



# County Executive's Newsletter to Commissioners

June 2011



Dear Commissioners:

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## **2012 BUDGET :**

The 2012 Budget work continues as your Budget Committee (Bobby Collier, Ron Berry, Jerry Goddard, and Randy Ellis) has worked most Thursday afternoons in May. Most of our small funds that have little or no property tax have been completed. The Debt Service Funds and Highway Fund have been recommended and all but a few functions/departments in the General Fund are left. Hopefully, two more days will complete the General Fund and we will have a good understanding of where the entire budget stands.

There are no raises yet applied; however, the Budget Committee recommended that the schools receive the same funding as last year and if any growth money exists then the growth money should apply to balance the General Fund and be available for raises or some form of bonuses for General Fund and Highway employees. The Budget Committee felt that since school employees have been receiving raises and the county funds education about \$10,000,000 more than required to receive full state funding, that growth money should be used in the County General Fund. The growth money is in sales tax collections. We are not expecting any substantial growth in property tax this year.

Part of the sales tax growth has been due to TVA work in Swan Pond, DOE contracts, and return of the county infrastructure investment in the Midtown area.

Hopefully by the July newsletter, we will have a budget which says "we are ready for adoption".

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## **Roane County Park Advisory Committee:** (Submitted by Joyce Nall)

In your commission packet for June you will find a resolution which re-establishes our Roane County Park Advisory Committee. This committee serves multi-functions: (1) Requirement for better rating on state grants ,(2) Assists in developing a Park Master Plan, and (3) At the request of TVA will assist in the recreational development of the TVA property in Swan Pond. Various members of this committee have recently been able to tour the property site by helicopter.

Thanks to TVA for this property use donation, your commitment to work with us on recreational development, and the recent tour.

More to come. . . .

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### **Roane County Solid Waste Department:**

(Submitted by Ralph Stewart)

#### **Convenience Center Update:**

**Bradbury Convenience Center:** Concrete has been poured at the Bradbury site for a compactor. Anticipated installation is the end of July/first of August.

Compactors we ordered and paid for- waiting on anticipated shipping date. Anticipated installation is the end of July.

**Paint Rock Convenience Center:** Paint Rock center's boundaries haven't been re-surveyed yet.

#### **Congratulations to Joanne Norman on her retirement!!!**

Joanne started her service with the county on April 14, 1992 and retired as of May 31, 2011. Joanne was one of only two full-time operators. Best wishes to Joanne for a happy retirement!

### **Annual Debt Report** (by Ron Woody)

We have gotten bogged down on budget work which has slowed the development of our Annual Debt Report. It is in the works but time is needed to have the completed project.

### **County Executive's Staff Meetings:** (by Ron Woody)

Our office has two separate staff meetings with department heads. Accounting, Purchasing and Central Administration meets Mondays at the 9:00 a.m. staff meeting to discuss activities of the prior week, schedule future week activities, and long-term plans and policies. Department heads from Building and Codes, Animal Control, Ambulance, Wastewater, and other department heads, as needed, meet Wednesdays at the 1:00 p.m. staff meeting. The Wednesday meeting is scheduled as needed and has been meeting about every other week. We are currently working on a new reporting format for our committees and for the monthly Commission packet.

I appreciate all the staffs' hard work and we continue to chart the future.

### **Riley Creek Campground:**

(by Ron Woody)

The process has been slower than anticipated but on Thursday, May 26, 2011 we received the keys to the Campground. TVA still had a few days of work left but we are also ready to go.

More to come next month. . .

### **Plateau Partnership Park Position Paper**

(by Ron Woody)

A new position paper has been published and is located on our website. You may want to see if you support my position. ([www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org))

### **Midtown Sewer Project:**

The State Revolving Loan Fund Board is scheduled to meet on June 24, 2011. You have in your Commission packet a resolution to assist in cash flow needs.



**Summer Fest 2011**

June 11 from 10:00 a.m. —6:00 pm.

Shop with local crafters, vendors and charities

Ride in the Motorcycle Ride

Eat Great Food

Play disc golf

Let the kids play on the playgrounds , bounce house, or splash pad

Watch or participate in the annual Law vs. Order softball game

Bring the whole family for a day of fun at the Roane County Park!

**Roane County Disc Golf Tournament**

June 19—starts at 9:00 am at the Roane County Park

Two rounds on the 18-hole course by, in, and over Watts Bar Lake

Players to take on the mature trees and gently rolling hills of this 5630 foot, par 60 course.

Players meeting at 9:15, shotgun start at 9:30 (unless over 90 players)

See our website for registration information and more.

[www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org)

**Retire Tennessee** (Submitted by Joyce Nall)

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development offers the Retire Tennessee program, which promotes Tennessee as a great place for retirees to call home. Roane County has met the state's criteria of providing the resources and amenities needed to be a viable retirement destination and will join the ranks of eleven (11) other counties already participating. Our acceptance will be announced by the state sometime after July 1. Congratulations to the Roane Alliance for their hard work in making Roane County yet again a "destination." Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.



**BARK IN THE PARK!** (Submitted by John Griffin)

June 18, 2011 --- 10:00 a.m. --- 3:00 p.m.

Roane County Park — Free Admission

Monetary donations and cat and dog food donations accepted

**Presented by:**

Humane Society of Roane County, Roane County Animal Shelter, and Second Chance K-9 Rescue

Live entertainment:

**The River Sharks** with special guests **Donna Hawn** and **Gospel Band Ben Jam**

Door Prizes --- Food --- Silent Auction (including a Gatlinburg Getaway)

Rabies Clinic sponsored by SCK9-R from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (leash required) - Cost \$12.00





## **Redistricting/Reapportionment: The What's and How's** (Submitted by Sheila Lemons)

**Redistricting** is the delineation of County Commission District lines.

**Reapportionment** is the apportionment of the county legislative body so that its members represent substantially equal populations.

Redistricting occurs every 10 years following the publication of the new U.S. Census population summary tables that result from the decennial census. Redistricting needs to be completed by January 1, 2012.

Tennessee law requires each county's legislative body to do its own redistricting via committee. The State will assist counties with redistricting through the State Comptroller's Office of Local Government, The Department of Economic and Community Development's Local Planning Assistance Offices, and CTAS. Districts must be based on 2010 census blocks.

Voter precincts may have to be redrawn as well. Precincts should be redrawn so as to nest within districts, be reasonable compact, and be contiguous. The County Election Commission redraws voter precincts. A voter precinct cannot split a County Commission district, and a State Senate District, but it can split a State House district.

The county's redistricting plan is complete when a final district plan is adopted by resolution of the county legislative body. The resolution must contain descriptions of each district or a map of sufficient detail.

The following identifies a series of recommended steps or suggestions to complete the task of Redistricting:

- Appoint a Redistricting Committee
- Acquire or collect redistricting data
- Evaluate current districts with 2010 population to determine what changes, if any, must be made
- If necessary, draw one or more new district plans
- Complete final district
- Adopt final plan by resolution
- Complete final precinct map
- Certification of Final District and Precinct Plans

Before starting the redistricting process, local officials should review state laws for any changes or new requirements. Seek legal advice when matters of law are in question.

In the June Commission packet you will find a Resolution and some correspondence from the Comptroller's Office regarding redistricting/reapportionment. In mid-June CTAS will provide our office with the census data and maps.

## **Ambulance Department Re-organization:** (by Ron Woody)

Reorganization continues at our Ambulance Department as we are still working with our new billing company and resizing the department.

An Executive Summary was presented to the Ambulance Committee on Monday, May 23, 2011 which included 31 Power Point slides. We will publish this Executive Summary in 30-45 days, as it is still a work in progress. In summary, the Ambulance Committee reviewed and discussed the presentation and the focus of identifying where the Ambulance Service is currently at in service delivery, operations, and financial operations, and the opportunities and challenges which exist. Benchmarks of data were identified to help the administration and management chart the past and plan for the future. It appears that the hemorrhaging of unscheduled overtime has stopped and the inventory control of supplies and medicines has improved. More to come. . . .



## County Government Meetings

June 2:	Environmental Review Board	6:00 pm	Circuit Courtroom
	Back Tax Committee	6:30 pm	QCR
June 3:	Budget Committee	1:00 pm	3rd floor—Courthouse
June 6:	Sheriff's Liaison Committee	6:30 pm	QCR
June 9:	Property Committee	6:00 pm	QCR
	Solid Waste Committee	7:00 pm	QCR
June 10:	Budget Committee	1:00 pm	3rd floor-Courthouse
June 13:	County Commission	7:00 pm	QCR
June 14:	Beer Board	5:30 pm	QCR
	Fire Board	6:00 pm	QCR
June 15:	Land Use Committee	11:30 am	TBA
	Public Records Committee	4:30 pm	Old Courthouse
	Board of Zoning Appeals	6:00 pm	QCR
	Planning Commission	7:00 pm	QCR
June 23:	County Board of Public Utilities	6:00 pm	1st floor Courthouse

## Events of Interest

June 11:	Summer Fest 2011	10:00 am—6:00 pm	Roane County Park (see our website under Roane County Park for more information)
June 18:	Bark in the Park	10:00 am — 3:00 pm	Roane County Park
June 19:	Disc Golf Tournament	9:00 am — ?	Roane County Park (see our website under Roane County Park for more information)

## Roane County Purchasing Department: (Submitted by Lynn Farnham)

### **Purchasing Department on County Website**

The Purchasing Department began posting bid specifications on the roanegov.org website in May beginning with the bid for the Property & Casualty Insurance Program. Eventually, all bids specifications, where it is feasible to do so, will be on the website for vendors to download. The Purchasing Department has for some time been emailing as many bid documents as is possible in order to cut down on the cost of postage.

The Purchasing website also contains contact information for each of the employees and will soon have documents and forms available for the public and staff that will make doing business with the Purchasing Department a smoother process.

### **HAVE AN ITEM OF INTEREST FOR THE NEWSLETTER?**

If you have an item of interest related to our county, please submit to Sheila or me.

Deadline for submission is the last Wednesday of the month.

*Ron*