

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
Order of Business
September 18, 2025
6:00 p.m.

COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR SESSION

- ❖ Call to Order by Sheriff Jeff Cassidy
 - ❖ Chairman John Gardner presiding
 - ❖ Invocation
 - ❖ Pledge to the American Flag
 - ❖ Roll Call by Teresa Jacobs, Sullivan County Clerk
 - ❖ Annual Elections of Commission Chairman, Speaker Pro Tempore and Deputy Chairman.
 - ❖ Presentations, Appointments & Elected Official Bond Approval.
- 1) Sullivan County Regional Health Department Director Hannah Taylor – Presentation on the department’s CPR initiative in county schools.
 - 2) Appointment: Rebecca “Becky” McKinney to the Sullivan County Library Board.
 - 3) Approve two-year extension of Elected Official Bond for Sullivan County Clerk and Master Katharine Jennelle to synchronize bond’s coverage window with Jennelle’s current term of office ending in 2028.
 - ❖ Approval of Meeting Minutes of: August 14, 2025, Rezoning Hearing and Work Session; and August 18, 2025, Regular Session Meeting. (Minutes are provided to commission members electronically and are available to the public at www.sullivancountyclerktn.com/commission-minutes)
 - ❖ Approval of Notaries Public
 - ❖ Public Comment on Agenda Items
 - ❖ Public Comment on Items not on the agenda
 - ❖ Old Business/New Business
 - ❖ Announcements
 - ❖ Adjournment

OLD BUSINESS

None.

New Business

Item 1 Resolution 2025-09-01

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT (IF AWARDED), AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$20,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL FOR ARCHIVAL SHELVING TO PRESERVE POST-REVOLUTIONARY RECORDS.

Item 2 Resolution 2025-09-02

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES FOR LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES.

Item 3 Resolution 2025-09-03

Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED FOR PROJECT ON TRACK EXPENSES.

Item 4 Resolution 2025-09-04

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Means

RESOLUTION to Recognize Sullivan County Schools' participation in the Tennessee Young Employee Program (TN YEP) and the receipt of reimbursement funding.

Item 5 Resolution 2025-09-05

Sponsors: King/Glover

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SELL A 2018 LONG ARM MOWER AND TRANSFER A 1998 INGERSOLL RAND ROLLER TO BLUFF CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. AT THE REQUEST OF SCOTT MURRAY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.

Item 6 Resolution 2025-09-06

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

Item 7 Resolution 2025-09-07

Sponsors: Crosswhite/Vanover

RESOLUTION TO REAPPROPRIATE \$23,446 FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THE SULLIVAN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY BY MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS.

CONTINUED

Item 8
Resolution 2025-09-08

Sponsors: Vanover/Crosswhite

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE TOURISM MARKETING AND TOURISM ENHANCEMENT SERVICES TO SULLIVAN COUNTY ON AN ANNUAL CONTRACTURAL BASIS.

Item 9
Resolution 2025-09-09

Sponsors: Calton/Jones

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGE FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY EMPLOYEE'S SHARE OF PREMIUM PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR.

Item 10
Resolution 2025-09-10

Sponsors: Ward/Cole

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE UP TO \$140,000 FROM A STATE GRANT TO CREATE A MENTAL HEALTH COURT PROGRAM IN SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT DIVISION I AND SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT DIVISION IV.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 1
Resolution No. 2025-09-01

To the Honorable Richard Venable, Mayor of Sullivan County, and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT (IF AWARDED), AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$20,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL FOR ARCHIVAL SHELVING TO PRESERVE POST-REVOLUTIONARY RECORDS.

WHEREAS, Sullivan County maintains irreplaceable post-Revolutionary War records that represent the living history of Tennessee and are in need of enhanced preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial has made grant funding available in support of projects that preserve and promote the state's historical assets in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County desires to apply for, accept (if awarded), and appropriate grant funding in an amount up to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for the purchase and installation of archival shelving to aid in the preservation and protection of these historically significant records; and

WHEREAS, this grant is reimbursable, and Sullivan County shall provide the necessary pre-funding through the Archives and Tourism Department's Fiscal Year 2025 budget until reimbursement is received; and

WHEREAS, this project will ensure the long-term safeguarding of critical archival materials while supporting public access to Tennessee's early history.

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

1. Sullivan County is hereby authorized to apply for, accept (if awarded), and appropriate up to \$20,000 in grant funds from the Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial.
2. Said funds shall be used solely for the purchase and installation of archival shelving to preserve irreplaceable post-Revolutionary records.
3. Pre-funding for this reimbursable grant shall be provided through the Archives and Tourism Department's FY25 budget.
4. The County Mayor, or his designee, is authorized to execute all necessary documents related to this grant application, acceptance, and administration.

CONTINUED

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the _____ day of _____, 20____ at or about the following time _____ by the following method: _____.

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite
Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 2
Resolution No. 2025-09-03

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES FOR LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Library and Archives has awarded Sullivan County a grant in the amount of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seven Dollars (\$7,407.00); and

WHEREAS, this award is a 50/50 matching grant to be used for the purchase and installation of technology upgrades for Sullivan County libraries; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will support the purchase of software for free Wi-Fi access in all libraries, upgrades to public access copiers, installation of updated productivity software on public and staff computers, upgrades to public access computers at the Blountville branch, and the purchase of a laptop and case for staff use; and

WHEREAS, the required matching funds will be provided from the library's existing budget, with no additional appropriation required from the County's General Fund; and

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

1. Sullivan County hereby accepts the Tennessee State Library and Archives grant in the amount of \$7,407.00.
2. Said funds shall be appropriated for library technology upgrades as outlined in the grant award.
3. The matching funds obligation shall be met from the library's existing budgeted funds.
4. The County Mayor and/or his designee is authorized to execute any and all necessary documents to fulfill the intent of this resolution.

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 _____ 2025.

CONTINUED

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 Joyce Crosswhite
Cosponsors: Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 3
Resolution No. 2025-09-03

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED FOR PROJECT ON TRACK EXPENSES.

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education has received funding through the Niswonger Foundation for Project On Track Expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Department of Education is estimated to receive a total of up to \$200,750.00 in reimbursement for tutoring and instructional supply expenses.

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 reimbursements in the General Purpose School Fund; not to exceed the above amount (\$200,750.00). The revenue and expenditure account codes for the grant are as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
48130-70	Contributions	200,750.00
71100-189-70	Other Salaries & Wages	185,975.00
71100-201-70	Social Security	11,000.00
1100-204-70	State Retirement	175.00
71100-212-70	Employer Medicare	2,700.00
72210-429-70	Instructional Supplies & Mtls	900.00

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

Waiver of rules requested.

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.

CONTINUED

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Delivered to the Chairman of the Sullivan County Commission or his designee this the _____ day of _____, 20____ at or about the following time _____ by the following method: _____.

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Zane Vanover
Cosponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 4
Resolution No. 2025-09-04

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION to Recognize Sullivan County Schools' participation in the Tennessee Young Employee Program (TN YEP) and the receipt of reimbursement funding.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Youth Employment Program (TN YEP) is an initiative designed to create meaningful employment opportunities for young individuals by matching employers with talent who align perfectly with their business and industry requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Schools has partnered with the TN YEP program to offer fifteen (15) high school students the opportunity to participate in this valuable work-based learning experience; and

WHEREAS, through its participation, Sullivan County Schools is eligible to receive a reimbursement of up to Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$36,332.00) from the TN YEP to cover the wages of the participating students; and

WHEREAS, the reimbursement of these funds will enable the school system to fully support the students' participation in the program without a financial burden on the district's budget; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County School Board recognizes the significant educational and career-readiness benefits that the TN YEP program provides to its students;

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 reimbursements in the General Purpose School Fund; not to exceed the above amount (\$36,332.00). The revenue and expenditure account codes for the grant are as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Amount
48130-395	Contributions	36,332.00
71300-189-395	Other Salaries & Wages	33,750.00
71300-201-395	Social Security	2,093.00
71300-212-395	Employer Medicare	489.00

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

WAIVER OF RULES REQUESTED
CONTINUED

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

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

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

Cosponsors: Commissioner Jessica Means; Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY

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

Item 5
Resolution No. 2025-09-05

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SELL A 2018 LONG ARM MOWER AND TRANSFER A 1998 INGERSOLL RAND ROLLER TO BLUFF CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. AT THE REQUEST OF SCOTT MURRAY HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.

WHEREAS,. Bluff City is in desperate need of this mower and have the money to purchase and are starting to do paving and are in need of a roller, this roller is not being used by the highway department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION THAT THEY HEREBY APPROVE THIS TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF BLUFF CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT UNDER THE LISTED CONDITIONS:

- 1) Hwy # 5242-- 1998 INGERSOLL RAND ROLLER MODEL #DD-70 SERIAL # 155425, AT NO COST TO BLUFF CITY.
- 2) HWY DEPT # 5283-- 2018 KUBOTA TRACTOR MODEL M5-91 4 X 4 L/A SERIAL # KB21-190503/54935 MOWER FOR THE PRICE OF 20,000.00.
- 3) BLUFF CITY HAS REVIEWED BOTH OF THESE ITEMS AND AGREE TO THIS TRANSFER.
- 4) MONEY TO BE PLACED IN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS # 44530
- 5) THIS PRICE IS BASED ON TRADE PRICE (OF TRADE IN) ON 7/11/2025
- 6) Insurance will be removed from Hwy inventory after this transfer is complete.

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

WAIVER OF RULES REQUESTED

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

CONTINUED

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

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

***SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session***

Item 6
Resolution No. 2025-09-06

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

WHEREAS, Sullivan County recognizes the threat that natural disasters and hazards post to people and property; and

WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions before disasters occur will reduce the potential for harm to people and property and save taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, an adopted hazard mitigation plan is required as a condition of future grant funding for mitigation projects; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County participated jointly in the planning process with the other local units of government within the County to prepare the Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session, hereby adopts the Sullivan County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as an official plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Emergency Management Agency will submit on behalf of the participating municipalities the adopted Sullivan County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency officials for final review and approval.

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 _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

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

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite

Cosponsor: Commissioner Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 7
Resolution No. 2025-09-07

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO REAPPROPRIATE \$23,446 FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THE SULLIVAN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY BY MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, During fiscal year 2024-2025 a purchase order for the amount of \$23,446 to fund services from Motorola Solutions to Sullivan County EMA went unused and “rolled” into the fiscal year 2025-2026 Sullivan County Budget; and

WHEREAS, a new purchase order is required to now expend the existing funds to pay for services from Motorola Solutions to Sullivan County EMA.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in Regular Session hereby authorizes the Sullivan County Finance Department and the Sullivan County Purchasing Department to take the necessary steps to resolve this issue by reappropriating up to \$23,446 to fund payment of a new purchase order for service by Motorola Solutions to Sullivan County EMA.

Account codes to be identified by the Sullivan County Finance 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.

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

CONTINUED

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

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

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Joyce Crosswhite
Cosponsor: Zane Vanover

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be placed on Consent at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 8
Resolution No. 2025-09-08

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SULLIVAN COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE TOURISM MARKETING AND TOURISM ENHANCEMENT SERVICES TO SULLIVAN COUNTY ON AN ANNUAL CONTRACTURAL BASIS.

WHEREAS, in 2023 Sullivan County implemented an occupancy tax and has since collected more than \$1.6 million; and

WHEREAS, state law requires revenues from occupancy taxes to be used for tourism purposes, including promotion and/or development; and

WHEREAS, in November 2024 the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County approved Resolution No. 2024-11-08, directing that 50 percent of the county's occupancy tax revenues be directed to NETTA (Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association), to continue forward annually; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2024-11-08 as approved by the Commission established policy that the remaining 50 percent of revenue from the county's occupancy tax be directed to the Sullivan County Office of Director of Tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Commission now wishes to explore how best to utilize the 50 percent of occupancy tax revenues directed to the Sullivan County Office of Director of Tourism by seeking qualifications from those with expertise in the field of tourism promotion and development.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County, meeting in Regular Session on September 18, 2025, authorizes the Sullivan County Purchasing Agent to advertise a Request for Qualifications for tourism promotion and development using normal purchasing procedure to review submissions and negotiation of any contract(s).

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED these guidelines shall be applied:

- 1) Sullivan County is seeking to contract for consultation regarding and/or provision of tourism promotion and development services for an initial contract period of one year.

- 2) The Purchasing Department will utilize its established protocols to review all responses submitted in answer to the RFQ.
- 3) Day-to-day contact for any contractor(s) would go through the administrative branch of county government via the Finance Director/Deputy to the Mayor, and all contractor(s) shall present a report to the full Board of County Commissioners no less than once each three months.
- 4) In addition, all contractors shall regularly send a representative to the Sullivan County Budget Committee, which shall retain authority granted to said committee in the original resolution approving implementation of a county occupancy tax.

This Resolution shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

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

Mayor, Sullivan County

Sponsor: Commissioner Zane Vanover

Cosponsor: Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite; Commissioner Jessica Means; Commissioner Joe Carr; Commissioner Hunter Locke; Commissioner Travis Ward.

ACTIONS: 09/11/25 (Work Session) To be considered at regular meeting on 09/18/25.

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 9
Resolution No. 2025-09-09

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGE FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY EMPLOYEE'S SHARE OF PREMIUM PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR.

WHEREAS Sullivan County has participated in the State of Tennessee local government insurance pool for approximately 8 years and each year the State updates the cost for local government to participate in the plan; and,

WHEREAS Sullivan County participation in the Local Government Employee Insurance pool enrollment period starts **October 3rd through October 31, 2025**; and,

WHEREAS State of Tennessee has designated a percentage increase based upon the participating employee's coverage level; and,

WHEREAS the employer's share (Sullivan County) has been funded in the 2026 FY's approved budget for each department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Sullivan County, Tennessee, assembled in regular Session, hereby approves the changes in the employee, monthly share of cost based upon the percentage of premium increases based upon the employee's level of participation as follows:

Employees only coverage by \$6.29,
Employee Plus Children \$11.45,
Employee plus Spouse \$12.78,
Employee plus family \$17.47.

See attached schedule for more details.

(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 _____ 2025.

CONTINUED

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 Darlene Calton
Cosponsors: Commissioner Sam Jones; Commissioner Joe Carr

SULLIVAN COUNTY
Board of County Commissioners
245th Annual Session

Item 10
Resolution No. 2025-09-10

To the Honorable Richard S. Venable, Sullivan County Mayor and the Board of Sullivan County Commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 18th day of September 2025.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE UP TO \$140,000 FROM A STATE GRANT TO CREATE A MENTAL HEALTH COURT PROGRAM IN SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT DIVISION I AND SULLIVAN COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT DIVISION IV.

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Judicial System (2nd Judicial District of Tennessee) has had great success with Drug Recovery Programs; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health provides grants for creation and operation of a similar program known as Mental Health Court; and

WHEREAS, creation of a Mental Health Court Program would benefit Sullivan County and its residents by addressing specific needs of the mentally ill who come through the courts by providing treatment and other options to help them – and help the county and its taxpayers by potentially reducing recidivism; and

WHEREAS, the judges presiding over Sullivan County General Sessions Courts Division I and Division IV support and desire to create a Mental Health Program by application for and use of up to \$140,000 from a Tennessee Department of Mental Health grant available for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, no local funding is required as a match for this grant; and

WHEREAS, the precise amount of funding received from the grant depends on how quickly the program is created within the current fiscal year, pro-rated monthly based on a full-fiscal-year funding being projected at \$138,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Sullivan County, meeting in Regular Session, approve application for and acceptance of a grant from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and appropriation of up to \$140,000 in proceeds upon award of the grant to create and operate a Mental Health Court Program in Sullivan County General Sessions Courts Division I and Division IV (2nd Tennessee Judicial District) for the remainder of fiscal year 2025-2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED account codes to be assigned by the Sullivan Count Finance Department.

(Waiver of the Rules requested)

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

CONTINUED

Duly adopted this _____ day of _____ 2025.

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

ATTEST: _____
Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk

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

Teresa Jacobs, County Clerk.

ACTION BY MAYOR

Reviewed and ACCEPTED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

Reviewed and VETOED by Mayor, Sullivan County: _____
Mayor, Sullivan County

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

Mayor, Sullivan County

SPONSOR: Commissioner Travis Ward

COSPONSORS: Commissioner Michael Cole; Joyce Crosswhite