

SULLIVAN COUNTY  
Board of County Commissioners  
November 21, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

**COUNTY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING**

- ❖ Call to Order by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy
- ❖ Chairman John T. Gardner presiding.
- ❖ Invocation
- ❖ Pledge to the American Flag
- ❖ Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk
- ❖ Proclamation: Honoring Emergency Responders for Post-Helene Response
- ❖ **Appointments:**
  - 1) Drew Deakins to the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals, term November 2024 to November 2028, to fill vacancy caused by expiration of term.
  - 2) Linda Brittenham to the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals, term November 2024 to November 2028, to fill vacancy caused by expiration of term.
- ❖ **Presentations:**
  - 1) Clay Walker, NETWORKS Update.
  - 2) Chris Ihrke, Observation Knob Park Update.
- ❖ Approval of Commission Minutes of August 8, 2024, Rezoning Hearing/Work Session Meeting; August 9, 2024, Called Session; and August 15<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting (Minutes are provided to commission members electronically and are available to the public at [www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes](http://www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes))
- ❖ Approval of Notaries Public
- ❖ Public Comment on Agenda Items
- ❖ Resolutions
- ❖ Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Adjournment

PACKET PREPARED BY  
John H. Osborne III  
Executive Assistant

(All “Actions” note listed on resolutions were written by Osborne)



Proclamation goes here.





## *Sullivan County*

*Board of County Commissioners  
244<sup>th</sup> Annual Session*

**IN RE: Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals  
Blountville, Tennessee**

### ***Order Reappointing Board Members***

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals does hereby certify to the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-7-106, as duly adopted by Sullivan County, Tennessee, that two vacancies have occurred upon said Board of Zoning Appeals by virtue of the expiration of the terms; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals further certifies that the nominees, Linda Brittenham and Ty LaRue are qualified and willing to serve on the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners in their authority to appoint members to said Board of Zoning Appeals, pursuant to T.C.A. §13-7-106, that the above nominees be appointed to serve on the Sullivan County Board of Zoning Appeals.

Linda Brittenham  
Term: November 2024 to November 2028

Ty LaRue  
Term: November 2024 to November 2028

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor

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

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk



SULLIVAN COUNTY  
Board of County Commissioners  
November 21, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Item 1 Resolution No. 2024-09-12

Sponsors: Stidham/Crosswhite **(TO BE WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS)**

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT TO RETAIN AN ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE A DAILY PRESENCE ON NASHVILLE TO REPRESENT THE BEST INTERESTS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY AND ITS TAXPAYERS BY MONITORING DAY-TO-DAY PROGRESS OF POTENTIAL STATE LAWS AND PROVIDE PERIODIC REPORTS TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION.**

**DRAFT RESOLUTIONS**

Item 2 Resolution No. 2024-11-02

Sponsors: Ireson/Vanover

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-205, TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL BRIDGE BENEFIT PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-211, AND TO AUTHORIZE GROUP 1 MEMBERS WHO HAVE CREDITABLE SERVICE IN A GROUP 1 POSITION COVERED BY SUCH MANDATORY AGE RETIREMENT TO RETIRE ON SERVICE RETIREMENT BENEFITS UPON ATTAINMENT OF AGE FIFTY-FIVE (55) WITH TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS OF CREDITABLE SERVICE PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-201(A)(2).**

Item 3 Resolution No. 2024-11-03

Sponsors: Ireson/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRIDGE, TO INCENTIVIZE NEW PASSENGER AIR SERVICE AT TRI-CITIES AIRPORT.**

Item 4 Resolution No. 2024-11-04 **(ON CONSENT)**

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Calton

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING COMMUNITY-OWNED PETS.**

Item 5 Resolution No. 2024-11-05 **(WAIVER OF RULES REQUESTED)**

Sponsors: King/Glover

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO REPLACE THE ENTRANCE SIGN AT THE TRI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK.**



Item 6 Resolution No. 2024-11-06 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: King/Vanover

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY UNDER THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

Item 7 Resolution No. 2024-11-07 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: King/Glover

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (DBA: NETWORKS SULLIVAN PARTNERSHIP) TO SUBMIT A STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCESS ROAD GRANT APPLICATION TO TDOT ON BEHALF OF SULLIVAN COUNTY.**

Item 8 Resolution No. 2024-11-08

Sponsors: Slagle/Vanover

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISTRIBUTION OF HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDS FOR DESTINATION MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT.**

Item 9 Resolution No. 2024-11-09

Sponsors: Ireson/Harvey

**RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE \$600 PER YEAR EDUCATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS TO COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEMBERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.**

Item 10 Resolution No. 2024-11-10 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: Stidham/Means

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FROM THE OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS RECEIVED THROUGH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORT FUND GRANT APPLICATION.**

Item 11 Resolution No. 2024-11-11 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: Stidham/Means

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE TO FUND A SECOND \$800 SALARY SUPPLEMENT FOR POST CERTIFIED OFFICERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$102,400 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 WITH NO MATCHING FUNDS.**

Item 12 Resolution No. 2024-11-12 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: Glover/Vanover

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SULLIVAN COUNTY CLERK & MASTER KATHARINE JENNELLE, SULLIVAN COUNTY CHANCERY COURT, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GovEase Auction, LLC, FOR AN ONLINE AUCTION PORTAL TO HOST DELINQUENT TAX SALES.**



Item 13 Resolution No. 2024-11-13 (WAIVER OF RULES REQUESTED)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Calton

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE AWARDED 2018 MULTI-MODAL ACCESS GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TDOT) TO SULLIVAN COUNTY. THE PROJECT IS KNOWN AS PHASE I OF THE *BETTER BLOUNTVILLE: CONNECTING THE COUNTY SEAT – A PLAN FOR PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND SAFETY IN HISTORIC BLOUNTVILLE.***

Item 14 Resolution No. 2024-11-14

Sponsors: Jones/Calton

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SEND A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY EXPRESSING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S INTEREST IN EXTENDING FOR 30 YEARS THE COUNTY'S EASEMENT FROM TVA OF TVA-OWNED LAND KNOWN AND OPERATED FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS AS OBSERVATION KNOB PARK.**

Item 15 Included for Continuity

There is no Item 15 included in the agenda for the Sullivan County Commission's Monthly Meeting on November 21, 2024.

Item 16 Included for Continuity

There is on Item 16 included in the agenda for the Sullivan County Commission's Monthly Meeting on November 21, 2024. An "Item 16" included in the November 14 Work Session agenda was merely a duplicate of Item 13 (on that and this agendas) and has been removed.

Item 17 Resolution No. 2024-11-15 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: Calton/Ireson

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY APPROPRIATION IN THE 2025 FY BUDGET BY UP TO \$30,000 TO RECOGNIZE UNSPENT FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY RESOLUTION IN AUGUST 2023 FOR THE FY 2024 BUDGET AND ALLOW SAID FUNDS TO CONTINUE BEING USED FOR THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE -- TO PROVIDE EXPERT CONSULTING IN EVALUATING AND RESPONDING TO CERTAIN PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS THAT ARE UNDER APPEAL.**



**REQUESTED FOR CONSENT**

Item 4 Resolution No. 2024-11-04 (ON CONSENT)

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Calton

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING COMMUNITY-OWNED PETS.**

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# ***TO BE WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS***

***Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session***

OLD BUSINESS

Item 1

No. 2024-09-12

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT TO RETAIN AN ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE A DAILY PRESENCE ON NASHVILLE TO REPRESENT THE BEST INTERESTS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY AND ITS TAXPAYERS BY MONITORING DAY-TO-DAY PROGRESS OF POTENTIAL STATE LAWS AND PROVIDE PERIODIC REPORTS TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION.**

Whereas, the Sullivan County Commission and County Constitutional Officeholders commend our Legislative delegation on their outstanding representation of their Sullivan County constituents and Sullivan County governments; and

Whereas, the Tennessee General Assembly will, during the upcoming session, file nearly 2000 pieces of legislation; and

Whereas, during the Legislative session many of these bills are acted on daily and many of these bills will affect our county government and our taxpayers, with many of these bills having potential to pit urban vs. rural interests; and

Whereas, our outstanding delegation of state legislators are required to vote on these bills; and

Whereas, our elected State Representatives and State Senators serve both urban and rural constituencies; and

Whereas, Sullivan County is represented in Nashville by many outstanding organizations such as TSEA, ACM, TCCA and others, and these organizations do an excellent job for all 95 counties in Tennessee; and

Whereas, many counties across the state have different interests than Sullivan County, and the Sullivan County Commission needs real time reporting of legislation progress on items pertaining to Sullivan County's particular interests to best meet the needs of county residents and taxpayers; and

Whereas it is not reasonable to request that our legislators lobby against the interest of any of their constituents or governments; and

Whereas, the Sullivan County Commission needs a Legislative Session review at the end of session.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Sullivan County Commission authorizes the County Mayor to enter into a one-year agreement to retain an organization to provide a daily presence on



Nashville to assist our legislators when requested, to present Sullivan County positions on pending legislation to other 128 legislators and to provide periodic legislative reports to the Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Mayor is authorized to commit up to \$45,000 for this contracted service and funds are to be provided from the current County Commission account.

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 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

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 Gary Stidham**  
**Cosponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite**

2024-09-12 ACTIONS: Introduced on First Reding at Monthly Meeting, September 19, 2024. Signature lines updated prior to Oct. 10 Work Session per County Attorney Street following election of chairman other than mayor. At Monthly Meeting on October 17, 2024, Sponsor deferred to November calendar. At Work Session on Nov. 14, 2024, sponsor said resolution to be withdrawn. – JHO III



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 2  
Resolution No. 2024-11-02**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-205, TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL BRIDGE BENEFIT PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-211, AND TO AUTHORIZE GROUP 1 MEMBERS WHO HAVE CREDITABLE SERVICE IN A GROUP 1 POSITION COVERED BY SUCH MANDATORY AGE RETIREMENT TO RETIRE ON SERVICE RETIREMENT BENEFITS UPON ATTAINMENT OF AGE FIFTY-FIVE (55) WITH TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS OF CREDITABLE SERVICE PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 8-36-201(A)(2).**

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-205 provides that any political subdivision participating in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System may establish a mandatory retirement age requirement 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; provided that:

(A) the mandatory retirement of any such employee does not violate the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. In case of doubt, the respective political subdivision shall determine whether the employee is employed in a position requiring the mandatory retirement of such employee under the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-205(a)(2);

(B) the terms and conditions of the requirement shall be the same for all such employees within its employ;

(C) the mandatory age requirement *shall not be less than* sixty (60) years of age;

(D) each such employee shall be retired on the first day of the month following the month in which the employee attains the age requirement established by the political subdivision;

(E) if the mandatory age requirement established by the political subdivision is less than the age requirement for receipt of old age and survivors benefits under Title II of the Federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 401-425), each such employee shall be entitled to the supplemental bridge benefit established pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-211; and

(F) the chief governing body of the political subdivision passes a resolution authorizing the establishment of the mandatory retirement age requirement, and if the mandatory age requirement established by the political subdivision is less than the age requirement for receipt of old age and survivors benefits under Title II of the Federal Social Security Act,



**Item 2**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-02**

the political subdivision accepts the liability associated with the granting of the supplemental bridge benefit. All costs associated with providing the supplemental benefit shall be paid by the political subdivision and not by the State; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-201(a)(2) further authorizes any political subdivision that establishes a mandatory retirement age requirement that is sixty (60) years of age or older, but less than sixty-two (62), to permit Group 1 members who have creditable service in a Group 1 position covered by such mandatory retirement age requirement to retire on service retirement benefits upon attainment of age fifty-five (55) with twenty-five (25) years of creditable service, provided that the service retirement benefits be based on the years of creditable service rendered and the average final compensation received while the Group 1 member served in a Group 1 position covered by the mandatory retirement provisions. All other service shall be calculated under the reduced (early) retirement provisions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County desires to establish a mandatory retirement age requirement pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-205, to grant the supplemental bridge benefit pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-211, and to allow Group 1 members who have creditable service in a Group 1 position covered by such mandatory retirement age requirement to retire on service retirement benefits pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-201(a)(2); and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the above-named Political Subdivision acknowledges that the costs associated with the granting of the supplemental bridge benefit pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-211 and of service retirement benefits pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-201(a)(2) shall increase its accrued liability rate by 3.50 % of the covered payroll of the affected employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the above-named Political Subdivision further acknowledges that *if* the mandatory retirement age requirement established by the Political Subdivision is sixty (60) years of age or older, but less than sixty-two (62), the political subdivision shall determine whether any employee subject to such retirement age requirement serves in a supervisory or administrative position which requires less than fifty percent (50%) of the employee's duties to be involved in day-to-day law enforcement or fire-fighting activities. If the Political Subdivision makes any such determination, then the employee may continue in service until the first day of the month following the month in which the employee attains sixty-two (62) years of age; provided



**Item 2**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-02**

such employee completes any form as may be required pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-211 and files the same at the time and in the manner prescribed in Section 8-36-211.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the above-named Political Subdivision hereby establishes a mandatory retirement age requirement 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 Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-205.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of the above-named Political Subdivision authorizes that the supplemental bridge benefit established pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-211 be paid to each Group 1 member who retires on a service retirement allowance on or after the attainment of age fifty-five (55) with creditable service in a Group 1 position covered by the mandatory retirement age requirement established pursuant to this resolution and hereby agrees to accept the associated liability. Said payment to be made until the first day of the month following the month in which the member dies, or until the first day of the month following the month in which the member reaches the age requirement for receipt of old age and survivors benefits under Title II of the Federal Social Security Act.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of the above-named Political Subdivision authorizes its Group 1 members who have creditable service in a Group 1 position covered by such mandatory retirement age requirement to retire on service retirement benefits upon attainment of age fifty-five (55) with twenty-five (25) years of creditable service, provided that the service retirement benefits be based on the years of creditable service rendered and the average final compensation received while the Group 1 member served in a Group 1 position covered by the mandatory retirement provisions. All other service shall be calculated under the reduced (early) retirement provisions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the effective date of this Resolution shall be on January 1, 2025 with a transitional deferral date of July 1, 2026 for the enforcement of the mandatory retirement age requirement (which date cannot be later than the July 1 following twelve (12) months after the effective date of the resolution). Any such deferral period shall not apply to any other provisions of this Resolution, such provisions being effective on the effective date of this Resolution.



**Item 2**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-02**

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF   SULLIVAN  

I, \_\_\_\_\_, clerk of the \_\_\_\_\_ County Commission of  
(Name of Governing Body)

  Sullivan County  , Tennessee do hereby certify that this is a true and  
(Name of Political Subdivision)

exact copy of the foregoing resolution that was approved and adopted in accordance with applicable law at a meeting held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2024, the original of which is on file in this office.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and the seal of the

  Sullivan County  .  
(Name of Political Subdivision)

\_\_\_\_\_  
As Clerk of the Board, as aforesaid

SEAL

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**

**Item 2  
Resolution No. 2024-11-02**

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  
Coponents: Commissioner Zane Vanover, Commissioner Travis Ward, Commissioner Gary Stidham; Commissioner Matt Slagle; Commissioner Darlene Calton; Commissioner Hunter Locke; Commissioner John Gardner; Commissioner Jessica Means; Commissioner Daniel Horne; Commissioner Larry Crawford; Commissioner Joseph McMurray; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Cheryl Harvey; Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Commissioner Tony Leonard; Commissioner Andrew Cross; Commissioner Michael Cole; Commissioner Sam Jones.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11-02 ACTIONS: Draft resolution distributed at Work Session on November 14, 2024. Signature lines updated per County Attorney Street following election of chairman other than mayor. -- JHO III



*Sullivan County*  
*Board of County Commissioners*  
*244th Annual Session*

**Item 3**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-03**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRIDGE, TO INCENTIVIZE NEW PASSENGER AIR SERVICE AT TRI-CITIES AIRPORT.**

WHEREAS, tourism a growing industry in Sullivan County, with tourists having spent more than \$300 million in the county in 2023, a figure representing a 3 percent increase over the previous year; and

WHEREAS, the tourism industry in Sullivan County employs around 2,638 people; and

WHEREAS, tourism in Sullivan County generates more than \$600,000 in county occupancy tax each year; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-Cities Airport is uniquely positioned to increase those figures by increasing the number of travelers arriving here and at the same time lowering the average fare; and

WHEREAS, supporting the minimum revenue guarantee for expanding air service will in turn support increased tourism in Sullivan County and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Bridge, a privately funded regional economic development organization, has volunteered to serve as the fund-raising partner for the airport's air service expansion campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-Cities Airport, in cooperation with Bridge and air service consultant Mead & Hunt, is actively recruiting new passenger air service routes to increase the positive economic impact of tourism and business travel in our county and communities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County hereby designates up to \$10,000 a month from the hotel /motel tax revenues over two years (a total of up to \$240,000) to assist the airport in funding revenue guarantees to incentivize new passenger service routes.

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 passed and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

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**

**Item 3  
Resolution No. 2024-11-03**

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 Zane Vanover; Commissioner Sam Jones

Resolution No. 2024-11-03 ACTIONS: Draft resolution presented at Work Session on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2024. Signature lines updated per County Attorney Street following election of chairman other than mayor. -- JHO III



*Sullivan County*  
*Board of County Commissioners*  
*244th Annual Session*

**Item 4**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-04**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING COMMUNITY-OWNED PETS.**

WHEREAS the Tennessee Department of Agriculture has provided \$1,200 in grant funding to support the Sullivan County Animal Shelter's spay and neuter program; and

WHEREAS these funds are designated specifically to assist with spaying and neutering community-owned pets within Sullivan County, which is essential to reducing overpopulation and enhancing animal welfare within the community; and

WHEREAS the spay and neuter program aligns with the goals of Sullivan County and the Animal Shelter to promote responsible pet ownership, improve public health, and minimize the number of stray animals; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Commission recognizes the importance of this program and the impact it has on the health and safety of both animals and residents in the county.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Sullivan County Commission, meeting in regular session, that:

1. **The \$1,200 grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture shall be appropriated to the Sullivan County Animal Shelter.**
2. **These funds are to be used exclusively for spaying and neutering community-owned pets, with the goal of reducing pet overpopulation and improving animal welfare in Sullivan County.**
3. **The Sullivan County Animal Shelter shall maintain records of the expenditure of these funds and report to the Commission on the program's progress, effectiveness, and any outcomes resulting from this funding.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Duly passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 4  
Resolution No. 2024-11-04**

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: Joyce Crosswhite  
Cosponsor: Darlene Calton, Tony Leonard, Michael Cole

**Resolution No. 2024-11-04 ACTIONS:**



*Sullivan County*  
*Board of County Commissioners*  
*244th Annual Session*

**Item 5**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-05**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO REPLACE THE ENTRANCE SIGN AT THE TRI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK.**

WHEREAS, **The Industrial Development Board of Sullivan County, Tennessee**, with monies from the sale of County owned Tri-County Industrial Park properties, established economic development sub-fund (Account #58120-700 Subfund 021) for the purpose of funding on-going maintenance efforts and furthering development of the Tri-County Industrial Park.

WHEREAS, the existing tenant sign is more than 40-years old and is in significant disrepair. And whereas, since its creation, the IDB through the economic development subfund has participated in the funding of economic development related projects and has partnered with agencies with common goals to advance the economic development conditions of Sullivan County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby appropriates **\$125,000.00** to the Sullivan County Industrial Development Board to supplement the demolition of the existing tenant sign and construction of a new tenant sign at the Tri-County Industrial Park, and the addition of landscaping features.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED such funds to be appropriated from Account #58120-700 Subfund 021 (The subfund was established, with monies from the sale of County owned Tri-County Industrial Park properties beginning June 1993, for the purpose of funding on-going maintenance efforts and furthering development of the Tri-County Industrial 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 passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

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: \_\_\_\_\_.



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Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

**ACTION BY MAYOR**

**Item 5  
Resolution No. 2024-11-05**

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 Dwight King  
Cosponsor: Commissioner Hershel Glover



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 6  
Resolution No. 2024-11-06**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMISSION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY UNDER THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, Sullivan County has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$78,530 from the Department of Energy under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this grant is to promote energy efficiency and conservation within Sullivan County's facilities, in accordance with the objectives of the EECBG Program; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified the need to retrofit the HVAC system at the Sullivan County Finance Administrative Building to improve energy efficiency, reduce operating costs, and provide enhanced comfort for employees and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the planned retrofitting of the HVAC system aligns with the goals of the EECBG Program by reducing energy consumption and supporting the County's commitment to sustainable operations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners, assembled in a Regular Session, approves the appropriation of \$78,530 received from the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant for the specific purpose of retrofitting the HVAC system at the Finance Administrative Building.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Board authorizes the Sullivan County Finance Department to establish a designated fund to manage and oversee the expenditure of these grant funds solely for this purpose, ensuring compliance with all Department of Energy requirements and reporting obligations associated with the EECBG Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Board authorizes the County Mayor and appropriate County officials to execute any necessary agreements, contracts, or documents required to implement this project in compliance with grant guidelines.  
**This resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.**

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 6  
Resolution No. 2024-11-06**

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: Dwight King  
Cosponsor: Zane Vanover**



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 7  
Resolution No. 2024-11-07**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (DBA: NETWORKS SULLIVAN PARTNERSHIP) TO SUBMIT A STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCESS ROAD GRANT APPLICATION TO TDOT ON BEHALF OF SULLIVAN COUNTY.**

WHEREAS, NETWORKS Sullivan Partnership is tasked to furthering industrial & economic development in Sullivan County. And whereas, NETWORKS Sullivan Partnership has been working with a private developer to improve some 28-acres adjoining the Tri-County Industrial Park for future industrial recruitment and expansion opportunities. And whereas, it has been deemed that a new access road would have to be constructed for development to occur.

WHEREAS, NETWORKS Sullivan Partnership has coordinated with the Sullivan County Planning Department and the Sullivan County Highway Department and will further incorporate their input moving forward. And whereas, authorization to apply to TDOT is not a commitment to accept TDOT funding, if approved.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes NETWORKS Sullivan Partnership to submit a State Industrial Access Road Grant Application to TDOT for the design and construction of a new access road in Sullivan County.

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.

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

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 Dwight King  
Cosponsor: Commissioner Hershel Glover

**Resolution No. 2024-11-07 ACTIONS:**



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 8  
Resolution No. 2024-11-08**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISTRIBUTION OF HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDS FOR DESTINATION MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Sullivan County Commission recognizes the importance of tourism to the economic vitality of Sullivan County; and

**WHEREAS**, a partnership between Sullivan County and its neighboring Cities is deemed to be in the best interest of Sullivan County for the purpose of destination marketing and development and overall collaboration; and

**WHEREAS**, each City has notified the Sullivan County Commission that their preferred tourism partner be set as NETTA (Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association) for the purposes of tourism enablement within Sullivan County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission desires to establish a mechanism for the distribution of hotel/motel tax funds to support such partnership as well as establish tourism leadership within Sullivan County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Sullivan County Commission that the distribution of funds to the city's tourism partner, NETTA (Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association) shall be set at 50% of the net proceeds collected by Sullivan County for each City contribution less the Clerk's 5% commission. This distribution shall occur within 45 days after the end of the calendar quarter each year (4 times per year) after the initial distribution. As of October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, the amount collected is reported at \$962,852.55 (less the Clerk's 5% Commission). The initial amount to be distributed to NETTA shall be \$481,426.27.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, 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.

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 8  
Resolution No. 2024-11-08**

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 Matt Slagle  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover; Commissioner Mark Ireson; Commissioner John Gardner; Commissioner Daniel Horne; Commissioner Cheryl Harvey; Commissioner Jessica Means; Commissioner Hershel Glover



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 9  
Resolution No. 2024-11-09**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR EDUCATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS TO COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY MEMBERS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.**

WHEREAS, under T.C.A. § 5-5-113, counties are authorized and encouraged to pay a supplement of six hundred dollars (\$600) to county legislative body members who successfully complete in each year at least eight (8) hours of continuing education training at conferences or meetings provided or approved by the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS); and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County desires to provide for such an incentive payment to county legislative body members who successfully complete the annual training, subject to budget availability and appropriation of funds

.NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sullivan County legislative body, meeting in regular session at Sullivan, Tennessee:

SECTION 1. Any county legislative body member of Sullivan County who has completed at least eight (8) hours of continuing education training at conferences or meetings provided or approved by CTAS and whose completion of such training has been verified by CTAS shall be paid the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600) out of county funds appropriated for that purpose.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval, the public welfare requiring it. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

ADOPTED this 21st day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 9  
Resolution No. 2024-11-09**

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 Cheryl Harvey



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 10  
Resolution No. 2024-11-10**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FROM THE OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS RECEIVED THROUGH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORT FUND GRANT APPLICATION.**

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs has grant funding available for the Transport of Mental Health patients; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office applied for the Mental Health Transport grant funding that will benefit the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office through the payment funding needed to transport individuals in the Sullivan County area with Mental Health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office's share of funding from the grant application approved by Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs is in the amount of \$509,558.00 and no matching funds required; and

WHEREAS, \$509,558.00 of the grant funds are for FY 2024-2025 and unspent funds at the end of fiscal year must be retained, utilized, and applied to future qualifying Costs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorize the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office to accept these Mental Health Transport grant funds from the State of Tennessee in the amount of \$509,558.00 and approve the funds to be used as required by the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of said grant application, Sullivan County is hereby authorized to receive, appropriate, and expend said grant funds; not to exceed the above amount (\$509,558.00), as required by the grant contract. The revenue and expenditure account codes for the grant are to be established by the Accounts and Budgets Department.

**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.

Approved this 21st day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 10  
Resolution No. 2024-11-10**

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 Jessica Means

ACTIONS:



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 11  
Resolution No. 2024-11-11**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE TO FUND A SECOND \$800 SALARY SUPPLEMENT FOR POST CERTIFIED OFFICERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$102,400 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 WITH NO MATCHING FUNDS.**

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee decided to provide an additional \$800 salary supplement for Post Certified Officers; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office only budgets for one salary supplement in the original approved budget; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office is requesting that the funds already paid to Sullivan County (101 R 46210) be appropriated to the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office payroll accounts to cover the cost of the additional \$800 Salary Supplement for Post Certified Officers.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby approve to recognize, and appropriate \$102,400 of additional funding from the State of Tennessee to the Sullivan County Sheriff's office to fund the additional Salary Supplement for Post Certified Officers.**

<b>Revenue Account:</b>	<b>101 R 46210</b>	
<b>Expenditure Account:</b>	<b>101 E 54110 100</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>
	<b>101 E 54210 100</b>	<b>\$14,400</b>

***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.

Approved this 21st day of November 2024.

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**

**Item 11  
Resolution No. 2024-11-11**

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 Jessica Means

ACTIONS:



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 12  
Resolution No. 2024-11-12**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SULLIVAN COUNTY CLERK & MASTER KATHARINE JENNELLE, SULLIVAN COUNTY CHANCERY COURT, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GovEase Auction, LLC, FOR AN ONLINE AUCTION PORTAL TO HOST DELINQUENT TAX SALES.**

**WHEREAS**, Delinquent Tax Sale Auctions are handled by Sullivan County Chancery Court and the next such sale is scheduled for March 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Clerk & Master Katharine Jannelle has identified the option of conducting such sales online as an efficient option which also could be expected to draw significantly more participants via the Internet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sullivan County Financial Management Committee reviewed and recommends the Clerk & Master’s plan to enter a contract with GovEase Auction, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, under the contract, GovEase Auction, LLC, agrees to provide a host server and software for an online auction website which replicates a live, public outcry auction; and will list delinquent tax properties provided by Sullivan County Chancery Court, along with supporting documents (tax records, GIS maps, etc.); and maintain a register of bidders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Sullivan County Commission authorizes Sullivan County Chancery Court, Clerk & Master Katharine Jannelle, to enter into a one-year agreement with GovEase Auction, LLC, for provision of an online auction portal.

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 November 2024.

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**

**Item 12  
Resolution No. 2024-11-12**

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 Hershel Glover; Commissioner Jessica Means

ACTIONS:



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 13  
Resolution No. 2024-11-13**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Mayor of Sullivan County, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE AWARDED 2018 MULTI-MODAL ACCESS GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TDOT) TO SULLIVAN COUNTY. THE PROJECT IS KNOWN AS PHASE I OF THE BETTER BLOUNTVILLE: CONNECTING THE COUNTY SEAT – A PLAN FOR PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND SAFETY IN HISTORIC BLOUNTVILLE.**

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Transportation Multimodal Access Grant funds can be used to provide the necessary funds to local governments to support the transportation needs of transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists through infrastructure projects that address existing gaps around and along state routes;

WHEREAS, the overall grant request was awarded to Sullivan County in the amount of \$999,120.00 with funding from the State of \$949,164.00 and the remaining local match of only 5% not to exceed \$49,956.00; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the acceptance of such grant funding per resolution 2019-06-53; and

WHEREAS, with the additional archeological study mandated by TDOT during the environmental review phase of the project added costs were incurred; and

WHEREAS, the County received official NEPA Review approval on January 24, 2023; received confirmation of the Right-of-Way per letter dated August 30, 2023; received confirmation Utility Clearance per letter dated November 28, 2023; received confirmation of Construction Plans/Engineering Plans approval per Certification Signed form 5-3 dated November 29, 2023; received confirmation of Title VI Compliance from TDOT per letter dated December 19, 2023; received ADA Compliance of Plans Review per email dated January 4, 2023 as per plans approval in December 2023; received Notice to Proceed with Bid for Construction on August 7, 2024.

WHEREAS, the lowest bid received from a local construction company came to \$1,296,542.06, which is over the budgeted amount; and

WHEREAS, TDOT has agreed to fund the cost overage of \$435,543.00 with funding from the State 95% match (\$413,765.85) and County 5% match of (\$21,777.15).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby approves the appropriation of the additional \$21,777.15 of funds to move forward with the Multi-Modal Access Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation.



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 November 2024.

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**

**Item 13  
Resolution No. 2024-11-13**

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 Michael Cole; Commissioner Tony Leonard



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 14  
Resolution No. 2024-11-14**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st day of November 2024.

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SEND A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY EXPRESSING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S INTEREST IN EXTENDING FOR 30 YEARS THE COUNTY'S EASEMENT FROM TVA OF TVA-OWNED LAND KNOWN AND OPERATED FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS AS OBSERVATION KNOB PARK.**

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County's 50-year contract with the federal government for an easement on land owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority on South Holston Lake and operated by the county as Observation Knob Park will expire in July 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Observation Knob Park's operating season begins months earlier than July 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, TVA representatives have expressed to park management that the federal agency desires to know as soon as possible if Sullivan County intends to extend its easement, in order to allow the agency to seek an alternative tenant(s) if the County does not intend to do so; and

**WHEREAS**, Observation Knob Park is in compliance with TVA's operations guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, TVA's annual inspection of the park will be in early 2025 prior to the opening date for the season and prior to the annual public lottery for seasonal campsites for the season; and

**WHEREAS**, park management and the County's Park Committee recommend acceptance of TVA's request to exclude the "421 Boat Ramp Area."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Sullivan County Commission authorizes the County Mayor to initiate extension of the county's contract with TVA/The United States of America for an easement of TVA-owned land on South Holston Lake known and operated as Observation Knob, with the exception of the "421 Boat Ramp Area" per TVA's request.

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** the Sullivan County Commission approves immediate exclusion of the "421 Boat Ramp Area" from the existing easement from the July 1975-July 2025 contract.

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.

ADOPTED this 21st day of November 2024.



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**

**Item 14  
Resolution No. 2024-11-14**

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 Sam Jones  
Cosponsors: Commissioner Darlene Calton; David Hayes

**THERE IS NO ITEM 15**



**WHAT APPEARED AS “ITEM 15” ON THE  
WORK SESSION AGENDA  
OF NOVEMBER 14, 2024  
WAS REMOVED BY SPONSORS PRIOR  
TO ASSIGNMENT OF A RESOLUTION  
NUMBER FOR THIS AGENDA**





**THERE IS NO ITEM 16  
WHAT APPEARED AS “ITEM 16” ON THE  
WORK SESSION AGENDA  
OF NOVEMBER 14, 2024  
WAS AN UNINTENTIONAL  
DUPLICATION OF  
ITEM 13 HEREIN**



*Sullivan County  
Board of County Commissioners  
244th Annual Session*

**Item 17  
Resolution No. 2024-11-15**

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 21st day of November 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY APPROPRIATION IN THE 2025 FY BUDGET BY UP TO \$30,000 TO RECOGNIZE UNSPENT FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY RESOLUTION IN AUGUST 2023 FOR THE FY 2024 BUDGET AND ALLOW SAID FUNDS TO CONTINUE BEING USED FOR THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE -- TO PROVIDE EXPERT CONSULTING IN EVALUATING AND RESPONDING TO CERTAIN PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS THAT ARE UNDER APPEAL.**

WHEREAS the Sullivan County Assessor's Office staff is well qualified and continues to maintain their training to update the quality of assessment on the various types of property in Sullivan County; and,

WHEREAS certain large assessments require additional experience and expertise in specialty areas that are limited to finding in the local market to adequately defend the reasonableness of Sullivan County's assessments when challenged by large corporations; and,

WHEREAS in August 2023 the Sullivan County Commission approved by resolution up appropriation of up to \$45,000 to provide to assist in three tiers first (\$15,000 retainer) is to provide a preliminary finding to gather the basic information for the second phase (\$30,000) to provide detailed market value of the subject's assets under the guise and in compliance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice under Standards Rule 2-2(b) and,

WHEREAS to date \$15,000 has been expended and \$30,000 remains.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby extends the Property Assessor's time to expend the remaining \$30,000 to continue funding the needed expertise in developing the data to any litigation and to defend any challenged assessments which could result in the loss of \$100's of thousand dollars if the Sullivan County does not prevail.

(Account codes to be added by the Finance Department)

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.

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**

**Item 17**  
**Resolution No. 2024-11-15**

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: Mark Ireson**  
**Cosponsors: Darlene Calton**



