

Carter County Commission



Minutes of:

Rules & Bylaws Committee

October 1, 2019 6:00 PM

Members:

Ginger Holdren	Isaiah Grindstaff sitting in for Austin Jaynes
Dr. Robert Acuff	Randall Jenkins
Mike Hill	Ray Lyons – absent
Robin McKamey	Layla Ward
Brad Johnson	

I. Call to Order

The Rules & Bylaws meeting was called to order by Randall Jenkins at 8:12 pm.

II. Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair

Mike Hill nominated Randall Jenkins for Chair, all in favor. Randall Jenkins will remain Chair for the Rules & Bylaws Committee.

Ginger Holdren nominated Mike Hill for Vice Chair, all in favor. Mike Hill is the Vice Chair for the Rules & Bylaws Committee.

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Mike Hill, second by Dr. Robert Acuff. The agenda was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of minutes

V. Public Comments

None

VI. New Business

a. Research to be conducted county policy regarding employee bonuses – see attached back of Agenda

Mike Hill sent the letter to Mr. Jenkins suggesting research be done for county employee bonuses. Financial Management has discussed this in the past. Directors from each department will have to research and get together the documentation from previous bonuses over the years. Mr. Hill is suggesting research as far back as 10 years. He wants a policy put in place so that there is no question in the future. Mr. Johnson reminds him that this is going to take at least a year for the directors to pull all records and do the research. Mr. Hill wants a president set on how a bonus is determined, who receives it and how much is given. Mr. Jenkins will continue to put this on future agendas under Old Business.

b. Appoint a reapportionment committee to develop a redistricting plan

The CTAS website said a committee can be formed and does not have to be commissioners but can be. Research, plan needs to be done and brought before the full commission. The census must be complete before anything can be done other than putting the committee together. Dr. Acuff stated that he has had people in his district ask for reduction in

commissioners. Mr. Hill asked about the workload if the commission is reduced. Everyone remaining will have more work to do. Mr. Jenkins wants to discuss incentives for commissioners. He does not see many people willing to take on the roll and responsibility of a county commissioner. He is worried that soon there won't be enough people to fill the chairs. Mr. Grindstaff suggested that the committee revisit this when the census is complete. Mr. Jenkins will print, and email requirements needed concerning districts and will keep it on the agenda. Mr. Hill volunteered to sit on the committee when formed.

VII. Old Business

A. Roll Call Pro update

Mr. Jenkins spoke to BIS and it is a no go. They did look at several programs and said there wasn't anything that would work. Mr. Jenkins is looking into replacement of Roll Call Pro and the only other program he has found to date is a system that works on a power point system. Mr. Johnson asked what neighboring counties were using. Mr. Jenkins wants to look at using the online Roll Call Pro that uses smart phones or computers / tablets. He wants to possibly purchase computers / tablets for commissioner use. Safeguards would have to be put into place for the use of the computers if they are removed from the courthouse. They could be issued to commissioners or placed in the courthouse to be used only during commission meetings. He believes that a policy would have to be put in place to control content and updating the equipment. Mr. Jenkins will keep this on the agenda for future discussion.

Isaiah Grindstaff informed the committee that he was able to look at the wiring of the audio equipment in the courtroom and found that the bailer was not working correctly and has been replaced and should be working correctly. The audio system that was put in by a QAC expert no longer works for Cates. In looking for someone else to service the system it was found that the only company that is qualified to work on the system is in Ashville and Nashville. Mr. Grindstaff has been looking at the system and wiring and is thinking that it could be something as simple as a bad screen or a loose wire. He is hoping to bring someone in from Ashville to look at it. Mayor Barnett spoke to the owner of Cates and they came out and looked at the system and informed him that the employee that could work on it is no longer being employed by them but gave Mayor Barnett his contact information. The person could not be reached. Mr. Grindstaff is still looking at the system and how to get it repaired.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Mike Hill, second by Ginger Holdren. The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Dear Chairman Jenkins,

Please place the following new business item on the Tuesday agenda for discussion:

Establishment of a County policy regarding employee bonuses.

The research should include

- 1) a ten year loopback period as to what has been done in our past
- 2) interviews of office holders who issued bonuses about circumstances involved and individual approaches
- 3) dollar range of bonuses given historically
- 4) interviews with other county governments regarding policy

I believe our committee would be the logical one to bring this project up for research, and subsequent presentation of findings to financial management and full commission.

regards,

Mike Hill
District 2 Commissioner, Carter County Tennessee
Serving Appalachian Trail Community #41
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