

STEERING, LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

November 6, 2013

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jack Black
Commissioner Gary Farley
Commissioner Trey Gooch
Commissioner Jeff Jordan
Commissioner Allen McAdoo
Commissioner Steve Sandlin
Commissioner Adam Coggin, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess Phil Griffin
Theresa McKee David Nipper
Jim Estes Becky Shelton

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

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Gooch moved, seconded by Commissioner Sandlin, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

FILL CITIZEN-AT-LARGE VACANCY ON AUDIT COMMITTEE OF UNEXPIRED TERM OF DAVID NIPPER:

Chairman Coggin initially advised no applications had been received for the citizen-at-large vacancy on the Audit Committee. However, Theresa McKee advised she had submitted an application for the position. Accordingly, Mayor Burgess left the meeting in an attempt to find the application.

ANNOUNCE VACANCY ON SCHOOL BOARD TO FILL UNEXPIRED TERM OF TIM TACKETT:

Chairman Coggin advised Tim Tackett has resigned his position on the Rutherford County Board of Education effective October 24, 2013 and the position was accordingly being announced. The term expires August, 2014 for Commission Districts 14, 19 and 20.

Commissioner Farley advised this is an important position and the Committee needed discussion on how to fill the position including potential interviews of the applicants. Commissioner Black advised he felt the Committee should make the recommendation as it does with any position. Chairman Coggin advised Tennessee Code Annotated says the vacancy will be filled by the County legislative body. Commissioner Gooch advised with previous appointments the Steering Committee considered the applicants and the Commission confirmed the recommendation. Commissioner McAdoo advised this is an important position but is a position to be filled like any other. Chairman Coggin advised County Attorney Cope said there is no precedent so the Committee can do as it has in the past or determine a procedure. The position represents Commission Districts 14, 19 and 20 which are Commissioners Gooch, Baum and Ealy. Only citizens in those districts can apply. This discussion will be continued.

FILL CITIZEN-AT-LARGE VACANCY ON AUDIT COMMITTEE OF UNEXPIRED TERM OF DAVID NIPPER:

The application of Ms. McKee was located and she addressed the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Sandlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Farley, to recommend Theresa McKee to fill the citizen-at-large vacancy on the Audit Committee which expires September, 2014. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mayor Burgess advised another application may be received before the Commission meeting if the applicant gets approval from his employer to apply.

ANNOUNCE FOUR VACANCIES ON AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised the positions of Francille Whitworth (farm woman), Brandon Whitt (farmer) and Commissioner positions held by Robert Peay and Will Jordan on the Agricultural Advisory Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE TWO VACANCIES ON CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised the positions of Robert Asbury and Frances Mosby on the Correctional Work Center Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE VACANCY ON LINEBAUGH LIBRARY BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised Richard Garvin, Jr. has resigned from the Linebaugh Library Board and this vacancy was accordingly being announced. The term expires June, 2015. Per the Library Board by-laws, the position must be filled by a male from the Smyrna area.

FILLING SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY:

Commissioner Farley advised he thought a special called meeting with all Commissioners should be held to interview applicants. Commissioner Black advised if everyone comes then it would have to be paid like the Commission and this is a Steering Committee job.

Commissioner McAdoo questioned if the School Board made a recommendation what would the Steering Committee do. Chairman Coggin advised the School Board is not directed by statute to do anything in this situation. School Board member David Nipper advised there were no plans by the School Board to intervene or make a recommendation. Mayor Burgess advised statutory authority is given to the local legislative body with no directions on what process to use. Commissioner Farley advised when a School Board member was previously replaced the whole Commission interviewed the applicants. Commissioner J. Jordan advised when Mr. Wise was appointed to the School Board he did not appear before the Steering Committee or Commission until after his recommendation so there are no rules or set procedures for this situation. Commissioner J. Jordan advised he recommended taking applications up to the next Steering Committee meeting and thought the Committee should not deviate from prior procedure. Commissioner McAdoo advised if the Committee wanted to make any changes it needed to recommend the same to the Commission before changing because the Committee did not want to cause a lawsuit. Commissioner McAdoo advised he was uncomfortable making changes and he wanted the applications to come to Steering Committee with a recommendation to the Commission like always done. Commissioner J. Jordan suggested Steering Committee recommend to the Commission three or less candidates and have questions for the candidates because the appointee will have at least one vote on the School Board budget.

Mayor Burgess advised the recommended person has to reside in the district as currently drawn and if they are not in the district as redrawn they will not be able to run in the next election.

The Committee requested applications be sent to each member as soon as received in the Mayor's Office. Additionally, Mayor Burgess will have the residency verified by the Election Commission on each applicant for Zone 7.

"Commissioner J. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner Sandlin, for Steering Committee to accept applications and interview the applicants at the December 2 meeting with a recommendation of three or less candidates to the Commission on December 14. This

motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Chairman Coggin asked that the Election Commission verification be attached to each application.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Coggin declared the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

ADAM COGGIN, Chairman