



# County Executive's Newsletter to Commissioners

Dear Commissioners:



**2012 BUDGET : (Submitted by Kaley Walker)**

Well, we have officially kicked off working on the budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The accounting department sent out the official budget request forms in the middle of February. Along with these forms were the new capital request forms that span a 10 year window of anticipated capital needs. The first budgets up for review are the debt funds, 151 through 156. We will begin having the budget reviews in the April Budget Committee meeting. In April we are looking to also cover the 119 Fund, Industrial Development, as well as the 118 Fund, Ambulance Services.



**The Best Park in East Tennessee: (Submitted by Joyce Nall)**

Roane County should be proud!! WBIR TV recently polled the public for the best five (5) parks in East Tennessee. The Roane County Park is Number One!!

Congratulations to Tony Brown and his staff for the hard work that has put the Roane County Park on the map. Some highlights that were mentioned are the 1.5 mile paved walking trail, picnic shelters, the splash pad, tennis courts, ball fields, disc golf and events that were approved by resolution last month in the Commission.

During the 2011 summer season the park plans to participate in, or host, a summer fest in June, assist with a Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament in July, and once again partner with Roane State and others to provide the Corn Maze.

Another new amenity is the availability of The Cottage for public use. The Cottage is located in the building that once served as the residence for the park manager. Now it hosts baby showers, wedding receptions, family reunions, meetings, etc. The cost is only \$5 an hour. If you are interested in using The Cottage for your next event, call Tony Brown at 865-466-0294 for reservations. It is equipped with a full kitchen, bathroom, tables and chairs, and can accommodate about 50 people. The covered sheds are still available for \$5 per hour if reserved, or free on a first-come/first-served basis (if not already reserved).



**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 Woody





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March 2011

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## Capital and Debt Policies:

It took six months but both the capital and debt "draft" policies have been filed and are waiting your comments. Kaley Walker has taken the needed steps to begin implementation of both policies. Capital Request forms were distributed with the operational budget request, which will reflect departments' anticipated capital needs over the next 10 years. Kaley also has prepared a multi-year debt budget over the life of our indebtedness. We will be preparing Executive Summaries/Power Points Presentations of both of these policies for posting on our website. These policies are but the foundation for our long term planning.

## Tennessee Government Finance Officer Forum (TGFOA):

County Executive Woody has been requested by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office to present Roane County "Draft" Debt Management Policy at a March TGFOA panel discussion. Executive Woody, while working at the University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service (UT-CTAS), made various suggestions and written comments to the Tennessee Comptroller's Office regarding the now mandated County Debt Management Policy.

## Recent Retirees:

Lennie McFalls—over 20 years of service—Maintenance  
Lucille Stults—17 years of service—Sheriff's Dept.—Cook  
Jean Hamilton—over 13 years of service—Circuit Court  
Katherine Jones—over 30 years of service—Accounting



Our condolences to the family of Curtis Driskell who passed away December 28, 2010. Curtis had 12 years of service at the Roane County Highway Department.

## Plateau Partnership Park Forum:

On February 15, 2011 Roane County hosted a two-hour forum on the Plateau Partnership Park. Approximately 90 stakeholders from Cumberland, Morgan and Roane Counties attended the forum. Executive Assistant Joyce Nall spent a number of hours studying, researching, and preparing a 20-slide power point which was reviewed by the attendees. Thank you Joyce for a great job!

Two major issues were discussed as the Partnership related to Roane County. First is Roane County's concern about the potential future impact and cost related to our wastewater treatment plant and the second dealt with sharing of property tax, or lack thereof. Two potential solutions were discussed after the event (1) Having the Partnership build an independent wastewater system on site, and (2) sharing of property tax for twenty-five years after the sale of property or after an industry starts paying taxes.

## Zoning Office Update:

**(Submitted by Kay Christopher)**

The State Planning Office is in the process of composing a new land use plan for the county. The ad hoc committee will be meeting in mid March to discuss what will be included in the plan. Midge Jessiman, our local state planner, said the extensive plan will take about a year to complete.

The Urban Growth Committee will be meeting as soon as the county attorney is assured all requirements to reconvene have been met.

The new Adult Business resolution will be on the March County Commission meeting agenda. Roane County Planning Commission and all the cities' Planning Commissions have approved the resolution. There will be a public hearing preceding the meeting.



## **What are we going to do with the old jail?**

Our office has reviewed possible uses for the old jail and hope to work with the Property Committee in the next several months to form a recommendation to the Commission. As we looked at and studied the old jail our initial thoughts are these:

- The County is in dire need of space to house records. In my work at UT, I witnessed an old jail being used to house records by assigning offices specific jail cells with chains, locks and keys.
- As the Property Committee and others know, we have office space needs and the old jail has some available space.
- There is the possibility of the Juvenile Center using part of the building.
- Space for evidence which has been confiscated by the Sheriff's Department.
- Additional parking space available when the outside recreation area is taken down.

The list could go on and on and we hope to prepare an Executive Summary of potential recommendations and work with the Property Committee for recommendation to the full Commission.

In short order we do need to replace the roof and do major cleanup of the interior. No matter what the old jail will eventually be used for, we would have to re-roof the facility, do a major cleanup, and take down the recreation area.

We will have this project in our capital plan and have money already available for this work.

## **Plans at the Landfill:**

We are looking into preparing an Executive Summary (Power Point Presentation) on some potential expanded uses at the Roane County Landfill site. Property Committee members, we have some more work for your committee and the Solid Waste Committee.

### **Potential uses we would like for the committees to consider:**

- Building for Office of Emergency Services equipment. We currently lease a facility for \$21,600 a year.
- Reconfigure the Recycling Center, convenience center and Class Four waste area.
- Potential berm area for firing range (Sheriff's Department need).
- Area to detonate explosives which are discovered in Roane County but are handled by the Knoxville Bomb Squad. Roane County has to dispose of our explosives or contract at a potential high cost to transport and dispose.
- Request for small remote controlled airplane area.



## Office of Emergency Services News: (Submitted by Scott Stout)

### • OES to use new alert system

In collaboration with the Roane County Purchasing Department and through a competitive bidding process OES was able to identify a new vendor to provide our emergency messaging capability. OES was using "Code Red" to deliver emergency information via voice, text, and emails to citizens during emergencies and "Rapid Cast" to deliver emergency voice, text, and emails to emergency officials. The new Delta Alert System will perform the job of both "Code Red" and Rapid Cast" for \$10,750.00 less per year.

### • Call Report (1-26-11 to 2-24-11)

Structure Fires – 6

Fire Alarms – 1

Wildfires – 1

Vehicle Wrecks – 3

Hazmat - 1

### • John Rayburn attains Captain's rank:

John "Shorty" Rayburn has attained the rank of captain in the Fire Division of OES by demonstrating an exceptional work ethic and professionalism. **Congratulations Captain Shorty!**

## County Officials Certificate Training Program (COCTP): (Submitted by Joyce Nall)

We want to keep everyone up to date on what courses are available through CTAS. Many courses are available online and anyone enrolled can check out those courses by logging in to [www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu) and following the steps to the Solution Point log-in page.

### **Instructor-led courses in East Tennessee for the next few months are:**

<b>County Operating Budget</b>	March 1—Knoxville	March 8—Cookeville	March 16—Johnson City
<b>GASB Statement 54</b>	March 9—Knoxville	March 11—Knoxville	March 22—Johnson City
<b>Leadership Styles</b>	April 6—Knoxville	April 8—Athens	April 11—Johnson City
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning</b>	April 7—Athens	April 13—Knoxville	April 14—Johnson City
<b>Regulations</b>			
<b>Negotiation Skills</b>	May 24—Johnson City	May 26—Athens	June 28—Knoxville

The County Executive is working with CTAS to schedule a budgeting workshop here in Roane County in the next few months. Congratulations to all who attained Certified Public Administrator status in the last year.

If you have any questions regarding the COCTP program, contact Joyce Nall in the County Executive's office.



**FOUNDERS' DAY UPDATE:**

The fourth class of Treasures was honored at the Roane County Founders' Day 2010 Celebration on February 22, 2011. Approximately 60 people attended this year's event.

**Clyde Collins**, nominated by Commissioners Randy Ellis, Jerry Goddard, George Nelson and Fred Tedder, was the 1st Civil District Roane Treasure.

**C. H. Smith**, nominated by Commissioners James Brummett and Steve Kelley, was the 2nd Civil District Roane Treasure.

**Albert A. "Ab" Armour**, nominated by Commissioners Ray Cantrell, Bobby Collier, Nick Forrester and Chris Johnson, was the 3rd Civil District Roane Treasure.

**Joe Woody**, nominated by Commissioners Carolyn Granger and Stanley Moore, was the 4th Civil District Roane Treasure.

**Sanders "Sanny" Bowman**, nominated by Commissioners Copper Bacon, Ron Berry and Benny East, was the 5th Civil District Roane Treasure.

**Glenn Hollis Kindred** was this year's **Golden Treasure**. Mr. Kindred passed away on January 28, 2011. Commissioners Copper Bacon, Ron Berry, and Benny East accepted the honor posthumously on his behalf and will present it to Frances Kindred who was unable to attend the celebration due to illness.

Thank you Sheila and Arlene for hosting and scheduling this event. Thank you Comcast for sponsoring the event again this year.

**Summary of March Newsletter:**

Commission, as you can see by the number of projects on our list (Debt and Capital Policies, Landfill plans, Reuse of Old Jail, and others not mentioned), we may need to set aside a Saturday to have a workshop and a number of committee meetings.

A number of these projects cover two and three committees and it could take months of committee meetings to discuss the same issue(s) that could be covered with all Commissioners in a workshop.

Look at your calendar for a Saturday in April .

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

**St. Patrick's Day Reception — Light Refreshment**

**Thursday, March 17, 2011 — 1:00 — 3:00 p.m. -- County Executive's Office**