

COUNTY COMMISSION-REGULAR SESSION

MARCH 20, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT:

COUNTY COMMISSION MET PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT IN REGULAR SESSION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 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 Means gave the invocation. The pledge to the flag was led by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AND ANSWERING ROLL WERE AS FOLLOWS:

DAVID AKARD	MARK IRESON
DARLENE CALTON	SAMUEL "SAM" JONES
JOE CARR	DWIGHT KING
	TONY LEONARD
	HUNTER LOCKE
ANDREW CROSS	JOE MCMURRAY
	JESSICA MEANS
JOHN GARDNER	
HERSHEL GLOVER	MATT SLAGLE
CHERYL HARVEY	
DAVID HAYES	ZANE VANOVER
	TRAVIS WARD

18 PRESENT, 6 ABSENT

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: COLE, CRAWFORD, CROSSWHITE, HORNE  
PIERCE, STIDHAM

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. Means, and seconded by Comm. Vanover to approve the minutes of the Work Session held on February 13, 2025, and the minutes of the Regular Session held on February 20, 2025. Approved 18 Yes, 6 Absent.

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

2 Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk  
Roll Call

040

**Description** Roll Call  
**Chairman** Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 6:02:17 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:03:05 PM  
**Voting configuration** Roll Call - Attendances  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Present	18
Total Present	18
Total Seats	28
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>

**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  
Order of Business  
March 20, 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
- ❖ Speakers:
  - 1) Rhonda Chafin, Second Harvest Food Bank
  - 2) Dr. Stephen May, Medical Director, Sullivan County Regional Health Department
- ❖ Approval of Commission Minutes of February 13, 2025, Rezoning Hearing/Work Session Meeting and February 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 (4, 5, 6) 10 added by Comm. Cross
- ❖ Old Business
- ❖ New Business
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Adjournment

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

91 Approval of Commission Minutes

042

**Description**

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

**Chairman**

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time**

6:24:08 PM

Motion to approve by Comm. Means  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Vanover

**Voting stop time**

6:24:33 PM

**Voting configuration**

Vote

**Voting mode**

Open

**Vote result**

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0/6</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			

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

043

Notaries to be elected March 20,2025

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MICHAEL ADAMS	DANIELLE MARES
ETHAN BARRETT	NANCY C MCCONNELL
MARK A BOGGS	ASHLEY B. MCDAVID
LISA DARLENE BYRD-HARMAN	SHANTAI LYNN MILLER
SETH CONKIN	CLAIRE GRACE ROBERSON MOORE
MEGGAN BALTHIS DAY	PAMELA B POPE
ETHAN FARLESS	TAYLOR NICOLE RAINES
BRIGGS FERGUSON	PAMELA A REHART
MARTI RENEIL GILPIN	CHERI ANN RICE
JESSE GREER	HONEY RODGERS
EMILY H. HECKFORD	DEBORAH K. RUTLEDGE
DOUGLAS WARREN HERBERT	TABITHA TRIVETT
KAREN KAY HURD	KIMBERLY JO VIRES
EDDIE JOHNSON	MAGGIE J WEATHERLY
KATIE JOYCE	DAVID L. WEBB JR
AMBER NICOLE KENDRICK	NATASHA WHEELock
SCOTT LANASA	SARAH E. WILSON
DEAVER LAWTON	JEFFREY G. WOODS

PERSONAL SURETY

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

**18 YES, 6 ABSENT**

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

044

APPROVAL OF NOTARY

SURETY BONDS

March 20, 2025

<b>Name of Notary</b>	<b>Personal Surety</b>	<b>Personal Surety</b>
<b>Michael B. Cole</b>	<b>Deloris Cole</b>	<b>Mark Cole</b>
<b>Cynthia A. Crussell</b>	<b>K. Jeffrey Luethke</b>	<b>G. Todd East</b>

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

**18 YES, 6 ABSENT**

# Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

4.1 Approval of Notaries Public

**Description** Approval of Notaries Public

045

**Chairman** Venable, Richard

**Total vote result:**

**Voting start time** 6:26:28 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:26:49 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<i>06</i>

**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 COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Session  
Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items  
March 20, 2025

**PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION**

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Street Address</i>	<i>City</i>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			



SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Session  
Public Comment on Agenda Items  
March 20, 2025

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION

	Name	Street Address	City
1	<del>David McCall</del>	<del>833 Rameywood Rd</del>	<del>Finney Falls</del>
2	Lakie Derrick	642 Trevor Dr.	Kingsport 37660
3	Victoria Hunt	4257 Rockhold Rd	BC
4	Rodney Ridgett	1125 Battlement Shoals Rd	Blountville TN 37607
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

**Sullivan County Commission  
CONSENT AGENDA  
March 20, 2025**

048

Item 4            Resolution No. 2025-03-03

                  Sponsors: Crosswhite/Calton

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$485,533.39 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO TWO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HELPING INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN RECOVERY.**

Item 5            Resolution No. 2025-03-04

                  Sponsors: Means/Vanover

**RESOLUTION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION TO SUPPORT HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 182/HJR0182 DESIGNATING JUNE AS “NUCLEAR FAMILY MONTH” IN TENNESSEE.**

Item 6            Resolution No. 2025-03-05

                  Sponsors: Glover/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE WASTE REDUCTION GRANT FOR THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT.**

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

5 Consent Agenda

Description

Consent Agenda ~~4~~, 5, 6, 10

049

Chairman

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result:**

**Voting start time** 6:37:08 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:37:33 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

#4 bumped off consent by Comm. Slagle  
 #10 added by Comm. Cross

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<i>06</i>

**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. 2025-02-13 (Amended in its entirety)~~

~~Sponsors: Harvey/Slagle~~

~~RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION PARK PERFORMANCE REVIEW & BEST PRACTICES PLAN.~~

Item 1 Resolution No. 2025-02-13 (AMENDED)

**FAILED**

Sponsors: Harvey/Means

**RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE AN AUDIT OF OPERATIONS AT OBSERVATION KNOB PARK BY THE FULL SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION EVERY THREE YEARS.**

Item 2 ~~Resolution No. 2025-02-14 (Amended in its entirety)~~

~~Sponsors: Harvey/Stidham~~

~~RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH APPROPRIATION PLAN WITHIN THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE UP TO \$200,000 PER YEAR FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, TO ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTY WHICH DIRECTLY HELP SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENTS THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS.~~

Item 2 Resolution No. 2025-02-14 (AMENDED)

**DEFERRED**

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.**

NEW BUSINESS

Item 3 Resolution No. 2025-03-02

**APPROVED**

Sponsors: Stidham/Cole

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 CIRCUIT COURT CLERK’S BUDGET TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHILD SUPPORT COURTROOM IN THE BLOUNTVILLE JUSTICE CENTER AND THE CHANCERY/LAW COURTROOM IN THE BRISTOL JUSTICE CENTER.**

Item 4 Resolution No. 2025-03-03 (CONSENT)

**APPROVED**

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Calton

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$485,533.39 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO TWO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HELPING INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN RECOVERY.**

Item 5 Resolution No. 2025-03-04 (CONSENT) **APPROVED**

Sponsors: Means/Vanover

**RESOLUTION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION TO SUPPORT HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 182/HJR0182 DESIGNATING JUNE AS “NUCLEAR FAMILY MONTH” IN TENNESSEE.**

Item 6 Resolution No. 2025-03-05 (CONSENT) **APPROVED**

Sponsors: Glover/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE WASTE REDUCTION GRANT FOR THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT.**

Item 7 Resolution No. 2025-03-06 **1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

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.**

Item 8 Resolution 2025-03-07 (AS AMENDED) **APPROVED**

Sponsors: Vanover/Ireson

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A DEADLINE FOR RESOLUTIONS TO BE FILED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGENDA FOR THE WORKSHOP OR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING TO PROVIDE MORE CLARITY AS TO ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE EACH COMMISSION MEETING.**

Item 9 Resolution 2025-03-08 (AS AMENDED) **APPROVED**

Sponsors: Ward/McMurray

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN KINGSPORT GENERAL SESSIONS COURT/JUVENILE COURT IN THE KINGSPORT JUSTICE CENTER.**

Item 10 Resolution 2025-03-09 **APPROVED**

Sponsors: Glover/Akard

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO ENTER INTO A SIXTY (60) MONTH COPIER LEASE WITH CANON SOLUTIONS, AMERICA, INC. FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY TRUSTEE**

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

052

ITEM 1, Resolution No. 2025-02-13 amended in its entirety.

Item 01  
Resolution No. 2025-02-13

~~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 THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION PARK PERFORMANCE REVIEW & BEST PRACTICES PLAN.**~~

~~WHEREAS the county's operation of Observation Knob Park has proven over its history to incur cyclical periods of growth and/or stagnation and/or distress; and~~

~~WHEREAS changes made to the park's management and operations policy in recent years have to date has brough positive changes to both the revenues and use of the park by county residents; and~~

~~WHEREAS the county is entering a new contract with the Tennessee Valley Authority for use of the land the park occupies for another 30 years beginning in this year of 2025; and~~

~~WHEREAS the current 2022-2026 Board of Sullivan County Commissioners wishes to put in place a process to ensure future commissions remain up to date on park operations, including timely reviews of costs and revenues associated with the park's operation with a goal of preventing or correcting situations prior to any resulting downturns in revenue in order to limit or eliminate added burden to the county taxpayers.~~

~~**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> 2025 INSTITUTES THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION PARK PERFORMANCE REVIEW & BEST PRACTICE PLAN, WHICH SHALL REQUIRE A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE COST AND BENEFITS OF CONTINUED COUNTY OPERATION OF OBSERVATION KNOB PARK, SUCH REVIEWS OCCURRING NO LESS THAN ONCE EVERY THREE SEASONS OF PARK OPERATION, THUS ASSURING EACH SUBSEQUENT FOUR-YEAR TERM BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY CONSIDER AT LEAST ONCE DURING ITS TENURE PERFORMANCE OF THE PARK.**~~

~~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 20th day of March 2025.~~

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

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

CONTINUED

Item 1  
Resolution No. 2025-02-13

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 Matt Slagle; Commissioner Jessica Means  
Actions: 02/13/25 To be heard on 02/20/25 at regular session. First reading 2/20/25.

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

054

*As Amended*  
Item 1  
Resolution No. 2025-02-13

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 REQUIRE AN AUDIT OF OPERATIONS AT OBSERVATION KNOB PARK BY THE FULL SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION EVERY THREE YEARS.**

WHEREAS the county's operation of Observation Knob Park has proven over its history to incur cyclical periods of growth and/or stagnation and/or distress; and

WHEREAS the county is entering a new contract with the Tennessee Valley Authority for use of the land the park occupies for another 30 years beginning in 2025; and

WHEREAS the 2022-2026 Board of Sullivan County Commissioners wishes to ensure future commissions remain up to date on park operations, including timely reviews of costs and revenues associated with the park's operation with a goal of preventing or correcting situations prior to any resulting downturns in revenue to limit or eliminate added burden to the county taxpayers.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> 2025, APPROVES CREATION OF A REQUIREMENT FOR AN AUDIT EVERY THREE YEARS OF OPERATIONS AT OBSERVATION KNOB PARK BY THE FULL COMMISSION.**

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 \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2025.

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

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

**CONTINUED**



*As Amended*  
Item 1  
Resolution No. 2025-02-13

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  
Cosponsor: Commissioner Jessica Means  
ACTIONS: Offered as replacement in full, March 20.  
03/20/25 Failed 8 Yes, 10 No, 6 Absent

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

81 Item 1 Resolution No. 2025-02-13 Sponsors: Harvey/Means  
Vote

056

**Description** RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE AN AUDIT OF OPERATIONS AT OBSERVATION KNOB PARK BY THE FULL SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION EVERY THREE YEARS.

**Chairman** Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 6:42:50 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:43:30 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	8
Abstain	0
No	10
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	No	Absent
No group	8	10	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>06</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	

Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session

ITEM 2, Resolution No. 2025-02-14 amended in its entirety.

Item 2  
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 APPROPRIATION PLAN WITHIN THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE UP TO \$200,000 PER YEAR FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, TO ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTY WHICH DIRECTLY HELP SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENTS THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS.~~**

~~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 during the 2024-2025 FY Budget Development Process the Commission's Administrative Committee voted to reduce funding to all such organizations by half (50%) compared to the 2023-2024 FY Budget; 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: establishment of a Community Assistance Appropriation Plan; allocation of \$200,000 within the General Fund for use in fulfilling the Plan's mission for the 2025-2026 fiscal year; and~~**

**~~FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED disbursement from the new account will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Sullivan County Commission or its designee (including an existing or created committee of the Commission) and consideration of requests for funding will take place only after the completion and approval of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and/or after FY26 begins July 1, 2025, whichever last occurs.~~**

Duly adopted 20th day of March 2025.

CONTINUED

Item 2  
Resolution No. 2025-02-14

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: 02/13/25 To be heard on 02/20/25 at regular session. First reading 02/20/25.

Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session

*As Amended*  
Item 2  
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**

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

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

Item 3  
Resolution No. 2025-03-02

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 AMEEND THE 2024-2025 CIRCUIT COURT CLERK’S BUDGET TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHILD SUPPORT COURTROOM IN THE BLOUNTVILLE JUSTICE CENTER AND THE CHANCERY/LAW COURTROOM IN THE BRISTOL JUSTICE CENTER.**

WHEREAS, due to the aging of the sound equipment used in the courtrooms in the Bristol and Blountville Justice Center’s, two courtrooms have stopped working making routine communication difficult due to not being able to clearly hear the judge or parties addressing the judge; and

WHEREAS, due to the age of the equipment being in excess of 30 years old repairs are not an option to make the equipment usable, it is need of replacement; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session on March 20, 2025, approves allocation of up to \$58,500 to replace the existing equipment and to amend the current fiscal year budget to cover the cost of the equipment.

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 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025 at or about the following time 9:30 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 S. Vernalde  
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 Gary Stidham  
Cosponsor: Commissioner Michael Cole, Cross

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 Approved 18 Yes, 6 Absent



## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

31 Item 3 Resolution No. 2025-03-02 Sponsors: Stidham/Cole  
Vote

063

**Description**

RESOLUTION TO AMEEND THE 2024-2025 CIRCUIT COURT CLERK'S BUDGET TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHILD SUPPORT COURTROOM IN THE BLOUNTVILLE JUSTICE CENTER AND THE CHANCERY/LAW COURTROOM IN THE BRISTOL JUSTICE CENTER.

**Chairman**

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 6:46:03 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:46:31 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</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			

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

Item 4  
Resolution No. 2025-03-03

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 ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$485,533.39 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO TWO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HELPING INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN RECOVERY.**

WHEREAS, Sullivan County received a total of \$727,707.28 on April 22, 2024, from the Abatement Trust Fund (and \$735,949.15 on February 28, 2023); and

WHEREAS, 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 \$429,370 and the State of Tennessee projects a first quarter 2025 payment to Sullivan County in the amount of \$503,000; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County’s Opioid Advisory Committee recommends allocating the following amounts from the Abatement Trust Fund, some allocations noted with \* to be contingent on receipt of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter revenue from the state.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 20TH DAY OF MARCH 2025 APPROVES ALLOCATION OF: \$125,000 TO FAMILIES FREE (FOR THE BENEFIT AND USE AT THE NORTHEAST TENNESSEE RESIDENTIAL RECOVERY CENTER); \$188,523.50 TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE; \$194,780\* TO RECOVER RESOURCES (PAYMENT CONTINGENT ON 2025 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER RECEIPTS TO THE ABATEMENT TRUST FUND); \$177,213.20\* TO BRIDGE TO SHORE (PAYMENT CONTINGENT ON 2025 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER RECEIPTS TO THE ABATEMENT TRUST FUND); AND \$100,000 TO THE CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTER OF SULLIVAN COUNTY (CONTINGENT ON REVIEW OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING USE OF OPIOID ABATEMENT FUNDS). 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 20th day of March 2025.

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

ATTEST: Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

Item 4  
Resolution No. 2025-03-03

Delivered to the Sullivan County Mayor or his secretary this the 24th day of March, 2025 at or about the following time 9:30 am by the following method: Hand delivered.

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Item 04  
Resolution No. 2025-03-03

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard S. Venard  
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 Joyce Crosswhite  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Travis Ward; Commissioner Archie Pierce; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Larry Crawford; AND ALL THOSE VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE

ACTION: 03/20/25 Approved on Waiver of Rules 17 Yes, 1 No, 6 Absent

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

93 Item 4 Resolution No. 2025-03-03 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover  
Vote

066

**Description**

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$485,533.39 FROM THE OPIOID ABATEMENT TRUST FUND TO TWO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HELPING INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN RECOVERY. TO BE UTILIZED AS STARTUP FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS.

**Chairman**

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 6:54:10 PM  
**Voting stop time** 6:54:35 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	17
Abstain	0
No	1
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	No	Absent
No group	17	1	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</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			

Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
245th Annual Session

Item 5  
Resolution No. 2025-03-04

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 OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION TO SUPPORT HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 182/HJR0182 DESIGNATING JUNE AS "NUCLEAR FAMILY MONTH" IN TENNESSEE.**

WHEREAS, the 114th General Assembly in its 2025 session will consider HJR0182 to declare June as "Nuclear Family Month;"

WHEREAS, the nuclear family, consisting of one husband, one wife, and any biological, adopted, or fostered children, is God's design for familial structure and has been the bedrock of society since the creation of the world; and

WHEREAS, fatherless families are four times more likely to live in poverty than married couple families; children without fathers are ten times more likely to abuse chemical substances; children from fatherless homes are more likely to have mental health and behavioral issues; sixty percent of youth suicides are from fatherless homes; seventy-one percent of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes; fatherless youths are twenty times more likely to be incarcerated; eighty-five percent of youths in prison come from fatherless homes; and in a 2016 study by Peter Langman on the psychology behind fifty-six school shooters, eighty-two percent of the shooters were raised in an unstable family environment or without both biological parents together; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Sullivan County Commission to declare its support that which upholds, protects, and supports the values which help Tennessee and Sullivan County prosper;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY DECLARES THAT SULLIVAN COUNTY SUPPORTS HJR0182 FOR TENNESSEE TO DESIGNATE JUNE AS "NUCLEAR FAMILY MONTH."**

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

Duly adopted 20th day of March 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 24th day of March, 2025 at or about the following time 9:30 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 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 Jessica Means  
Cosponsors: Commissioners Zane Vanover, Matt Slagle, Hunter Locke, Joe Carr, Hershel Glover,  
David Hayes, Commissioner Cheryl Harvey; Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Commissioner Gary  
Stidham; AND ALL THOSE VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 Approved on Consent 18 Yes, 6 Absent

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 182

By Hulsey

A RESOLUTION to designate June 2025 as "Nuclear Family Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the nuclear family, consisting of one husband, one wife, and any biological, adopted, or fostered children, is God's design for familial structure and has been the bedrock of society since the creation of the world; and

WHEREAS, the nuclear family was the basic building block of Tennessee's society throughout her formative years; and

WHEREAS, the nuclear family built the United States of America and created prosperity within our nation; and

WHEREAS, fatherless families are four times more likely to live in poverty than married couple families; children without fathers are ten times more likely to abuse chemical substances; children from fatherless homes are more likely to have mental health and behavioral issues; sixty percent of youth suicides are from fatherless homes; seventy-one percent of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes; fatherless youths are twenty times more likely to be incarcerated; eighty-five percent of youths in prison come from fatherless homes; and in a 2016 study by Peter Langman on the psychology behind fifty-six school shooters, eighty-two percent of the shooters were raised in an unstable family environment or without both biological parents together; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's values do not align with the humanistic, globalist ideologies of the World Health Organization, the United Nations, and like-minded organizations that fight for population control through the means of promoting sterilization and abortion practices; and

WHEREAS, the nuclear family is God's perfect design for humanity and is aligned with the long-held traditional values of Tennessee; and WHEREAS, the nuclear family is under attack in our beloved State and nation, and it is our responsibility to uplift, protect, and support values that help Tennessee prosper; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the citizens of Tennessee in designating the month of June 2025 as "Nuclear Family Month" and commend the noble endeavors of those who seek to protect and strengthen the traditional values of our State and country.

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

Item 6  
Resolution No. 2025-03-05

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 APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE WASTE REDUCTION GRANT FOR THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT.**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Solid Waste Department is committed to enhancing waste reduction and recycling efforts within the county; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) offers the Waste Reduction Grant to support local governments in establishing and improving recycling programs, including purchasing key equipment necessary to establish new collection sites, improve existing collection and processing, and prepare recyclable materials for transport and marketing; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Solid Waste Department seeks to apply for the Waste Reduction Grant, not to exceed \$625,000, to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of recycling initiatives within the county; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires a 40% match, which will be funded from the 2025-2026 Solid Waste Budget; and

WHEREAS, upon award of the grant, Sullivan County will accept and appropriate the funds as required to implement the improvements in the county's recycling infrastructure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County, meeting in regular session on February 20, 2025, that the Sullivan County Solid Waste Department is authorized to apply for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Waste Reduction Grant in an amount not to exceed \$625,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if the grant is awarded Sullivan County is authorized to accept and appropriate the grant funds to purchase equipment required for: establishment of new recycling collections sites; improving existing recycling collection; and improving processing of and preparation of recycling materials for transport and marketing.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the required 40% matching funds (\$250,000) shall be allocated from the 2025-2026 Solid Waste Budget; and county officials are authorized as appropriate to execute documents to complete the grant application, acceptance of grant funds, and use of those funds to meet the objectives listed above.

**CONTINUED**



Item 6  
Resolution No. 2025-03-05

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

Duly adopted 20th day of March 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 24th day of March, 2025 at or about the following time 9:30 am by the following method: Not delivered

Teresa Jacobs  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Item 6  
Resolution No. 2025-03-05

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County Richard S. Enahl  
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 Hershel Glover  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 Approved on Consent 18 Yes, 6 Absent

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

Item 7  
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 \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2025.

**CONTINUED**

Item 7  
Resolution No. 2025-03-06

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

Item 6  
Resolution No. 2025-03-05

**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 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

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

**AMENDED**  
Item 8  
Resolution No. 2025-03-07

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 A DEADLINE FOR RESOLUTIONS TO BE FILED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGENDA FOR THE WORKSHOP OR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING TO PROVIDE MORE CLARITY AS TO ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE EACH COMMISSION MEETING.**

WHEREAS over a period of time the filing of resolutions has required more legal requirements to be met by County governments to give adequate notice to the public; and,

WHEREAS the agenda will be more consistent and complete with a cut-off deadline for all agendas; and,

WHEREAS this should reduce the number of last-minute changes to the resolutions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all resolutions ~~or statements of intent to make a motion~~ be submitted for the agenda by Monday at noon before each Commission meeting for workshop as well as the regular Commission meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the only exceptions to this deadline shall be resolutions ~~or motions~~ as deemed necessary by the Finance Director and/or Purchasing Agent ~~as deemed necessary~~ to provide timely action on financial matters; or by the County Attorney as deemed necessary for time-sensitive legal matters.

*resolutions*  
**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** ~~times submitted after noon on the Monday prior to a Thursday~~ Regular Session of the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners shall not be eligible for First Reading status until the subsequent month.

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.

Duly adopted 20th day of March 2025.

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

ATTEST: *Teresa Jacobs*  
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk


CONTINUED

AMENDED  
Item 8  
Resolution No. 2025-03-07

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 Zane Vanover  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Mark Ireson; Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Commissioner Jessica Means; Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Sam Jones; Commissioner Daniel Horne; Commissioner Gary Stidham; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Cheryl Harvey; Commissioner Travis Ward; Commissioner Hunter Lockett; Commissioner David Hayes; Commissioner John Gardner; Commissioner Larry Crawford; Commissioner Archie Pierce; Commissioner Joe McMurray.

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 Approved as amended on Waiver of Rules 18 Yes, 6 Absent

## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

36 Item 8 Resolution No. 2025-03-07 Sponsors: Vanover/Ireson  
Vote

076

**Description**

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A DEADLINE FOR RESOLUTIONS TO BE FILED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGENDA FOR THE WORKSHOP OR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING TO PROVIDE MORE CLARITY AS TO ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE EACH COMMISSION MEETING.

**Chairman**

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 7:02:01 PM  
**Voting stop time** 7:02:27 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</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			

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

AMENDED  
Item 9  
Resolution No. 2025-03-08

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 AMEND THE 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN KINGSFORT GENERAL SESSIONS COURT/JUVENILE COURT IN THE KINGSFORT JUSTICE CENTER.**

WHEREAS computer equipment in Sullivan County General Sessions Court operating in the Kingsport Justice Center is outdated and in dire need of replacement; and

WHEREAS the necessary replacement is estimated to cost \$27,300 and this cost was not included in the county's current budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County, meeting in Regular Session on March 20, 2025, approves amending the County's General Fund to allocate up to \$28,000 for replacement of computer equipment in Sullivan County General Sessions Court/*Juvenile Court* in the Kingsport Justice Center.

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.

Duly adopted 20th day of March 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 *20th* day of *March*, 20*25* at or about the following time *9:30 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 S. 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  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Joe McMurray

ACTIONS: 03/20/25 Approved on Waiver of Rules 18 Yes, 6 Absent



## Agenda subject voting report

Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission March 20 2025

3/20/2025

37 Item 9 Resolution No. 2025-03-08 Sponsors: Ward/McMurray  
Vote

079

**Description**

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN KINGSFORT GENERAL SESSIONS COURT IN THE KINGSFORT JUSTICE CENTER.

**Chairman**

Venable, Richard

**Total vote result**

**Voting start time** 7:04:41 PM  
**Voting stop time** 7:05:09 PM  
**Voting configuration** Vote  
**Voting mode** Open  
**Vote result**

Yes	18
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	18
Absent	6

**Group voting result**

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	18	0
<b>Total result</b>	18	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  
245th Annual Session*

080

Item 10  
Resolution No. 2025-03-09

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

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO ENTER INTO A SIXTY (60) MONTH COPIER LEASE WITH CANON SOLUTIONS, AMERICA, INC. FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY TRUSTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the copier/printer currently used for large volume copies in the office of the Trustee is over ten years old, no longer covered under any type of service contract, and is experiencing frequent copying and printing issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the work of the office of the Trustee is essential to operation of Sullivan County Government and is a new copier is needed to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of this office; and

**WHEREAS**, the State contract price will be increasing as of April 1, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners, Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Purchasing Agent to execute a sixty (60) month lease with Canon Solutions America, Inc. in the amount of \$39.08 per month to provide adequate copying and printing services for the office of the Trustee, account and 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 as far as such conflict exists.

Duly adopted 20th day of March 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 *20th* day of *March* *2025* at or about the following time *9:30 am* by the following method: *Hand delivered*.

*Teresa Jacobs*

CONTINUED

Item 10  
Resolution No. 2025-03-09

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: Richard S. 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

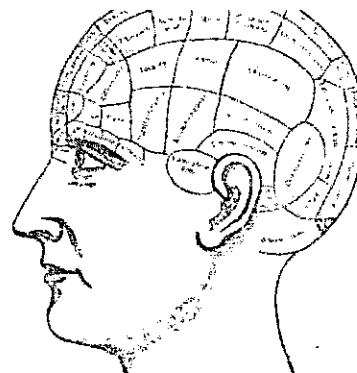
**Sponsor: Commission Hershel Glover**  
**Co-Sponsors: Commissioner David Akard; Commissioner Dwight King; Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Hunter Locke; Commissioner Darlene Calton.**

ACTIONS: Approved on Consent 18 Yes, 6 Absent



## REASON ALLIANCE

>> Reason Alliance is a non-profit organization that promotes religious pluralism, fights for reproductive rights, protects children from abuse at school, and defends the unfairly and unjustly marginalized.



*Your support helps advance campaigns that promote these core values.*



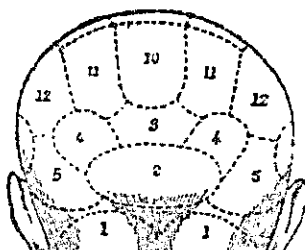
### ABOUT US

## THE ORIGINS OF REASON ALLIANCE

Reason Alliance, Ltd., was formed in 2014 by Malcolm Jarry and Douglas Mesner. The non-profit is designed to encourage empathy and rationalism, promote justice, reject tyrannical authority, and advocate for pragmatic common sense. We endorse activities that promote these core values.

## THE VALUES WE PROMOTE

**One should strive to act with** compassion and empathy toward all creatures in accordance with reason.



**Beliefs should conform to one's best** scientific understanding of the world. One should take care never to distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs.

**People are fallible. If one makes** a mistake, one should do one's best to rectify it and resolve any harm that might have been caused.

**The struggle for justice is an ongoing** and necessary pursuit that should prevail over laws and institutions.

**Every value is a guiding principle designed** to inspire nobility in action and thought. The spirit of compassion, wisdom, and justice should always prevail over the written or

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE • PROBLEM SOLVING • RESPECT • NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY • COMPASSION



# TENNESSEE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!



## THE HELLION ACADEMY OF INDEPENDENT LEARNING (HAIL) WILL BE COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL!

SPONSORED BY THE SATANIC TEMPLE AND REASON ALLIANCE

THIS ACTIVITY IS NOT APPROVED OR SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE SCHOOL BOARD

The Satanic Temple is a non-theistic religion that views Satan as a literary figure who represents rejecting tyranny and championing the human mind and spirit. HAIL does not attempt to convert children to any religious ideology. Instead, The Satanic Temple supports children thinking for themselves. All HAIL programs are based on activities centered around the Seven Fundamental Tenets and emphasize a scientific, rationalist, non-superstitious worldview.

- SCIENCE PROJECTS • COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS • PUZZLES & GAMES •
- NATURE ACTIVITIES • ARTS & CRAFTS • SNACKS •

HAIL IS PART OF A TENNESSEE RELEASED TIME RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM PER TENN CODE ANN § 49-2-130.

### PLEASE NOTE

After we receive your student's completed permission slip, we will notify the school. A second form will be sent home from the school, which will need to be completed and returned promptly to the school. Completing BOTH FORMS entitles your child to attend all HAIL classes during the 2024-2025 school year.



TO SIGN UP YOUR STUDENT, VISIT  
TST PAGE/MAIL

✉ ASSC@THESATANICTEMPLE.COM    🌐 TST PAGE/ASSC    ❤️ TST PAGE/ASSCDONATE





The child's cheek shows the characteristic rash associated with measles.

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection that causes a red, blotchy rash which commonly appears on the face and behind the ears, spreading down the chest and back to the feet, arms, and legs. It usually affects babies and young children, but even in previously healthy children, measles can cause serious illness requiring hospitalization. Fortunately, it is easily preventable through vaccination.

### What are the signs and symptoms of measles?

- Rash
- High fever
- Watery eyes
- Runny nose
- Dry cough



Symptoms usually begin 7-14 days after infection

### What should I do if I have been exposed to someone with measles?

- Anyone not vaccinated or without a past infection is at risk of getting measles.
- Remain home and call your healthcare provider if you suspect you or your child has been exposed
- Isolate at home and call your healthcare provider if you or your child have symptoms of measles



### How can I protect myself and my child?

- The best protection against measles is the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine
- The MMR vaccine provides long-lasting protection against measles.
- Adults who are not sure if they have had the vaccine or if they had a prior measles infection should contact their medical provider.



**When should my child get the MMR vaccine?**

First Dose	12-15 months old
Second Dose	4-6 years old

**KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE AND MEASLES FREE**

# SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT

DIVISION IV

**DOUG VANCE, JR.**  
*Judge*



801 Anderson Street  
Bristol, Tennessee 37620

085

Phone: 423-990-4202  
Fax: 423-989-4367

18 March 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Children's Advocacy Center and its vital work addressing the impact of the opioid crisis on children and families. The Center provides a safe space for children affected by abuse and neglect by offering essential services like counseling, medical care, and advocacy.

The opioid epidemic has profoundly affected vulnerable children, and the Children's Advocacy Center plays an important role in breaking the cycle of trauma and addiction through its education and prevention programs.

Additional funding will allow the Center to expand its services, collaborate with community partners, and better support children impacted by this crisis. I urge you to consider funding for the Children's Advocacy Center as it works to ensure a stronger, healthier future for our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Doug Vance, Jr.,

Judge, General Sessions Court, Division 4

Sullivan County Juvenile Court, Division I  
Bristol, Tennessee



086

801 Anderson Street  
Bristol Justice Center, Room #227  
Bristol, TN 37620

Phone (423) 989-4355  
Fax (423) 989-5642

Teresa A. Nelson  
Judge

Bobby L. Russell  
Clerk

Michele G. Steadman  
Director of Court  
Services

Doug Vance Jr.  
Judge

Angie Millard  
Deputy Clerk

Marjorie N. Miller  
Assistant Director

Christie Woodmore  
Court Administrator

Laura Beth Adams  
Probation Officer

March 18, 2025

Dear To, Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Children's Advocacy Center and their work in addressing the continuous impact of the opioid crisis on children and families in our community. As an important organization dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment for the children affected by abuse, neglect, and trauma, the Children's Advocacy Center plays a vital role in nurturing healing and resilience.

The opioid epidemic has had widespread consequences, particularly for children who often face incredible challenges as a result of parental substance abuse. The Children's Advocacy Center not only provides these children with access to key services such as counseling, medical care, and advocacy but also works continuously to break the cycle of trauma and addiction through education and prevention programs.

Funding for the Children's Advocacy Center is vital to ensuring that they can continue to expand their reach and provide comprehensive support to those in need. With additional resources, the Center can enhance its ability to address the individual needs of children impacted by the opioid crisis, collaborate with community partners, and implement productive solutions to battle this epidemic.

I am asking you to highly consider providing funding for the Children's Advocacy Center as part of your efforts to address the opioid crisis. By investing in the well-being of our children, we are not only supporting their immediate needs but also building a stronger, healthier future for our entire community.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,

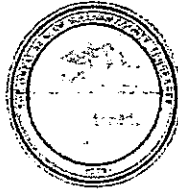
Michele Steadman  
Director of Court Services  
Sullivan County Juvenile Court, Div. I



# SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT

DIVISION I

**TERESA A. NELSON**  
Judge



801 Anderson Street  
Bristol, Tennessee 37620

087

Phone: 423-989-4350  
Fax: 423-989-4367

March 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Children's Advocacy Center in addressing the devastating impact of the opioid crisis on children and families in our community. The Children's Advocacy Center plays an essential role in fostering healing and strength for those children suffering from abuse, neglect and trauma brought on by the opioid crisis.

The opioid epidemic has been devastating to these extremely vulnerable children who often face unimaginable challenges as a result of parental substance abuse. The Children's Advocacy Center works determinedly to break the vicious cycle of trauma and addiction through education and prevention programs and also provide the children they serve counseling, medical care and serve as an important advocate.

Funding for the Children's Advocacy Center is crucial to ensuring that they can continue to expand their reach and provide all-inclusive support to children and families in need. With additional resources, the Children's Advocacy Center can improve its ability to address children impacted by the opioid crisis by collaborating with community partners in order to find solutions to this overwhelming opioid crisis.

I urge you to prioritize funding for the Children's Advocacy Center as part of your efforts to address the opioid crisis and improve our community by protecting its most vulnerable population, our children.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teresa A. Nelson".

Teresa A. Nelson  
General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judge  
Division I, Sullivan County, Tennessee

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL

DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
BARRY P. STAUBUS

DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
WILLIAM B. HARPER

INVESTIGATORS  
JOSEPH G. FELTY  
SUSAN O. RUSSELL

DUI COORDINATOR  
BOBBY BEDWELL

(423) 279-3278  
FAX (423) 279-3290



SULLIVAN COUNTY  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 526  
Blountville, Tennessee 37617

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS  
K. KAYLIN RENDLER  
JOSHUA D. PARSONS  
ANDREA N. BLACK  
PETER M. FILETTI  
KRISTEN E. ROSE  
JOSHUA D. ROSE  
LAUREN E. WILLIAMS  
ALEXANDER C. GRIFFITH  
DAVID C. BLEDSOE  
MATTHEW W. DARBY  
LINDSAY K. EARHART  
AMBER D. MASSENGILL  
CARSON D. REYNOLDS  
HEATHER N. SMITH  
LOUIS D. TORCH  
ALEXIS R. STAUBUS  
CARTER M. ELDTRETH  
DYLAN J. GALLAGAN  
JENNIFER C. BARNES  
MICHELLE G. GREEN  
CHARLES D. WALTER

088

March 18, 2025

Sullivan County Board of Commissioners  
3411 Highway 126  
Blountville, TN 37617

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Children's Advocacy Center and their critical work in addressing the devastating impact of the opioid crisis on children and families in our community. As an organization dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment for children affected by abuse, neglect, and trauma, the Children's Advocacy Center plays an essential role in fostering healing and resilience.

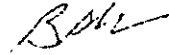
The opioid epidemic has had far-reaching consequences, particularly for vulnerable children who often face unimaginable challenges as a result of parental substance abuse. The Children's Advocacy Center not only provides these children with access to vital services such as counseling, medical care, and advocacy but also works tirelessly to break the cycle of trauma and addiction through education and prevention programs.

Funding for the Children's Advocacy Center is crucial to ensuring that they can continue to expand their reach and provide comprehensive support to those in need. With additional resources, the Center can enhance its ability to address the unique needs of children impacted by the opioid crisis, collaborate with community partners, and implement innovative solutions to combat this epidemic.

I urge you to prioritize funding for the Children's Advocacy Center as part of your efforts to address the opioid crisis. By investing in the well-being of our children, we are not only supporting their immediate needs but also building a stronger, healthier future for our entire community.

Thank you for considering this important matter. Please contact me if you need any additional information or would like to discuss this issue in greater detail.

Yours truly,



Barry P. Staubus  
District Attorney General  
Second Judicial District

# *Sullivan County*



**AND THEREUPON COUNTY COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 7:05 P.M. UPON MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER IRESON TO MEET AGAIN IN WORK SESSION ON APRIL 10, 2025.**

*John T. Gardner*

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**JOHN T. GARDNER**

**COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**