

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Order of Business
September 17, 2026
6:00 p.m.

September Monthly Meeting

- ❖ 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
- ❖ Approval of minutes of Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County's: August 13, 2026, Rezoning Hearing; August 20, 2026, Monthly Meeting
- ❖ Appointments, Presentations, and Recognitions.
 - 1) Appointment of Jordan Carrier to the South Fork Utility District Board of Directors.
 - 2) Appointment of Joshua Barrett to the South Fork Utility District Board of Directors.
 - 3) Reappointment of Steven Hobbs to the Regional Planning Commission
 - 4) Reappointment of Laura McMillan to the Regional Planning Commission
 - 5) Reappointment of Darlene Calton to the Regional Planning Commission
 - 6) Presentation(s): 4H Clover Bowl 1st Place Winners; Sophie Perry, Sabella Baker, Ellie Carpenter, Olivia Bishop
- ❖ Approval of Notaries Public
- ❖ Public Comment on agenda items.
- ❖ Public Comment on non-agenda items.
- ❖ Consent Agenda (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)
- ❖ Old Business
- ❖ New Business
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Adjournment



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Consent Agenda

Item 2 Resolution No. 2026-09-02

 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND BUDGET FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF THE FY 2027 TN TUTORING GRANT FUNDS

Item 3 Resolution No. 2026-09-03

 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE GRANT ROLLOVER FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

Item 4 Resolution No. 2026-09-04

 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE VOLUNTARY PRE K BUDGET IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

Item 5 Resolution No. 2026-09-05

 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE GEAR UP GRANT FROM EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (ETSU) IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

Item 6 Resolution No. 2026-09-06

 Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

Item 7 Resolution No. 2026-09-07

 Sponsors: Akard/Vance

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT OF \$2,500,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RURAL HEALTHCARE ACCESS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (RAMP).



OLD BUSINESS

Item 1 Resolution No. 2026-04-02

Sponsors: Carr/Gardner

RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE PETWORKS ANIMAL SERVICES FOR \$50,000 FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION OF THE SHELTER.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 2 Resolution No. 2026-09-02 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND BUDGET FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF THE FY 2027 TN TUTORING GRANT FUNDS

Item 3 Resolution No. 2026-09-03 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE GRANT ROLLOVER FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

Item 4 Resolution No. 2026-09-04 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE VOLUNTARY PRE K BUDGET IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

Item 5 Resolution No. 2026-09-05 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE GEAR UP GRANT FROM EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (ETSU) IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

Item 6 Resolution No. 2026-09-06 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Johnson

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

Item 7 Resolution No. 2026-09-07 (CONSENT)

Sponsors: Akard/Vance

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT OF \$2,500,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RURAL HEALTHCARE ACCESS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (RAMP).



Item 8 Resolution No. 2026-09-08

Sponsors: Locke/Gardner

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE BJA FY26 COSSUP GRANT FOR THE CROSS-STATE OVERDOSE RESPONSE, REPORTING, INTELLIGENCE & DATA FOR OPERATIONAL READINESS (CORRIDOR) PROJECT.

Item 9 Resolution No. 2026-09-09

Sponsors: Ireson/Carr

RESOLUTION, TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR THE TIME PERIOD JUNE 30, 2026, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2028, TO TREAT ALL EMPLOYEES WITH BETWEEN 23 AND 25 YEARS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH SULLIVAN COUNTY WHO ARE FORCED TO RETIRE AT AGE 60 PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION # 2024-11-02 (PASSED NOVEMBER 21, 2024) THE SAME FOR PURPOSES OF RETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS AS IF THEY HAD 25 YEARS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH SULLIVAN COUNTY.

Item 10 Resolution No. 2026-09-10

Sponsors: Locke/Gardner

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CONSTABLES TO FOURTEEN (14) MEMBERS, WITH TWO (2) COMMISSIONERS AND CONSTABLES FROM SEVEN (7) DISTRICTS

Item 11 Resolution No. 2026-09-11

Sponsors: Carr/Derrick

A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE CITIZENS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY AND PROHIBIT THE WARRANTLESS USE OF AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS

Item 12 Resolution No. 2026-09-12

Sponsors: Carr/Derrick

A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING A TRIGGER LAW BANNING ALL AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS IN SULLIVAN COUNTY, TO TAKE EFFECT AS SOON AS GIVEN AUTHORITY BY EITHER THE STATE LEGISLATURE OR CONGRESS



Item 13 Resolution No. 2026-09-13

Sponsors: Jones/Cross

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES TOP GRANT BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026.

Item 14 Resolution No. 2026-09-14

Sponsors: Ireson/Stanley

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE SPEED LIMIT FROM 35 MPH TO 25 MPH ON SULLIVAN GARDENS
DRIVE.



***Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
246nd Annual Session***

Before the Mayor of Sullivan County, Tennessee

**IN RE: South Fork Utility District
Sullivan County, Tennessee**

WHEREAS, the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Mayor, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307, that a vacancy has occurred upon said utility board; and

WHEREAS, the South Fork District Board of Commissioners further certifies that the nominee, Jordan Carrier is qualified and has agreed to serve on the Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by Sullivan County Mayor, Zane Vanover, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307 that nominee, Jordan Carrier shall be appointed to the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners. Term to expire as per the by-laws of the utility district.

Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor

Said order entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this 17th day of September 2026.

Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



*Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session*

Before the Mayor of Sullivan County, Tennessee

IN RE: South Fork Utility District

Sullivan County, Tennessee

WHEREAS, the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Mayor, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307, that a vacancy has occurred upon said utility board; and

WHEREAS, the South Fork District Board of Commissioners further certifies that the nominee, Joshua Barrett is qualified and has agreed to serve on the Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by Sullivan County Mayor, Zane Vanover, pursuant to T.C.A. §7-82-307 that nominee, Joshua Barrett shall be reappointed to the South Fork Utility District Board of Commissioners. Term to expire as per the by-laws of the utility district.

Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor

Said order entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this 17th day of September 2026.

Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



*Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
246th Session*

**IN RE: Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission
Blountville, Tennessee**

Order Reappointing Board Member

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, as duly adopted by Sullivan County, Tennessee, that a vacancy will occur upon said Regional Planning Commission by virtue of the expiration of a term office; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission further certifies that nominee Steven Hobbs is qualified and willing to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Sullivan Mayor, Zane Vanover in his authority to appoint members to said Regional Planning Commission, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, that nominee Steven Hobbs be reappointed to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

Term: July 2026 to July 2030

Zane Vanover Sullivan County Mayor

Said order confirmed and entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this
17th day of September 2026.

Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



*Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
246th Session*

IN RE: Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission

Blountville, Tennessee

Order Reappointing Board Member

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, as duly adopted by Sullivan County, Tennessee, that a vacancy will occur upon said Regional Planning Commission by virtue of the expiration of a term office; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission further certifies that nominee Laura McMillan is qualified and willing to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Sullivan Mayor, Zane Vanover in his authority to appoint members to said Regional Planning Commission, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, that nominee Laura McMillian be reappointed to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

Term: July 2026 to July 2030

Zane Vanover Sullivan County Mayor

Said order confirmed and entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this

17th day of September 2026.

Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



Sullivan County
Board of County Commissioners
246th Session

**IN RE: Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission
Blountville, Tennessee**

Order Reappointing Board Member

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, as duly adopted by Sullivan County, Tennessee, that a vacancy will occur upon said Regional Planning Commission by virtue of the expiration of a term office; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission further certifies that nominee Darlene Calton is qualified and willing to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Sullivan Mayor, Zane Vanover in his authority to appoint members to said Regional Planning Commission, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-4-101, that nominee Darlene Calton be reappointed to serve on the Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission.

Term: September 2026 to September 2030

Zane Vanover Sullivan County Mayor

Said order confirmed and entered into the record of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners this
17th day of September 2026.

Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



AS AMENDED BY SPONSOR FOR DISTRIBUTION 6/18/2026

***SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session***

Item 01
Resolution No. 2026-04-02

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Mayor of Sullivan County, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of June 2026.

RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE PETWORKS ANIMAL SERVICES+ FOR \$50,000 FOR THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION OF THE SHELTER.

WHEREAS, PETWORKS is dedicated to providing the best possible care to lost and homeless animals and strives to end animal suffering and animal overpopulation through progressive and proactive policies and programs, including adoption, rescue, spay/neuter, and responsible ownership education.

WHEREAS, PETWORKS currently provides animal control services to the City of Kingsport and accepts animals that are dropped off at the shelter from anywhere in the Sullivan County area.

WHEREAS, PETWORKS is providing care for animals that are seriously injured or seriously malnourished from Sullivan County cruelty cases. These animals require extensive veterinary care and long rehabilitation periods before they can put up for adoption or adopted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular Session, hereby approves funding for the PETWORKS Animal Services in the amount of \$50,000. This amount is to be funded from the Fund Balance of the General Fund or other available funding.

CONTINUED



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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 _____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Joe Carr

Cosponsor: Commissioner John Gardner

ACTIONS: 07/09/26 (Work Session) To be considered at Regular Session on 07/16/26; 07/16/26 (Regular Session) Deferred until August meeting by Sponsor; 08/13/26 (Work Session) Defer until September meeting by Sponsor; 08/20/26 (Regular Session) Sponsor deferred until September meeting and stated Comm. Joe Carr will be the sponsor of this resolution forthcoming as Comm. Stidham's term is ending 08/31/26. 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be considered at the Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 2
No. 2026-09-02

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September, 2026.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND BUDGET FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF THE FY 2027 TN TUTORING GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Schools has been awarded the Fiscal Year 2027 TN Tutoring Grant in the amount of \$78,060.00 from the Tennessee Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds will be utilized to support tutoring initiatives, including instructional salaries, training, social security/medicare benefits, and instructional supplies for the Regular Instruction and Support Services programs; and

WHEREAS, this grant requires no local matching funds from Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of Education has requested that these funds be formally accepted and appropriated into the school system's operating budget to align with the state-approved ePlan budget overview.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session, that the General Purpose School Fund budget be amended to reflect the following revenue and expenditure appropriations:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
46590	Other State Education Funds	\$78,060.00
71100-189	Other Salaries & Wages	\$44,544.00
71100-201	Social Security	\$2,761.73
71100-212	Employer Medicare	\$646.55



71100-429	Instructional Supplies & Mtls	\$23,430.36
71100-499	Other Supplies & Mtls	\$2,177.36
72210-196	In-Service Training	\$4,000.00
72210-524	Staff Development	\$500.00

Waiver of the Rules Requested

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite
Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner Matthew Johnson

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 3
No. 2026-09-03

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September, 2026.

RESOLUTION to Recognize Grant Rollover Funds from the State of Tennessee for Pre-Employment Transition Services

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education has entered into a grant contract with the State of Tennessee, Department of Human Services for the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services to Students with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the grant is intended to fund staff positions for transition case managers, transition coaches, and workplace readiness specialists to provide the five (5) Pre-Employment Transition Service activities as detailed in the grant contract; and

WHEREAS, the original grant period runs through September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, funds were remaining in the grant at the close of the 2025-2026 fiscal year that remain eligible for spending until September 30, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Sullivan County Department of Education to recognize said rollover funds in the General Purpose School Fund; not to exceed the amount of \$49,037.06. The revenue and expenditure account codes for this are as follows

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
46590	Other State Education Funds	\$49,037.06
71200-100	Salaries	\$36,963.34
71200-200	Employee Benefits	\$12,073.72



Waiver of the Rules Requested

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 _____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner Matthew Johnson

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 4
No. 2026-09-04

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September, 2026.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE VOLUNTARY PRE K BUDGET IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Schools has been awarded the Voluntary Pre K Grant for the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners previously recognized and approved an initial budget allocation within the General Purpose School Fund budget; and

WHEREAS, updated grant activities require a revision to the original budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session, that the General Purpose School Fund budget be amended to reflect the revision of the Pre K Grant funds as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
46515-735	Early Childhood Education	+16,930.76
73400-116-735	Teachers	+16,931.00
73400-163-735	Educational Assistants	-0.24

CONTINUED



Waiver of Rules Requested

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Joyce Crosswhite
Co-Sponsor(s): Matthew Johnson

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 5
No. 2026-09-05

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September, 2026.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR THE GEAR UP GRANT FROM EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (ETSU) IN THE GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Schools has been awarded continuing participation in the GEAR UP Grant program through East Tennessee State University (ETSU) to support student readiness and success; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners previously recognized and approved an initial budget allocation for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant during the July 2026 regular session and approved an amendment through a resolution during the August 2026 regular session; and

WHEREAS, updated grant activities require a further revision to the original budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session, that the General Purpose School Fund budget be amended to reflect the revision of the GEAR UP Grant funds as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
71300-429-725	Instructional Supplies & Mtls	+15,000.00
71300-449-725	Textbooks	-5,000.00
71300-471-725	Software	-5,000.00
72130-524-725	Staff Development	-5,000.00



Waiver of Rules Requested

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 _____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Joyce Crosswhite

Co-Sponsor(s): Matthew Johnson

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
242nd Annual Session

Item 6
No. 2026-9-06

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September, 2026.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education has entered into a grant contract with the State of Tennessee, Department of Human Services for the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services to Students with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the grant is intended to fund staff positions for transition case managers, transition coaches, and workplace readiness specialists to provide the five (5) Pre-Employment Transition Service activities as detailed in the grant contract; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Sullivan County Department of Education to officially recognize, accept, and utilize these funds in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the grant contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Sullivan County Department of Education to recognize said grant funds in the General Purpose School Fund; not to exceed the amount of \$210,080. The revenue and expenditure account codes for this are as follows

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
46590	Other State Education Funds	\$210,080.00
71200-100	Salaries	\$158,336.72
71200-200	Employee Benefits	\$51,743.328

CONTINUED



Waiver of the Rules Requested

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner Matthew Johnson

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 7
Resolution No. 2026-09-07

To the Honorable Zane Vanover Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT OF \$2,500,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RURAL HEALTHCARE ACCESS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (RAMP).

WHEREAS the Tennessee Department of Health, administers the Rural Healthcare Access Modernization Program (RAMP) utilizing TennCare Shared Savings to strengthen healthcare infrastructure, expand service capacity, and improve healthcare delivery in rural Tennessee communities; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Health Department seeks to enhance public health infrastructure, upgrade facilities, and expand vital community health services to better serve residents throughout Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, the application for this grant requires no matching funds based on this award amount; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant will not require additional staffing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

SECTION 1. The Sullivan County Regional Health Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Tennessee Department of Health for the Rural Healthcare Access Modernization Program (RAMP) Grant in an amount up to \$2,500,000 to support capital infrastructure, modernization, and equipment.

CONTINUED



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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 _____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner David Akard

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner: Mark Vance, Kim Harvey, Joyce Crosswhite

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 8
Resolution No. 2026-09-08

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE THE BJA FY26 COSSUP GRANT FOR THE CROSS-STATE OVERDOSE RESPONSE, REPORTING, INTELLIGENCE & DATA FOR OPERATIONAL READINESS (CORRIDOR) PROJECT.

WHEREAS Sullivan County continues to face challenges regarding drug trends and overdose threats, particularly along the I-81 corridor, which is a well-known bi-directional drug trafficking route; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Health Department has identified a critical need to enhance overdose surveillance and response capabilities through centralized data sharing and analytic reporting; and

WHEREAS, the CORRIDOR Project seeks to partner with the University of Baltimore and the CDC Foundation to develop a management portal and automated spike response alerts using the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP); and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance has made funding available through the FY26 Comprehensive Substance Use Site-Based Program with an anticipated award amount of \$1,300,000 over a 36-month project period; and

WHEREAS, the application for this grant requires no matching funds; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this grant will not require additional staffing;

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Regional Health Department will work with the Sullivan County Finance Department to appropriate the grant funds into the budget upon award;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

SECTION 1. Authorization for the Sullivan County Regional Health Department to submit an application for the BJA FY26 COSSUP grant and accept funds if awarded in an amount not to exceed \$1,300,000 for the CORRIDOR Project.

CONTINUED



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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner: Hunter Locke

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner: John Gardner

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent Agenda at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 9

Resolution No. 2026-09-09

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

RESOLUTION, TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR THE TIME PERIOD JUNE 30, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2028, TO TREAT ALL EMPLOYEES WITH BETWEEN 23 AND 25 YEARS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH SULLIVAN COUNTY WHO ARE FORCED TO RETIRE AT AGE 60 PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION # 2024-11-02 (PASSED NOVEMBER 21, 2024) THE SAME FOR PURPOSES OF RETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS AS IF THEY HAD 25 YEARS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH SULLIVAN COUNTY.

WHEREAS, as a retirement benefit for its employees, Sullivan County helps provide medical insurance coverage during retirement for employees who qualify based on age and years of full-time employment with Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution # 2024-11-02, passed November 21, 2024, by the County Commission of Sullivan County, Sullivan County established a mandatory retirement age of Sixty (60) for all its firefighters, police officers, and correctional officers, as well as for all its employees who have been transferred from such a position to a supervisory or administrative position within their respective agency, subject to the terms and conditions of *TCA* §8-36-205; and

WHEREAS, there is a perceived lack of timely notice to employees identified above who are forced to retire, thereby arguably putting such employees at some degree of disadvantage in making appropriate plans;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby declares that between June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2028, all Sullivan County employees, as identified above, with 23-25 years of full-time employment as of the date they are forced to retire because of Resolution # 2024-11-02, be provided with the same medical insurance coverage provided as a retirement benefit to employees who have a full 25 years of full-time employment. This Resolution shall be effective for the time period of June 30, 2026, through June 30, 2028 only, and shall expire without further action at the end of June 30, 2028.



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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Mark Ireson

Cosponsor: Commissioner Joe Carr

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 (Work Session) To be considered at Regular Session on 09/17/26.



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 10
Resolution No. 2026-09-10

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO FOURTEEN (14) MEMBERS WITH TWO (2) COMMISSIONERS ELECTED FROM SEVEN (7) DISTRICTS.

WHEREAS, Article 7, Section 1 of the Tennessee Constitution Article 7, Section 1 of the Tennessee Constitution and Tennessee Code Annotated Section 5-1-111 requires that the legislative body of the several counties of the State of Tennessee shall meet and, a majority of the members being present and concurring, shall change the boundaries of districts, or redistrict a county entirely if necessary, to apportion the county legislative body so that the members represent substantially equal populations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-111, the Sullivan County Commission established the boundaries for seven (7) board of education districts that were of substantially equal populations with the adoption of resolution number 2021-10-98 on October 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-111, the Sullivan County Commission is hereby changing the boundaries of the legislative districts to the boundaries for the seven (7) board of education districts as established in resolution number 2021-10-98 adopted by the Sullivan County Commission on October 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the total number of commissioners shall be fourteen (14) with two (2) members elected from within and representing each of the seven (7) districts; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the provisions of *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-111, Sullivan County has prepared an official map setting forth the geographical boundaries for seven (7) Sullivan County Commission Districts pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-110.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sullivan County Legislative Body meeting in Regular Session at Blountville, Tennessee, on this ____ day of ____, 2026, hereby authorize that:

CONTINUED



SECTION 1. There is hereby adopted a district map for Sullivan County which provides for fourteen (14) commissioners, with two (2) commissioners in each district. The districts for members of the county legislative body are depicted on the official map for Sullivan County prepared pursuant to *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-110. A copy of the official map is attached as *Exhibit A* to this resolution and is incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. All members of the county legislative body shall be elected at large within the district wherein the candidate seeks election. The two (2) candidates receiving the greatest number of votes in each district shall be elected.

SECTION 3. That the new boundaries for the districts as defined in *Exhibit A*, with two (2) members elected from each district for a total of fourteen (14) members shall be effective for the regularly scheduled election for the Sullivan County Commission in August 2030, and nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as abridging the status of any office holder prior to the end of such person's current term of office. That the Mayor shall notify the Sullivan County Election Commission of this action and provide any additional information that may be requested. That Sullivan County shall print *Exhibit A* and a legal description in a newspaper of general circulation in order to properly advise the citizens of Sullivan County of these changes. Provided that vacancies shall be filled in accordance with *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 5-1-104.

CONTINUED



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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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: _____
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Zane Vanover 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: _____.

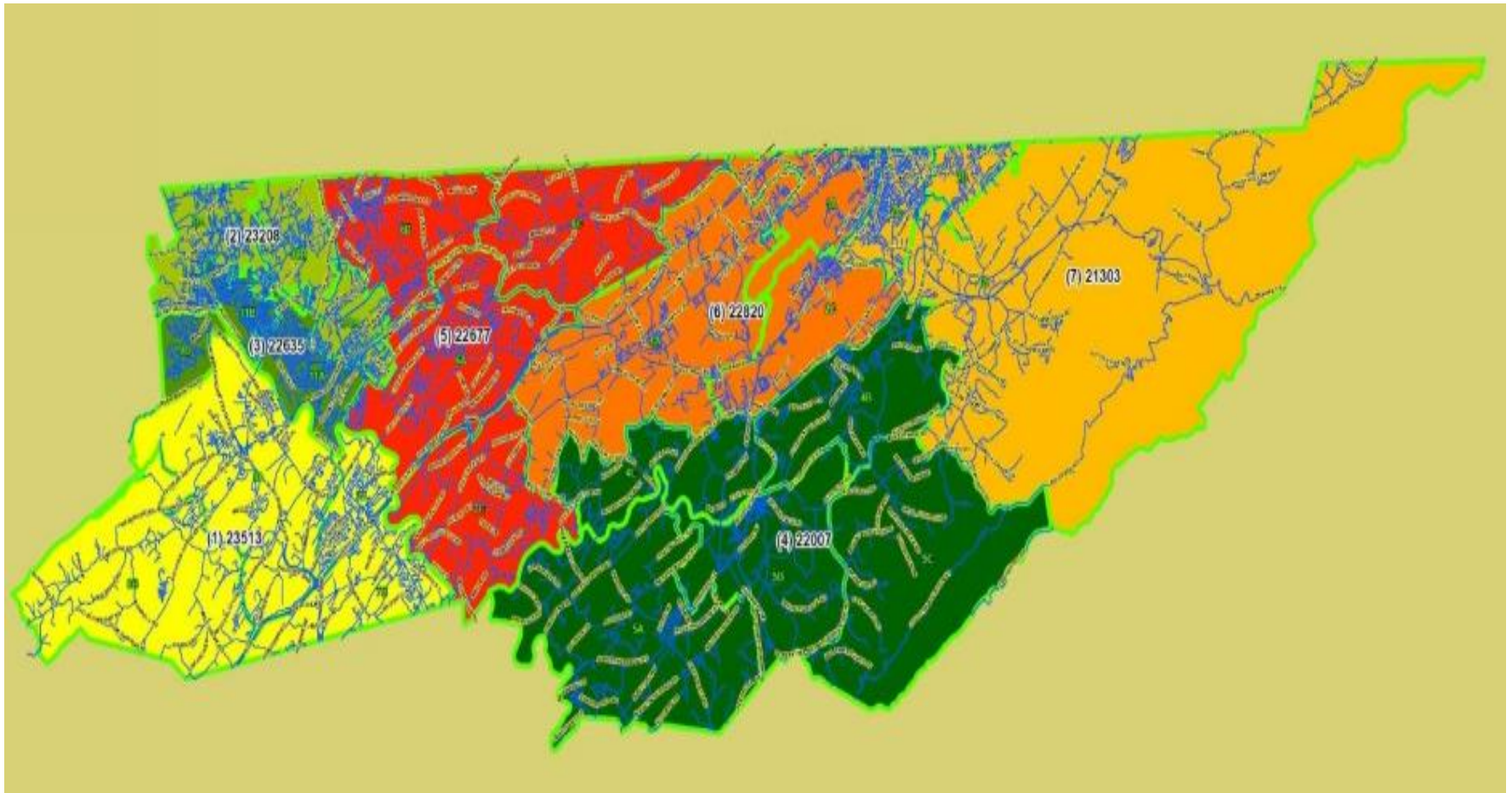
Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Hunter Locke

Cosponsor: Commissioner John Gardner

ACTIONS: 09/10/26 Sponsor to withdraw at Regular Session 09/17/26





SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 11

Resolution No. 2026-09-11

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

**A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE
CITIZENS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY AND PROHIBIT THE WARRANTLESS USE OF
AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS**

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 7 of the Tennessee Constitution strictly mandates: "That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures; and that general warrants, whereby an officer may be commanded to search suspected places, without evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, whose offences are not particularly described and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty and ought not be granted"; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Supreme Court has routinely affirmed that Article I, Section 7 provides broader and more robust privacy protections to the citizens of Tennessee than those afforded by the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) § 55-10-302 defines an "automated license plate recognition system" as one or more fixed high-speed cameras combined with computer algorithms to convert images of license plates into computer-readable data; and

WHEREAS, Automated License Plate Readers such as Bristol's Motorola and Kingsport's Flock cameras continuously and indiscriminately scan, record, and store location data, as well as the make, model, and identifying features of all vehicles and travelers on Sullivan County roadways.

WHEREAS, this mass, suspicionless, indiscriminate collection of citizens' movements creates a digital dragnet, fundamentally indistinguishable in its nature and effect from the "general warrants" explicitly condemned as "dangerous to liberty" by the framers of the Tennessee Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the continuous, unblinking surveillance of these cameras subjects citizens to searches of their locations and patterns of life without prior "evidence of the fact committed," and targets individuals "whose offences are not particularly described and supported by evidence"; and



WHEREAS, Sullivan County citizens have unalienable rights given to them by their Creator to go about their lives without being subjected to warrantless mass surveillance while driving through the most populous areas of our county; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Commission has a solemn and sworn duty to uphold the Tennessee Constitution and to defend the inherent liberties, privacy rights, and constitutional protections of all citizens residing or traveling within its jurisdictional boundaries.

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1 of the Tennessee Constitution declares that all power is inherent in the people, and that for the advancement of their peace, safety, and happiness, they possess an unalienable and inalienable right to alter or reform their government in such manner as they may think proper; and

WHEREAS, when municipalities deploy warrantless mass surveillance that treads on the constitutional rights of the people protected under Article I, Section 7, this Board has a duty to act as the legislative voice of the people to reform such overreach; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County,

Tennessee, meeting in regular session, that the use of ALPRs for the suspicionless, mass collection of vehicle and location data is hereby declared equivalent to a general warrant, and is therefore a violation of Article I, Section 7 of the Tennessee Constitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Article I, Section 7 of the Tennessee Constitution, no law enforcement agency, municipality, or government entity operating within Sullivan County shall fund, deploy, maintain, or access data from any ALPR system to monitor public roadways without a particularized search warrant signed by a neutral magistrate based upon probable cause of a specific crime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Sullivan County, including all of its departments, agencies, and personnel, shall not fund, participate in, or access warrantless municipal ALPR data.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to vigorously defend this resolution, and the constitutional rights of the citizens of Sullivan County, against any municipal, corporate, or legal challenge that seeks to maintain warrantless dragnet surveillance within the borders of this County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any portion of this resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect any other portion of this resolution.



Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026

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 _____ day of _____, 2026, at
or about the following time _____ by the following method: _____. Teresa Jacobs,
County Clerk

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the
_____ day of _____ 2026, at or about the following time _____ by
the following method:

_____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner: Joe Carr

Co-Sponsors: Commissioner: Lakie Derrick

ACTIONS:



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 12
Resolution No. 2026-09-12

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING A TRIGGER LAW BANNING ALL AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS IN SULLIVAN COUNTY, TO TAKE EFFECT AS SOON AS GIVEN AUTHORITY BY EITHER THE STATE LEGISLATURE OR CONGRESS

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) § 55-10-302 defines an "automated license plate recognition system" as one or more fixed high-speed cameras combined with computer algorithms to convert images of license plates into computer-readable data; and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate and continuous collection of location and vehicular data by automated license plate recognition systems poses significant risks to the privacy, security, and unalienable rights of the people of Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, the deployment of this technology creates an infrastructure capable of warrantless surveillance and the mass tracking of individuals going about their lawful daily activities without probable cause or reasonable suspicion; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 7 of the Tennessee Constitution guarantees "that the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures," and that searches "without evidence of the fact committed," or targeting "persons not named, whose offenses are not particularly described and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty;" and

WHEREAS, with the proliferation of ALPR cameras, their reliance on artificial intelligence, and the ever-increasing capabilities of AI, it is the duty of this Commission to protect our citizens from the implications of these technologies and mitigate potential future risks; and

WHEREAS, the recent United States Supreme Court cases of Carpenter v. United States and Chatree v. United States, as well as potential state and federal legislation, leave the future of this technology in doubt; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of County Commissioners believes that the fundamental right to privacy and freedom from pervasive surveillance are essential liberties that local government has a duty to fiercely protect; and



WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of County Commissioners seeks to proactively establish local policy to protect its residents, ensuring that a complete and total ban on such surveillance technology takes place at the earliest permitted time; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, meeting in regular session, that:

SECTION 1. ENACTMENT OF TRIGGER BAN. This Board of Commissioners hereby implements a

Trigger Law banning the use of all Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) by all entities, public or private, as well as the usage of data obtained from such technology within Sullivan County. This prohibition is set to take effect the moment this Board of Commissioners is legally given the authority to do so by either the State Legislature or Congress.

SECTION 2. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS AND DATA DESTRUCTION. Upon the legal

activation of this resolution as outlined in Section 1, any public or private entity operating an Automated License Plate Recognition system within Sullivan County shall cease all data collection operations immediately. All such physical devices shall be removed from public rights-of-way and public property within thirty (30) days of the triggering date, and all previously captured plate data not part of an active criminal investigation shall be immediately destroyed.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end, the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it, with the specific enforcement of the ALPR prohibition delayed only until the conditions of Section 1 are met.

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026

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 ____ day of _____, 2026, at
or about the following time _____ by the following method: _____. Teresa Jacobs,
County Clerk

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the
_____ day of _____ 2026, at or about the following time _____ by
the following method: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner: Joe Carr

Co-Sponsors: Commissioner: Lakie Derrick

ACTI ONS:



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 13
Resolution No. 2026-09-13

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 17th day of September 2026.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES TOP GRANT BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026.

WHEREAS, Sullivan County will receive grant funds in the amount of \$13,695.00 available through the Tennessee State Library and Archives for the purchase of Wi-Fi hotspot equipment and service, internal connection upgrades, and technology instruction; and

WHEREAS, said grant contract will be effective on July 1, 2026, and extend for a period of 10 months after the effective date. Said grant ending April 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, said grantee will agree to participate in the grant project and provide a portion of funding for the project from the library's current operating budget; however, the grantee's participation will not impact the maximum amount reimbursable to the grantee and said amount is intended as a goal for the total project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby approves accepting and appropriating funds for a grant in the amount of \$13,695.00 available through the Tennessee State Library and Archives used for internal connection upgrades, Wi-Fi hotspot equipment and service to be used by library patrons at no cost to the patron.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Public Library Director is authorized to execute the grant contract and all other documents that are required to receive, implement, and request funds or reimbursements in relation to this grant project. Account Codes to be assigned by the Director of Accounts and Budgets.

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



Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026

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 ____ day of _____, 2026, at
or about the following time _____ by the following method: _____. Teresa Jacobs,
County Clerk

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the
_____ day of _____ 2026, at or about the following time _____ by
the following method: _____.

Zane Vanover Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsored By: Commissioner Sam Jones

Co-Sponsor(s): Commissioner Andrew Cross

ACTIONS:



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
246th Annual Session

Item 14
Resolution No. 2026-09-14

To the Honorable Zane Vanover, Mayor of Sullivan County, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this the 17th day of September 2026.

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE SPEED LIMIT FROM 35 MPH TO 25 MPH ON SULLIVAN GARDENS DRIVE.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mark Ireson requested a reduction in the speed limit posted on Sullivan Gardens Drive from 35 MPH to 25 MPH; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Highway Department has reviewed the request and approved the change.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby authorized the following traffic sign placement in Sullivan County:

8th Commission District
Posting 25 MPH speed limit sign(s) on Sullivan Gardens Drive.

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

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026.

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 ____ 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 Mark Ireson
Cosponsor: Commissioner Stanley Hodges
ACTIONS:

