

Carter County Commission

Minutes of:

Health & Welfare Committee Zoom Meeting

October 6, 2020 6:00 PM

Members:

Dr. Robert Acuff - present

Mike Hill - present

Brad Johnson - present

Kelly Collins sitting in for Thomas Proffitt

Ginger Holdren - present

Randall Jenkins - present

Sonja Culler – present

Isaiah Grindstaff - present

I. Call to Order

The Health & Welfare Committee was called to order by Dr. Robert Acuff at 6:02 pm.

II. Roll Call

All members present except for Thomas Proffitt. Chairman Acuff asked for a motion be made allowing Kelly Collins to sit in for Thomas Proffitt and Sonja Culler for the empty 7th district seat.

The motion was made by Isaiah Grindstaff, second by Mike Hill.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes

Ginger Holdren – yes

Sonja Culler – yes

Isaiah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike Hill, second by Sonja Culler.

Roll Call

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes

Ginger Holdren – yes

Sonja Culler – yes

Isaiah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. Motion unanimously approved.

IV. Public Comments

None



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10-15-2020

@ 8:20 AM

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V. Welcome new members to the committee

Dr. Acuff extended a welcome to the new members, Thomas Proffitt and Isaiah Grindstaff to the Health & Welfare, Building & Grounds, Law Enforcement and Rules & Bylaws Committees.

VI. Election of new Chair and Vice Chair

Chair

Robert Acuff nominated by Mike Hill

Isaiah Grindstaff made a motion to stop nominations, Mike Hill second the motion.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes

Ginger Holdren – yes

Sonja Culler – yes

Isaiah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call to elect Robert Acuff as Chairman of the Health & Welfare Committee

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes

Ginger Holdren – yes

Sonja Culler – yes

Isaiah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

Vice Chair

Mike Hill nominated by Sonja Culler

Isaiah Grindstaff made a motion to stop nominations, second by Ginger Holdren.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes

Ginger Holdren – yes

Sonja Culler – yes

Isaiah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call to elect Mike Hill as the Vice Chairman of the Health & Welfare Committee.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes

Mike Hill – yes

Robert Acuff – yes

Brad Johnson – yes

Kelly Collins – yes
Ginger Holdren – yes
Sonja Culler – yes
Isalah Grindstaff – yes
All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

VII. Resolution – Honoring Rusty Barnett

Attorney Josh Hardin wrote and read to the committee a resolution honoring the life and service of Mayor Rusty Barnett to the people of Carter County by dedicating the Fire/EMS substation in Butler Tennessee in his Honor.

A motion was made by Mike Hill, second by Randall Jenkins to accept the resolution as written.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes
Mike Hill – yes
Robert Acuff – yes
Brad Johnson – yes
Kelly Collins – yes
Ginger Holdren – yes
Sonja Culler – yes
Isalah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

The resolution honoring Mayor Rusty Barnett will be presented to the full commission.

VIII. Broadband Internet Discussion

Chairman Acuff noted that Dr. McAbee from the Carter County School Systems attended tonight's meeting. The committee welcomed him into the discussion about the broadband internet. Chairman Acuff informed the committee that he had received an email from another company representative Jonathan West with twinlakes.net. Dr. Acuff asked the committee if they were comfortable with Ridgeline and wanted to continue with the talks with them or would they like for him to set up a meeting with Mr. West.

A motion was made by Mike Hill, second by Randall Jenkins to reach out to Jonathan West with twinlakes.net to set up a zoom meeting.

Roll Call:

Randall Jenkins – yes
Mike Hill – yes
Robert Acuff – yes
Brad Johnson – yes
Kelly Collins – yes
Ginger Holdren – yes
Sonja Culler – yes
Isalah Grindstaff – yes

All in favor. The motion unanimously passed.

Dr McAbee addressed the committee stating that access to broadband is important to todays schools. While devices have been handed out to the students there are places that do not have internet access and those students are coming to the schools to use the internet. Mike Hill stated that he and Chairman Acuff spoke with JR Campbell at Little Milligan and he informed them that most of his students do not have access, some may have DSL, but it is extremely poor. Dr. McAbee informed the committee he will do whatever the committee needed. Mr. Johnson asked if there was WIFI at Little Milligan? Chairman Acuff stated; DSL possibly but copper will not go the distance. Mr. Grindstaff stated that DSL is in and

out. Comcast is the service provider and the experience issues with connectivity. No cell service in the area either. Chairman Acuff informed the committee that David Hawk from Greeneville is going to put out a bill on broadband and will be reaching out to him to see what it entails; it is designed for rural areas. Mr. Hill asked if they should reach out to Attorney Hardin to see if a resolution would help the situation. Attorney Hardin stated that he did not know if there was anyone that would partner.

IX. Old / New Business

Chairman Acuff informed the committee that he had spoken to someone who is interested in making a sizable donation to the homeless taskforce but is waiting to see what direction they are going. He is going to reach out to the director of the taskforce to see what is being done.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Isaiah Grindstaff, second by Mike Hill. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Gwen Crowe