

COUNTY COMMISSION-WORK SESSION

001

MARCH 13, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT:

COUNTY COMMISSION MET PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT IN MONTHLY WORK SESSION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 13, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M. IN BLOUNTVILLE, TENNESSEE. PRESENT AND PRESIDING WAS CHAIRMAN JOHN GARDNER AND TERESA JACOBS, COUNTY CLERK OF SAID BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,

TO WIT:

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT AND ANSWERING ROLL WERE AS FOLLOWS:

	MARK IRESON
DARLENE CALTON	SAM JONES
JOE CARR	DWIGHT KING
MICHAEL COLE	TONY LEONARD
LARRY CRAWFORD	
ANDREW CROSS	
JOYCE CROSSWHITE	JESSICA MEANS
JOHN GARDNER	ARCHIE PIERCE
HERSHEL GLOVER	
CHERYL HARVEY	GARY STIDHAM
DAVID HAYES	ZANE VANOVER
	TRAVIS WARD

19 PRESENT, 5 ABSENT

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: AKARD, HORNE, LOCKE, MCMURRAY, SLAGLE

NOTE: AKARD IN AT 6:11PM

There were no rezoning cases for the month of March, 2025

Agenda subject voting report

002

3/13/2025

Meeting name **Sullivan County Work Session March 13 2025**

2 Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk
Roll Call

Description Roll Call
Chairman Venable, Richard

Total vote result
Voting start time 6:01:49 PM
Voting stop time 6:02:33 PM
Voting configuration Roll Call - Attendances
Voting mode Open
Vote result

Present	19
Total Present	19
Total Seats	28
Absent	5

Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	19	0
Total result	19	0

Individual voting result

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

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
Order of Business
March 13, 2025
6:00 p.m.

REZONING HEARING

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Chairman John Gardner presiding
- ❖ Invocation.
- ❖ Pledge to the American Flag.
- ❖ Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk
- ❖ Public Hearing and Commission Vote for Rezoning Requests and/or Zoning Text Amendments.

Item 1 Resolution No. 2025-03-01
Sponsors: Calton/Hayes
RESOLUTION To Consider Amendment(s) To the Sullivan County Zoning Plan:
Zoning Map or The Zoning Resolution.

THERE ARE NO REZONING REQUESTS OR TEXT AMENDMENTS THIS MONTH,
PER PLANNING & CODES DEPARTMENT

- ❖ Adjournment of Rezoning Hearing

SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
County Commission - Work Session
Public Comment on Agenda Items
March 13, 2025

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION

	Name	Street Address	City
1	Maura Christie	331 Warren Rd	Piney Flats
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

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

Item 1
Resolution No. 2025-03-01

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 13th day of March 2025.

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ZONING PLAN: ZONING MAP OR THE ZONING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the rezoning petition(s) have been duly initiated; have been before the appropriate Regional Planning Commission (recommendations enclosed); and shall receive a public hearing as required prior to final action from the County Commission; and

WHEREAS, such rezoning petition(s) and/or the proposed text amendment(s) will require an amendment to the SULLIVAN COUNTY ZONING PLAN – Zoning Map or Zoning Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby consider rezoning petition(s) and/or the Zoning Resolution Text Amendment(s), conduct the appropriate public hearing as required by law, and vote upon the proposed amendment(s) individually, by roll call vote, and that the vote be valid and binding, and that any necessary amendments to the official zoning map or resolution code book be made by the Planning & Codes Department.

All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Duly passed and approved this ____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk, Sullivan County

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

County Clerk, Sullivan County

CONTINUED

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

Introduced by: Commissioner Darlene Calton
Seconded by: Commissioner David Hayes

2025-03-01 ACTIONS: No rezoning cases for March 2025

COUNTY COMMISSION WORK SESSION**March 13, 2025**

- ❖ Presentations & Guest Speakers
- ❖ Public Comment Agenda Items
- ❖ Public Comment: Non-Agenda Items
- ❖ Review of Old Business and Draft Resolutions
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Conclusion of Work Session

OLD BUSINESS

Item 1 Resolution No. 2025-02-13

Sponsors: Havey/Slagle

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

Item 2 Resolution No. 2025-02-14

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.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 3 Resolution No. 2025-03-02

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

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.

Item 7 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.

Item 8 Resolution 2025-03-07

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

Sponsors: Ward/McMurray

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

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

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 brought 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 20TH 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 ____ day of _____ 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.
03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on March 20, 2025

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

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 ___ day of _____ 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. 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25.

*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 ____ 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

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 Gary Stidham
Cosponsor: Commissioner Michael Cole

Actions: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for waiver of rules.

*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 1st 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 1ST QUARTER RECEIPTS TO THE ABATEMENT TRUST FUND); \$177,213.20* TO BRIDGE TO SHORE (PAYMENT CONTINGENT ON 2025 1ST 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 ____ day of ____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Item 4
Resolution No. 2025-03-03

CONTINUED

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 04
Resolution No. 2025-03-03

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 Joyce Crosswhite
Cosponsors: Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Travis Ward; Commissioner Archie Pierce; Commissioner Joe Carr, Commissioner Larry Crawford,

2025-03-03 Actions: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for consent.

*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 ___ 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. 2025-03-04

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 Jessica Means
Cosponsors: Commissioners Zane Vanover, Matt Slagle, Hunter Locke, Joe Carr, Hershel Glover,
David Hayes

2025-03-04 ACTIONS: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for
consent.

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

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

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 Hershel Glover
Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for consent.

*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 20th, 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

ACTIONS: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for waiver of rules.

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

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.

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 ____ day of ____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

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

ACTIONS: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for waiver of rules.

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

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 KINGSPORT GENERAL SESSIONS COURT IN THE KINGSPORT 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 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 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

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 Travis Ward
Cosponsors: Commissioner Joe McMurray

ACTIONS: 03/13/25 To be considered at regular session on 03/20/25 with a request for waiver of
rules.

Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
 242nd Annual Session

030

Item 3
 No. 2022-03-25

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of March 2022.

RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE AN INCREASE IN BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENTS WITHIN SULLIVAN COUNTY BEGINNING WITH SECOND HALF FY 2021-2022, IN ADDITION TO BUDGET REQUESTS FOR FY 2022-2023, HEREAFTER, ESTABLISHED AS A FIVE-YEAR FUNDING PLAN FOR FIRE AND RESCUE (attachment reflects amount of increase requested per department for second half of FY 2022 in addition to FY 2023 budget requests)

WHEREAS the attached schedule is established as a five-year funding plan for leveling Sullivan County fire and rescue department budget requests and appropriations; and

WHEREAS fire and rescue workers need financial care to enhance local readiness, and streamline incident management processes relative to fire protection, as well as rescue and emergency medical services that protect lives and property when responding to emergencies of all kinds; and

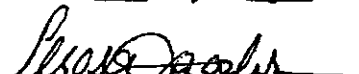
WHEREAS it is imperative, when possible, for this legislative body to provide monetary support to fire and rescue departments that sustains equipment and keeps capably trained personnel on call; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Sullivan County Board of Commissioners approves an increase in budget appropriations for all fire and rescue departments (identified in attachment) beginning with second half FY 2021-2022 in an aggregate amount of \$343,244.00 and setting budget requests for FY 2022-2023 in an aggregate amount of \$270,496.00, and hereafter being established as a five-year funding plan becoming a benchmark for future budget requests. Account codes to be assigned by Sullivan County Department of Finance.

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

Approved this 21st day of April 2022.

Attest:


 Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

Approved:


 Richard S. Venable, County Mayor

Sponsored By: Commissioner Hershel Glover

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner(s) Dwight King, Andrew Cross, Hunter Locke, Joyce Crosswhite, Tony Leonard, Michael Cole, David Akard, Larry Crawford, Archie Pierce, Alicia Starnes, Todd Broughton, John Gardner, Gary Stidham, Darlene Calton, Terry Harkleroad, all commissioners voting in the affirmative.

2022-03-25 Commission Actions: 03-17-22 1st Reading; 04-21-22 Approved as amended

Yes, 1 Absent



Decrease in Funding to level	Increase for all Fire Depts.	
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
\$ 996.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
\$ 48,572.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
\$ 66,615.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
\$ 996.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
\$ 996.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 138,664.00
	\$ 700.00	\$ 6,000.00

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

County Budget Increase			
	Fire	Rescue/1st Resp.	Total Increase
Current	\$ 1,907,961.00	\$ 1,113,224.00	
Proposed	\$ 2,075,290.00	\$ 1,559,635.00	
Increase			

Increase			
County Portion	\$ 202,330.00	21/22	\$ 343,244.00
City Portion	\$ 411,411.00	22/23	\$ 270,496.00

CITY
 FIRE \$ 20,000
 TRUCK \$ 21,811
 1st Resp \$369,600

COUNTY
 FIRE \$100,000
 TRUCK \$ 46,630
 1st Rsp \$ 55,000
 Assoc \$ 700



April 21, 2022

Amendment to Resolution No. 2022-03-25 by Commissioner Glover

Adjustment to Kingsport Lifesaving Crew budget appropriations to be added to Resolution 2022-03-25 in the amount of \$20,000 to accommodate the difference between Kingsport Life Saving Crew request and amount listed on budget appropriations requests for second half FY 2021-2022, and to continue as a component of the five-year plan budget appropriations to fire and rescue departments beginning with FY 2022-2023. Office of Accounts and Budgets to determine budgetary numbers and line-item assignments.

DEC 31, 2021

For second half of FY 21/22

Avoca	55,891	82,773	\$138,664	033
Bloomingtondale	64,830	73,834		
Bluff City	55,891	82,773		
East	55,891	82,773		
Hickory Tree	55,891	82,773		
Piney Flats	55,891	82,773		
Sullivan Co	64,830	73,834		
Warriors	64,830	73,834		
West	55,891	82,773		
421	55,891	82,773		
Bristol	88,618	50,046		
Kingsport	97,640	41,024		
Assoc	<u>5,300</u>	<u>0</u>		
	777,285	* 891,983		
BERR	30,295	40,294	\$70,589	
BCRS	30,295	40,294		
HVRS	30,295	40,294		
KLSC	104,640	119,640	\$224,280	
Bloomindale	92,400	92,400	\$184,800	
Warriors	92,400	92,400		
West	<u>92,400</u>	<u>92,400</u>		
	472,725	* 517,722		
Bristol	0	92,400		
Kingsport	0	92,400		
Sullivan Co	<u>0</u>	<u>3,750</u>		
	0	*188,550		

Total paid Dec. 31, 2021

Total paid June 30, 2022

\$777,285	* \$891,983
<u>472,725</u>	* 517,722
\$1,250,010	<u>* 188,550</u>
	\$1,598,255
INCREASE of	\$348,245

This would set the amounts to the original requested amounts by the depts.

And the amounts set in the original proposal should suffice depts operation cost for the next several years.

Would only request annual increase on fire and rescue truck rotations to maintain that program.

Expected increase by vendors for vehicles for vehicle is current up by 13 % *now* and probably another by 2022/2023 when funds will be available for vehicles.

13% would place fire truck amount @ \$405,322, Sullivan Co VFD to receive and would place rescue truck amount @ \$189,589, Bristol Fire to receive.

AVOCA	\$138,664
BLOOMINGDALE	138,664
BLUFF CITY	138,664
EAST	138,664
HICKORY TREE	138,664
PINEY FLATS	138,664
SULLIVAN COUNTY	138,664
WARRIORS	138,664
WEST	138,664
421	138,664
BRISTOL	138,664
KINGSPORT	138,664
VOL FIRE ASSOC	6,000
BLOUNTVILLE RESPONSE	70,589
BLUFF CITY RESCUE	70,589
HOLSTON VALLEY RESCUE	70,589
KINGSPORT LIFE SAVING	224,279
BLOOMINGDALE FIRST RESPONDER	184,800
WARRIORS FIRST RESPONDER	184,800
WEST FIRST RESPONDER	184,800
SULLIVAN CO FIRST RESPONDER	15,000
BRISTOL FIRST RESPONDER	184,800
KINGSPORT FIRST RESPONDER	184,800
	<u>3,045,014</u>
FIRE TRUCK	405,322
RESCUE TRUCK	<u>189,589</u>
TOTAL 22/23	\$3,639,925

Agenda subject voting report

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Meeting name

Sullivan County Commission April 21 2022

4/21/2022

53 OLD BUSINESS Item 3 Resolution No. 2022-03-22 Sponsors:Glover/ King
Vote

036

Description

RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE AN INCREASE IN BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENTS WITHIN SULLIVAN COUNTY BEGINNING WITH SECOND HALF FY 2021-2022, IN ADDITION TO BUDGET REQUESTS FOR FY 2022-2023, HEREAFTER, ESTABLISHED AS A FIVE-YEAR FUNDING PLAN FOR FIRE AND RESCUE (attachment reflects amount of increase requested per department for second half of FY 2022 in addition to FY 2023 budget requests)

Chairman

Venable, Richard

Total vote result

Voting start time 7:20:10 PM
Voting stop time 7:20:28 PM
Voting configuration Vote
Voting mode Open
Vote result

Yes	23
Abstain	0
No	0
Total Present	23
Absent	1

Group voting result

Group	Yes	Absent
No group	23	0
Total result	23	0

Individual voting result

Name	Yes	Abstain	No	Absent
Akard, David ()	X			
Blalock, Judy ()				X
Broughton, Todd ()	X			
Calton, Darlene ()	X			
Cole, Michael ()	X			
Crawford, Larry ()	X			
Cross, Andrew ()	X			
Crosswhite, Joyce ()	X			
Gardner, John ()	X			
George, Colette ()	X			
Glover, Hershel ()	X			
Harkleroad, Terry ()	X			
Hopper, Barry ()	X			
Jones, Sam ()	X			
King, Dwight ()	X			
Leonard, Tony ()	X			
Locke, Hunter ()	X			
Morrell, Randy ()	X			
Pierce, Archie ()	X			
Stanley, Angie ()	X			
Starnes, Alicia ()	X			

Agenda subject voting report

037

4/21/2022

Meeting name Sullivan County Commission April 21 2022

Name	Yes	Abstain	No	Absent
Stidham, Gary ()	X			
Vance, Mark ()	X			
Woods, Doug ()	X			

Sullivan County

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**AND THEREUPON COUNTY COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 7:35 P.M. UPON
MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CALTON TO MEET AGAIN IN REGULAR
SESSION ON ~~APRIL 10, 2025.~~ MARCH 20, 2025**

John Gardner

JOHN GARDNER

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN