026 and in perpetuity, for potential allocation to nonprofit organizations.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** allocations from the new account will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Sullivan County Commission, and consideration of requests for funding will take place only after the completion and approval of each fiscal budget year, and/or after July 1 of the calendar year in which the fiscal year begins, whichever last occurs.

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** funding to ~~volunteer~~ fire departments and emergency medical response agencies throughout the county will continue to be funded outside of this budgetary process and is not subject to this plan for nonprofit funding.

**CONTINUED**

Item 1  
Resolution, No. 2025-02-14

Duly adopted \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

### **ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Cheryl Harvey  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Gary Stidham, Commissioner Darlene Calton, Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite.

ACTIONS: March 20, 2025 – Offered by sponsor as replacement in full of all prior versions of Resolution No. 2025-02-14. SPONSOR PLANS TO REQUEST DEFER CONSIDERATION TO NEXT MONTH. 03/20/25 Deferred by sponsor. 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested resolution be considered at regular meeting on 04/17/25.

04/17/25 Cross made a motion to amend to strike the word volunteer in the last paragraph of the resolution. Amendment was accepted by the Sponsor. Comm. Locke made a motion to amend to specify the hearing requests go before the Administrative Committee. Amendment was accepted by the Sponsor. Comm. Slagle made a motion to call for question. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Glover. Vote taken and approved. 20 Yes, 2 Absent, 2 No. Resolution failed with a vote of 10 Yes, 11 No, 2 Absent, 1 Abstain.

# **Call for question on Resolution No. 25-02-14**

Comm. Slagle made a motion to call for the question on Resolution No. 25-02-14

2nd by Comm. Glover

173

ABSENT		Yes	No	ABSTAIN	PASS
X	AKARD				
	CALTON	X			
	CARR	X			
	COLE	X			
	CRAWFORD	X			
	CROSS	X			
	CROSSWHITE	X			
	GARDNER		X		
	GLOVER	X			
	HARVEY		X		
X	HAYES				
	HORNE	X			
	IRESON	X			
	JONES	X			
	KING	X			
	LEONARD	X			
	LOCKE	X			
	MCMURRAY	X			
	MEANS	X			
	PIERCE	X			
	SLAGLE	X			
	STIDHAM	X			
	VANOVER	X			
	WARD	X			

2  
ABSENT

20  
YES

2  
NO

ABSTAIN

PASS

# Roll Call vote requested by Sponsor on Resolution No. 25-02-14

174

ABSENT		Yes	No	ABSTAIN	PASS
X	AKARD				
	CALTON	X			
	CARR	X			
	COLE		X		
	CRAWFORD	X			
	CROSS	X			
	CROSSWHITE			X	
	GARDNER	X			
	GLOVER		X		
	HARVEY	X			
X	HAYES				
	HORNE		X		
	IRESON		X		
	JONES	X			
	KING		X		
	LEONARD		X		
	LOCKE		X		
	MCMURRAY	X			
	MEANS		X		
	PIERCE	X			
	SLAGLE		X		
	STIDHAM	X			
	VANOVER		X		
	WARD		X		

<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>        </u>
ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	PASS

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 2  
Resolution No. 2025-03-06

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 20th day of March 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENT IN COMPENSATION OF GENERAL SESSIONS COURT STAFF TO EQUALIZE PAY FOR THOSE FOR COMPARATIVE WORK AND ESTABLISH STARTING COMPENSATION LEVELS GOING FORWARD AND INCLUDE AMENDMENTS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE 2024-25 FISCAL YEAR GENERAL FUND FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE ACCOUNTS.**

WHEREAS Sullivan County has four General Sessions Court which have been establish over the years with similar responsibilities operating with one or more supporting staff members; and,

WHEREAS these employees, for one reason or another, have varying levels of compensation without any clear reason or support for the amount; and,

WHEREAS after much discussion of those variances in pay, no equalization effort has been attained at this point, due to variances in tenure, etc.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular Session on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, approve \$29,503.44 (\$24.39) shall be funded from the Fund Balance of the General Fund to set the same level of compensation for each of the existing employees; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the compensation of these employees will be subject to any across the budget increase set by the Sullivan County Commission for all employees in the General Fund for the 2025-26 fiscal year's budget. Budgetary amounts allocated to each judgeship appropriations shall be the amounts based upon the calculation establishing the \$29,503.44.

The Finance department will assign the account codes.

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

**Waiver of the Rules Requested**

This item shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Duly adopted 17th day of April 2025.

**CONTINUED**

Item 2

Resolution No. 2025-03-06

Reviewed by Chairman: John T. Gardner  
 John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: Teresa Jacobs  
 Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23rd day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: Word delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
 Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard A. Venable  
 Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Mark Ireson

Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover; Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Travis Ward; Commissioner Michael Cole; Commissioner Gary Stidham; Commissioner Larry Crawford; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Joseph McMurray.

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 1<sup>st</sup> Reading; 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested resolution be considered at regular meeting on 04/17/25.

04/17/25 Approved 18 Yes, 2 Abstain, 2 No, 2 Absent

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025

4/17/2025

5 Item 2 Resolution No. 2025-03-06 Sponsors: Ireson/Vanover  
Vote

177

## Description

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENT IN COMPENSATION OF GENERAL SESSIONS COURT STAFF TO EQUALIZE PAY FOR THOSE FOR COMPARATIVE WORK AND ESTABLISH STARTING COMPENSATION LEVELS GOING FORWARD AND INCLUDE AMENDMENTS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE 2024-25 FISCAL YEAR GENERAL FUND FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE ACCOUNTS.

## Chairman

Gardner, John

## Total vote result

Voting start time

8:12:57 PM

Voting stop time

8:13:25 PM

Voting configuration

Vote

Voting mode

Open

## Vote result

Yes	17 18
Abstain	2
No	2
Total Present	21
Absent	8 2

## Group voting result

Group	Yes	Abstain	No	Absent
No group	17	2	2	0
Total result	17 18	2	2	8 2

## 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  
245th Annual Session*

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Item 3  
Resolution No. 2025-04-02

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF A 2003 CHEVY 3500 4 DOOR VEHICLE TO BLUFF CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT THE REQUEST OF SCOTT MURRAY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.**

**WHEREAS** the Sullivan County Highway Department has checked with other county departments in Sullivan County, and no other county department wants this used vehicle; and

**WHEREAS** Bluff City is in desperate need of this vehicle.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners meeting in Regular Session that they hereby approve this transfer to the City of Bluff City Department of Public the following vehicle : HWY Department #511--- 2003 Chevy 3500 4 door 6 Speed Manual 8.1L, Gas, S/N 1GBJK33G53F148790 asset # 1157 Service Truck with approximately 195,000 miles (GY-1226) tag to be removed and insurance will be removed from Hwy Dept inventory after this transfer is complete. This resolution to authorize Sullivan County Purchasing agent to Transfer Title to this vehicle at no cost to the county.

**This transfer is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee meeting April 15, 2025**

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**

Duly passed and approved this 17th day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: *John T. Gardner*  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: *Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025, at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: *Hand delivered*

*Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**CONTINUED**

Item 3  
Resolution No. 2025-04-02

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

Richard A. Verrable

Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the  
following  
method: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

**Sponsor: Commissioner Mark Ireson**

**Cosponsor: Commissioner David Hayes**

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Consent agenda for regular meeting on  
04/17/25.

04/17/25 Approved on Consent 22 Yes, 2 Absent

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 4  
Resolution No. 2025-04-03

To the Honorable Richard Venable, Mayor of Sullivan County, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 BUDGET FOR THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,672 TO PURCHASE A NEW FORKLIFT.**

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department currently is utilizing a 1981 model Yale forklift in the receiving department and allows County Buildings and the EMS garage to use the same based upon their needs; and

WHEREAS the Receiving department will soon move to the county facilities on School Avenue, making the shared use no longer feasible; and

WHEREAS, when the Purchasing Agent presented the need to the Budget committee in the March meeting, the Budget Committee recommended that the Purchasing Agent seek to amend the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year budget and begin the process of purchasing a new forklift for the Blountville campus; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Department has secured quotes for a new forklift that will meet the changing needs of the receiving department due to bigger and longer pallets but, most importantly, that can be serviced locally.

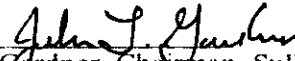
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, this 17th day of April 2025, shall hereby amend the Purchasing Department's 2024 – 2025 fiscal year budget by \$39,672 to purchase a new forklift for the Receiving Department at the Blountville campus funding from the General Fund balance. Account codes to be assigned by the Finance Department.

**WAIVER OF THE RULES REQUESTED**

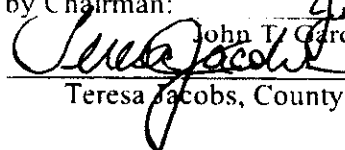
This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Duly passed and approved this 17th day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman:

  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST:

  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

Item 4  
Resolution No. 2025-04-03

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: Hand delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard D. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

**Sponsor: Commissioner David Akard**  
**Cosponsor: Commissioner Sam Jones**

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Waiver of Rules for regular meeting on 04/17/25.  
04/17/25 Approved on Waiver of Rules 21 Yes, 3 Absent

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025

4/17/2025

93 Item 4 Resolution No. 2025-04-03 Sponsors: Akard/Jones  
Vote

182

## Description

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 BUDGET FOR THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,672 TO PURCHASE A NEW FORKLIFT.

## Chairman

Gardner, John

## Total vote result

Voting start time

8:15:24 PM

Voting stop time

8:15:51 PM

Voting configuration

Vote

Voting mode

Open

## Vote result

Yes	20 21
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	20
Absent	4 3

## Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	20	0
Total result	20 21	0 3

## 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  
245th Annual Session*

Item 5  
Resolution No. 2025-04-04

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH POLICY FOR ANY COUNTY FUNDING TO PARKS AND / OR MUSEUMS SHALL BE PAID WITH OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUES.**

WHEREAS, in the past Sullivan County provided annual funding to city parks and to local museums within the County budget, under nonprofit appropriations under the General Fund; and

WHEREAS Sullivan County has since established an occupancy tax, which provides a new revenue stream for promoting and supporting the County's attractions, such as parks and museums.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County, meeting in Regular Session on April 17, 2025, adopts a policy that any future County funding for local parks and / or museums shall come from occupancy tax revenues, which align legally with the State of Tennessee's occupancy tax guidelines, thus removing this financial burden from local taxpayers to provide this support.**

Duly adopted \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

Item 5  
Resolution No. 2025-04-04

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the  
following  
method: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Cheryl Harvey  
Cosponsors: Commissioner John Gardner

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested 1<sup>ST</sup> Reading for regular meeting on  
04/17/25.  
04/17/25 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 6  
Resolution No. 2025-04-05

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**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 A COOLING TOWER AT EMMETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

**WHEREAS** the cooling tower at Emmett Elementary School is experiencing critical failures and needs emergency replacement; and

**WHEREAS** the Board of Education approved a total expenditure from undesignated fund balance of up to \$275,000.00 for this project; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the allocation of funds from the Sullivan County Board of Education Undesignated Fund Balance to the General Purpose School Budget in the amount of up to \$275,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a cooling tower at Emmett Elementary School.

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*

Duly adopted 17th day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: *John T. Gardner*  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: *Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this, the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: *Hand Delivered*

*Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard D. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the  
following  
method: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

**Sponsored By: Zane Vanover**  
**Co-Sponsor(s): Joyce Crosswhite**

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Consent agenda for regular meeting on  
04/17/25.  
04/17/25 Approved on Consent 22 Yes, 2 Absent

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 7  
Resolution No. 2025-04-06

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REVISION 2 OF THE FY 2025 INNOVATIVE SCHOOL MODELS (ISM) GRANT FUNDS IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND.**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education has received funding through the state of Tennessee to support the Innovative School Models; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education has recognized the need to amend the budget within the accounts these funds are recognized in; and

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 amend the budget for said grant funds in the General Purpose School Fund as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
71100-722-717	Regular Instruction Equip	+15,000.00
71300-429-717	Instructional Supplies & Mtls	-15,000.00
71300-730-717	Vocational Instruction Equip	+120,000.00
76100-706-717	Building Construction	-120,000.00

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.

Adopted this 17th day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: John T. Gann  
John T. Gann, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

## CONTINUED

Item 7  
Resolution No. 2025-04-06

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: Hand Delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard A. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Zane Vanover  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Consent agenda for regular meeting on 04/17/25.

04/17/25 Approved on Consent 22 Yes, 2 Absent

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 8  
Resolution No. 2025-04-07

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO ENTER A CONTRACT TO RESURFACE AND RESTRIPE A SECTION OF COX HOLLOW ROAD TO BE PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF KINGSPORT, SAID SECTION OF ROADWAY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY.**

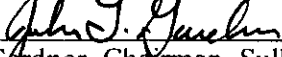
WHEREAS the city of Kingsport has agreed to contract with the Sullivan County Highway Department for the resurfacing of their portion of Cox Hollow Road, located in the 8<sup>th</sup> commissioner district of Sullivan County; and

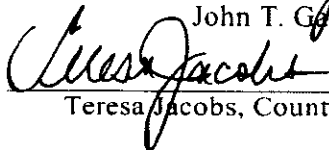
WHEREAS the Sullivan County Highway Department has reviewed the project and estimated the costs at \$56,806.74.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2025, HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO ENTER A CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF KINGSPORT FOR THE COX HOLLOW ROAD PROJECT AND TO PRODUCE, TRANSPORT AND PLACE ASPHALT FOR ROADWAY OVERLAY AND PROVIDE STRIPING IN THE PROJECT AREA WITH REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE CITY ESTIMATED AT \$56,806.74. ACCOUNTS AND CODES TO BE ASSIGNED BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY FINANCE DEPARTMENT.**

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.

Duly adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman:   
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST:   
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

Item 8  
Resolution No. 2025-04-07

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30 am by the following method: Hand delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard A. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Mark Ireson  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Darlene Calton

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Consent agenda for regular meeting on 04/17/25.  
04/17/25 Approved on Consent 22 Yes. 2 Absent

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 9  
Resolution No. 2025-04-08

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT \$188,524.**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Commission has approved to amend the Opioid Abatement fund in March to fund the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office- Pre-Trial Division; and

WHEREAS the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office will budget these funds to aid the Pre-Trial Division; and

WHEREAS the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office is requesting that the funds approved from the Opioid Abatement funds by the Sullivan County Commission be paid to the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office budget;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby approve to recognize, and appropriate \$188,524 of Opioid Abatement funding to the Sullivan County Sheriff's office to fund the needs of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office Pre-Trial Division. A program or project code will be set up by the Sullivan County Accounts and Budgets department to allow for easier accounting of these funds.

Expenditure Account: 101 E 54210 100	\$60,447
101 E 54210 200	\$20,990
101 E 54210 300	\$25,000
101 E 54210 400	\$16,551
101 E 54210 700	\$65,536

**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.

Duly adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*John T. Gardner*  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

*Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

## CONTINUED

Item 9  
Resolution No. 2025-04-08

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:35 am by the following method: Hand delivered.

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

Richard D. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following method: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

**Sponsor: Commissioner Travis Ward**  
**Cosponsor: Commissioner Zane Vanover**

ACTIONS: 04/10/25 (Work Session) Sponsor requested Consent agenda for regular meeting on 04/17/25.  
04/17/25 Approved on Consent 22 Yes, 2 Absent

*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session*

Item 10  
Resolution No. 2025-04-09

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of April 2025.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$168,660 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – MEDICAL DIVISION – MENTAL HEALTH.**

WHEREAS, Sullivan County receives ongoing quarterly payments from the Abatement Trust Fund and under law the county shall obligate all funds for specific purpose within a two-year timeframe from date of receipt of such funds; and

WHEREAS, the trust fund has a current balance of \$873,301.28; and

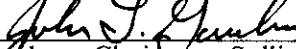
WHEREAS, Sullivan County's Opioid Advisory Committee recommended in its meeting on April 9, 2025 to allocating the following from the Abatement Trust Fund.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL 2025, APPROVES ALLOCATION OF: UP TO \$168,660 TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – MEDICAL DIVISION – MENTAL HEALTH, TO PROVIDE NECESSARY MENTAL HEALTH CARE WITHIN THE SULLIVAN COUNTY JAIL INSTEAD OF RELYING ON OUTSIDE COMMUNITY RESOURCES WHICH ULTIMATELY PROVIDE MAJOR BARRIERS TO CARING FOR INMATES. ACCOUNT CODES TO BE ASSIGNED BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY FINANCE DEPARTMENT.**

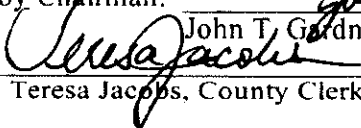
This resolution shall take effect from and after its passage. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Duly adopted 17th day of April 2025.

Reviewed by Chairman:

  
John T. Gardner, Chairman, Sullivan County Commission

ATTEST:

  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

# **Agenda subject voting report**

Meeting name

**Sullivan County Commission April 17 2025**

4/17/2025

60 Item 10 Resolution No. 2025-04-09 Sponsors: Pierce/Calton  
Vote

**134**

**Description**

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$168,660 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – MEDICAL DIVISION – MENTAL HEALTH.

**Chairman**

Gardner, John

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time**

**8:19:07 PM**

**Voting stop time**

**8:19:41 PM**

**Voting configuration**

Vote

**Voting mode**

Open

**Vote result**

<del>Yes</del>	<b>20 21</b>
Abstain	0
<del>No</del>	0
Total Present	20
<del>Absent</del>	<b>13</b>

**Group voting result**

<del>Group</del>	Yes	Absent
No group	20	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>20 21</b>	<b>13</b>

**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			

Item 10  
Resolution No. 2025-04-09

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2025 at or about the following time 8:30am by the following method: Hand delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

Richard A. Venable  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at or about the following time \_\_\_\_\_ by the following \_\_\_\_\_ method:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Archie Pierce

Cosponsors: Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Larry Crawford; Commissioner Travis Ward; AND ALL THOSE VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE

Notes: Request heard by Opioid Abatement Committee on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. Committee voted to recommend to full commission. In keeping with commission-adopted policy on agenda deadlines, this resolution was not received in time for Work Session on April 10. It was, however, received in time for placement on Regular Session Agenda of April 17, 2025 and is therefore eligible for either first reading or Waiver of the Rules, at the option of the sponsor(s). – John H. Osborne III  
ACTION: 04/17/25 Approved on Waiver of Rules 21 Yes, 3 Absent

## *Sullivan County*



**AND THEREUPON COUNTY COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 8:25 P.M. UPON MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD TO MEET AGAIN IN WORK SESSION ON MAY 8, 2025.**

  
JOHN T. GARDNER

**COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**