Chairman Read presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Gourley moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

RESCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the next Public Safety Committee meeting will be May 29, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

"Commissioner Gourley moved, seconded by Commissioner Ervin, to approve the written reports from OSHA, Ambulance Service, Fire/Rescue, Probation and Recovery Court as provided minus the budget amendments. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

AMBULANCE SERVICE BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Melanie Meshotto presented a proposed budget amendment and advised the Ambulance Service had received a $500 check from Wal-Mart and a $250 check from SRM Concrete for the EMS Week donations and were requesting to transfer these funds to a line item that is strictly for donations and does not include any taxpayer funds. The request also transferred $19,000 from Communication Equipment into Data Processing to purchase new Toughpads for the CAD system. The funds that were previously allocated in Line 708 for new radios for re-mounts will not be used since the department is moving towards the new system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To: 118-44570</th>
<th>Donations -</th>
<th>$ 750</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To: 118-55130-499-DNTNS</td>
<td>Donations for EMS Week -</td>
<td>$ 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From: 118-55130-708</td>
<td>Communication Equipment -</td>
<td>$19,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: 118-55130-709</td>
<td>Data Processing Equipment -</td>
<td>$19,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner V. Gammon, to approve the Ambulance Service budget amendment as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

FIRE/RESCUE BUDGET AMENDMENT:

Larry Farley presented a proposed budget amendment and advised it was to provide additional funding for evaluation and testing for the remainder of the fiscal year as well as equipment repair.
To: 101-54320-322 Evaluation & Testing - $ 7,468
From: 101-54320-338 Maintenance & Repair - Vehicle - $ 7,468
To: 101-54320-336 Maintenance & Repair - Equipment - $ 2,500
From: 101-54320-499 Other Supplies & Materials - $ 2,500

“Commissioner Gourley moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to approve the Fire/Rescue budget amendment as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.”

Chief Farley advised the Fosterville Volunteer Fire Department will come under the County Department effective May 1.

PRESENTATION ON PRE-TRIAL COURT:

Commissioner Peay advised he has been researching what can be done to reduce the jail population and found a lot of those incarcerated cannot afford bail. A program is needed to reduce the number of inmates in jail that are not hazardous to the community. Commissioner Peay advised he was surprised to learn approximately 400 inmates out of 900 are awaiting trial because they cannot afford bail. The Sheriff estimates the daily cost to house someone is $50 to $55 so it is a lot of money annually. Judge Eischeid and former Deputy to the Mayor Jeff Davidson had been working on a program to help with this. Davidson County has been doing the same type of program for 20 years.

Judge Eischeid advised with Deputy Mayor Jeff Davidson they found the Ohio Risk Assessment System and a copy was provided to the Committee. She has met with the Judges and District Attorney regarding the program and they are in agreement. The Judicial Commissioners have taken a class to administer the system and they thought it would work but found the problem is the turn around time for the police officers and counselors are needed in place to rate the inmates using the required form. It has been found first time offenders are low risk and there are certain charges that would be eligible under the program. The District Attorney has agreed to a list of charges. Counselors are needed to look at inmates that score a 3 or 4 on the assessment tool more intensely to see if they can qualify. Judge Eischeid advised the Court is ready to do the program but the counselors need to be in place to make the system work. The counselors will be at the jail coordinated to work high traffic times and under the supervision of the General Sessions Judges. Judge Eischeid advised this gets inmates out of the jail as soon as possible and is a good tool to start in the community. This is just for pre-trial detainees and gives the inmates things to work on. Bondsmen will not like the program.

Mayor Ketron advised he was up to speed on the program and thought 3 counselors to begin with was good and the budget amendment as submitted provided for 3. The Sheriff needs relief for overcrowding plus this saves money for the County so it is a win/win and he was behind the program and recommended the same.

Judge Eischeid advised this is a new push for Governor Lee and the AOC.

Commissioner Peay advised he wanted to do the program because it is the right thing to do. The people qualify for bail but cannot afford it. The County has already been sued over probation services. The jail is at capacity and the State will force the County to build a new jail.

To: 101-53300-189 Other Salary & Wages - $11,500
To: 101-53300-201 Social Security - $ 715
To: 101-53300-204 Pension - $1,230
To: 101-53300-205 Employee & Dependent Insurance - $***
To: 101-53300-209 Disability Insurance - $25
To: 101-53300-212 Medicare - $170
From: 101-39000 Unassigned Fund Balance - $13,640

“Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to approve the General Sessions budget amendment as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.”

Mayor Ketron asked if the program could be made retroactive and Judge Eischeid advised it probably could. The Committee was advised the State recently funded a Judicial Liaison position that works with drug addicts to get into rehab programs.

PAWS REPORT & BUDGET:

Michael Gregory presented the PAWS report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Ervin moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the PAWS report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Mr. Gregory next presented his proposed 19/20 budget first advising of Department accomplishments, concerns and wants. The budget as presented does include a request for additional employees, new roof and HVAC system. Mayor Ketron has reviewed the budget as presented and has taken it under advisement advising it is a decent budget but he will make his recommendation at a later date. Commissioner Phillips advised the department does good work and is under staffed.

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Gourley, to forward the PAWS 19/20 budget as presented to the Budget Committee with a positive recommendation. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY REPORT & BUDGET:

Tim Hooker presented the Emergency Management report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Ervin moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to approve the Emergency Management Agency report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Mr. Hooker next presented the proposed 19/20 Emergency Management Agency budget for consideration. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Gourley, to approve the 19/20 Emergency Management Agency budget as presented and forward the same to the Budget Committee with a positive recommendation. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

JUVENILE DETENTION REPORT & BUDGET:

Lynn Duke presented the Juvenile Detention report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Ervin moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to approve the Juvenile Detention report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Ms. Duke next presented a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Education which is done annually to provide basic education services for detained juveniles.
“Commissioner V. Gammon moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Education as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Ms. Duke next presented a proposed budget amendment to provide for overtime due to covering vacant positions.

From: 101-54240-160 Guards - $10,000
From: 101-54240-164 Attendants - $10,000
To: 101-54240-187 Overtime - $20,000

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner V. Gammon, to approve the Juvenile Detention budget amendment as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.”

Ms. Duke next presented the proposed 19/20 Juvenile Detention budget for consideration advising it included a request for a transport van and advised they make trips daily to doctors or the ER with inmates or to the Courts. Her concern is instances like in the past when they had to evacuate the juveniles. Following discussion, “Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Ervin, to forward the 19/20 Juvenile Detention budget to the Budget Committee with a positive recommendation exclusive of the new van leaving that to the County Mayor’s discretion. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Chairman Read advised it may be better to lease copiers than to buy them. Mayor Ketron advised a previous Commission disallowed leasing copiers but now leases and copiers have change so he may look at what the Commission voted on previously.

CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER REPORT & BUDGET:

William Cope introduced Dianne Chapman advising due to hard work his department has not had a budget amendment in two years. Mr. Cope reviewed the Correctional Work Center report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Gourley moved, seconded by Commissioner Ervin, to approve the Correctional Work Center report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Mr. Cope next presented the proposed 19/20 Correctional Work Center budget for consideration advising it does include a request for three new employees and five vehicles. Commissioner Gourley advised he supports the vehicle request because of the age of current vehicles.

Mr. Cope advised the budget includes a request for $100,000 for data processing equipment to train inmates in mechatronics. He and Mayor Ketron have met with Governor Lee asking for support and potential funding by the State. This program is big at Oakland High School, Motlow and MTSU and is the wave of the future. Mayor Ketron advised he supports this item being in the budget and it can be made contingent on State funding.

“Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Gourley, to accept the 19/20 Correctional Work Center budget as presented and forward the same to the Budget Committee with a positive recommendation with the $100,000 in Line 709 contingent on State funding.

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to amend the original motion to take the vehicles out of the budget as presented and allow the County Mayor to adjust as he sees fit and make recommendations. This amendment passed unanimously by acclamation.
The original motion, as amended, passed unanimously by acclamation.”

SHERIFF’S OFFICE REPORT & BUDGET:

Chief Preble Acton presented a proposed budget amendment for maintenance and repair of kitchen equipment.

From: 54210-707 Building Improvements - $ 3,000
To: 54210-336 M/R Equip - $ 3,000

“Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Gourley, to approve the Sheriff’s Office budget amendment as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.”

Chief Acton next advised she was asking permission to apply for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program grant. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner V. Gammon, to authorize the Sheriff’s Office to apply for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program grant. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

The line item report was next presented for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Sourinho moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the line item report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Sheriff Fitzhugh next presented the proposed 19/20 Sheriff’s Office budget for consideration. The Committee reviewed the Special Purpose (121), Drug Fund (122), Admin of Sex Offender Registry (54160), Special Patrols (54120) and Traffic Control (54130). Following discussion,

“Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Ervin, to approve and forward to the Budget Committee the Special Purpose (121), Drug Fund (122), Admin of Sex Offender Registry (54160), Special Patrols (54120) and Traffic Control (54130) budgets as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Sheriff Fitzhugh and Chief Acton next reviewed the Sheriff’s budget, Account #54110. The Committee was advised HR has done a salary survey which has been provided to the Sheriff. Sheriff Fitzhugh advised they support HR’s recommendation which will hopefully help keep employees for the jail and patrol. The HR recommendation is not in the budget as presented. Sonya Stephenson advised the salary increase recommended is approximately 10%. Commissioner Phillips advised the problem is funding and the State has not provided any options to property taxes. Sheriff Fitzhugh advised over 50% of his staff have second or third jobs to survive and it has been a long time getting to this point. Chairman Read advised the staff are sacrificing and are important to the County and the County needs to look after them. They are never appreciated until they are needed or are not there.

Commissioner Phillips asked if the County could do 15% over three years and Ms. Stephenson advised it could and has done this in the past but with the problems in Public Safety and IT it won’t help with retention. There are five new tech companies coming in. Ms. Stephenson advised over the last couple of years she did scenarios with proposed budgets versus the median salary and showed how hard it is to make ends meet in Rutherford County. Sheriff Fitzhugh advised Hamilton County is getting ready to put in a big increase. Commissioner Phillips asked if the Commission committed to 15% over three years if the employees would come out better and get more money in their pockets. Ms. Stephenson advised in 12 years the pay table
has only been lifted twice. The current scenario is what happens when a cost of living is not funded annually and the County finds itself behind. Commissioner Gourley advised the County is so far behind that a lot of the increase will get eaten up by the cost of living. The County is shooting itself in the foot with training expenses and experience when it loses employees and the experience is invaluable. Chief Acton advised they have had 5 communications positions open for months. Commissioner V. Gammon discussed increasing the longevity pay amount and he thought former Commissioners should have left the pay plan alone. Ms. Stephenson advised they had to be able to say from a legal standpoint how people got placed on the pay table with promotions, etc.

Mayor Ketron advised he has been working on the budget and will make a recommendation at the Budget Committee meeting on May 8 regarding employee pay. He will present different scenarios for the Commission to consider and should be prepared to vote for a tax increase. Rutherford County is not a small county anymore and is going to have to pay its employees.

The Committee reviewed the significant increases in the operating budget including a Motorola upgrade of $48,000 because an upgrade was skipped last year. Also discussed was internet connectivity, communication equipment, DP equipment, law enforcement equipment and vehicle lease options. Chief Acton questioned whether officers needed to carry AED equipment because the Fire Department and Ambulance Service carry them. This would be a savings of approximately $50,000. Additionally, if the County proceeds with the communications project Motorola will provide radios and this expenditure can be cut from the budget request.

The Committee was next provided information on leasing vehicles from Enterprise. The budget also requests 5 new patrol officers like requested in 2017 and 2018.

Commissioner Phillips advised the Committee supported the Sheriff’s Office budget request with their adjustments and the Mayor was aware of the Committee recommendations. Following discussion, “Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner V. Gammon, to approve the budget with a positive recommendation considering the potential cuts of AEDs and radios as discussed with the County Mayor to have in-put. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

The Committee next reviewed the Jail budget (54210). Sheriff Fitzhugh advised he was asking for 10 new detention officers as the jail has never been sufficiently staffed. The jail is currently at 91% occupancy with in excess of 900 inmates. The number of employees is getting critical because of the jail population. The Committee reviewed the needed equipment in the kitchen and laundry. Commissioner Peay asked if there was anything the Sheriff could do without and Sheriff Fitzhugh advised there was no fat in the budget and is for needs and not wants. The department has deteriorating equipment serving 22,000 meals per week. Following discussion, “Commissioner Gourley moved, seconded by Commissioner Ervin, to approve the Sheriff’s jail budget (54210) as presented and forward the same to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Mayor Ketron advised there are three vacancies in the Ambulance Service and one in Emergency Management Agency. He has been working with Ms. Nolen and Ms. Stephenson and wants to rework the departments to create a Public Safety Director position which will oversee the Ambulance Service, Fire/Rescue and Emergency Management departments. The PSD will have the technical skills and training to run the departments which the County Mayor does not have. Mayor Ketron advised he wanted to go on and post the Public Safety Director
position and advised he will be bringing the PSD position to the Budget Committee for funding.

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Gourley, to approve and give the County Mayor permission to create the Public Safety Director position to oversee the Emergency Management Agency, Fire/Rescue and Ambulance Service as presented. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.”

Commissioner Phillips asked if the Sheriff’s Office could cut the number of SRO positions when schools are built on campuses. Sheriff Fitzhugh advised his department currently has 97 deputies on patrol and 68 SROs. He did not see how to cut SROs because if there is an incident then it leaves a school without a SRO.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Read declared the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

PETTUS READ, Chairman