

## Charter Commission Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2014

The second meeting of the Charter Commission was called to order by Chairman Cobble. In his opening statements, the Chairman thanked the commissioners and the general public for attending.

All the commissioners were present and introduced themselves and stated which district they represented.

Chairman Cobble offered the opening prayer.

Commissioner Waddle made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 21 meeting.

Chairman *Pro Tem* Wood seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Chairman Cobble stated that the commission must decide how to proceed because State Law did not dictate what Rules of Order the commission must use. Chairman Cobble proceeded to read sections of the law concerning the creation of the Charter with members of the commission and general public asking questions in between sections. The Chairman read Tennessee Code 5-1-201, 202, 203. A member of the audience asked who would ultimately decide on the meaning of a law when the commission does not know. The commission discussed using CTAS as a resource for this kind of a problem.

Another member of the audience said that the public decides what the commission can do.

Chairman Cobble resumed reading the Tennessee Code 5-1-206, 207.

Commission discussed the six hundred dollars that was appropriated to the Charter Commission by the County Commission for the use of hiring a secretary. Members of the Charter Commission said that the Charter Commission should spend the very least that it can get by with. Commissioner Houser said that he was willing to take notes and prepare minutes for the commission.

Chairman Cobble made a motion that Commissioner Houser, who was elected as secretary of the commission, take notes and prepare minutes for the commission.

Chair *Pro tem* Wood seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to accept this proposal.

There was some discussion on Tennessee Code 8-44-101(The Sunshine Law) and how far the reaches of it affected the Charter Commission.

Chairman Cobble resumed reading the Tennessee Code 5-1-207, 208, 209,210. The chairman wanted to know all of the Constitutional Officers that are described in the Tennessee Code. The commissioners made a list of the Constitutional offices: Sheriff, Trustee, Register of Deeds, County Court Clerk, Property Assessor, County Mayor, and Road Superintendent.

Commissioner Johnson wanted to know if all these positions had to be popularly elected or if they could be appointed.

Chairman Cobble proceeded to read the rest of the Tennessee Code concerning the Charter Commission. These Sections were 5-1-211, 212, 213, 214, 215.

Chairman Cobble made a motion to adopt an informal modified version of Robert's Rules of Order

Commissioner Waddle seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to accept this as our standard to conduct the meetings.

Commissioner Houser made a motion that the commission ask Mayor Broyles for a list of all the administrative departments, agencies, boards, etc. and a list of all private acts by which the County is bound.

Chair *Pro tem* Wood seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to accept this course of action.

Chairman Cobble made a motion that the Commission interview each Constitutional Officer.

Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Claiborne stated that each officer should be provided with a list of questions. Chair *Pro tem* Wood stated that the Tennessee Constitution defines the responsibility of each Constitutional Officer. Chairman Cobble said he wanted to see how the Departments operate on a daily basis.

Commission voted unanimously to interview each of the Constitutional Officers in Greene County.

A member of the audience said that the EMS Department needed to put under scrutiny. Chairman Cobble said that he needed to see the County Commission about that matter.

Chairman Cobble made a motion to move the July meetings to the third and fifth Thursday.

Chair *Pro tem* Wood seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to move the meetings to the third and fifth Thursday.

A member of the audience addressed the commission and stated that the issues the public were concerned with are; Taxes, Quality education, proactive law enforcement, and tax-paid services.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to allow the Chairman, Chairman *Pro tem*, and the Secretary to work together and contact local officials about the interviews.

Commissioner Davenport seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to allow this action.

Chair *Pro tem* Wood made a motion that the meeting be adjourned

Commissioner Claiborne seconded the motion.

Commission voted unanimously to adjourn.