



## County Executive's Newsletter to the Commission

Mother's Day is May 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Happy Mother's Day!*



### Industrial Relationship – Growing Industry and Business

County Executive Ron Woody

Roane County has been active in industrial/business development and recruitment for a number of years. Roane County's first industrial park was developed in the early 70's and the most recent park is still under development, near I-40, known as the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park.

We have learned over the years that business recruitment and development, and re-industrialization are not based only on building industrial parks, but, equally as important is "building relationships"; building relationships not only with new businesses but with existing businesses; development of partnerships not only with the Roane County business leaders but also with our neighboring counties' leaders and other region leaders.

We have also discovered that success in the region is also success for Roane County.

Roane County recently hosted the first ever Industrial Inventory Summit. The purpose of the Summit was multi-fold, consisting of:

1. Gaining an understanding of not only the existing industrial property inventory located in our industrial parks and to a lesser degree privately held properties
2. Understanding what state of development our industrial parks are in, from a fully built park with infrastructure (Roane County Industrial Park and Horizon Industrial Park) to the most limited developed park (Plateau Partnership Park).
3. Building relationships with a number of industrial recruitment partners, (who we use from time to time and who presented at the recent Summit) including:
  - 1) Tennessee Valley Authority - Aaron Stewart
  - 2) East Tennessee Economic Development Association - Allen Neel
  - 3) Economic and Community Development - Gary Human
  - 4) Department Of Energy – J. T. Howell
  - 5) Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee – Jeff Deardorff, Lawrence Young
  - 6) Oak Ridge Industrial Development Board – Kim Denton, Bill Biloski
  - 7) City of Harriman – Mayor Chris Mason
  - 8) Private Properties – Jane Long, Kingston Mayor Troy Beets
  - 9) Roane Alliance – Leslie Henderson
  - 10) Crossville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce – Ray Evans

The presentation of our partners can be found on our website ([www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org)), Executive Summary #23.

We would like to thank all our presenters and attendees.

#### HHHW Day:

*The annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled at the Midtown Recycling Center on May 5, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

### Five-Point Star Management System

Changes have taken place during March, April and May on the five-point star management system:

Industrial Economic Development and 2013 Budget have been added. Our current focuses are:

1. Recreation/Tourism (8)
2. Sewer Operations/Capital Plan (11)
3. Risk Management (12)
4. Industrial Economic Development (13)
5. 2013 Budget (14)

The numbers in parentheses ( ) reflects the sequential order of the focus. As one can see we are currently at #14.

We are pleased with the progress which has been made with acceptance and approval by the Roane County Commission and our employees as we progress working through our goals. To see more specific details of the 14 primary focuses, please visit our website, [www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org), and click on "County Executive".

### Funding Industrial Infrastructure Assets – Position Statement:

**As part of focus/point (13) Industrial Economic Development, a County Executive's Position Statement was developed in April 2012. The position paper addressed how industrial infrastructure assets should be developed with limited issuance of county debt. See the website, [www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org), for this position statement.**

### Oliver Springs Historical Society:

The Oliver Springs Historical Society is a nonprofit organization comprised of a diverse cross-section of people devoted to the betterment of the town and area through preservation of both buildings and natural features of historical value and interest, as well as preservation of pictures, stories, articles, written and verbal facts, and anecdotal accounts of the town's proud history. The Society meets the first Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Oliver Springs Depot/Library. They annually publish a calendar loaded with pictures and information about the history of the town and the people.

For more information about the **Oliver Springs Historical Society** contact Robbie Underwood at (865)435-0955 or Pat Crowe at (865) 435-0384.

### County Benefits – 401(k)

#### 401(k) Plan (Status of Employee Participation):

<u>Eligible Employees</u>	<u># of Employees Participating</u>	<u>% of Employees Participating</u>
260	168	64%

#### Example of return of investment, or what it costs to have the investment

We pulled one payroll check to see what impact participation in the 401(k) had on the employee's take-home pay. The employee had \$80 in their investment 401(k) account, of which \$40 was the county's contribution, and \$40 was the employee's contribution. The impact on take-home pay was \$30 reduction. So a \$30 investment yielded \$80.

If you have not signed up you still have the opportunity even if you only want to match \$10 per pay period. See Linda Stooksbury.

### PURCHASING MANUAL APPROVED BY COUNTY COMMISSION: (by Lynn Farnham)

The County Commission at its April 9, 2012 meeting approved the Roane County Purchasing Manual as presented in Resolution 04-12-21. The approved manual is published on the County's website or may be obtained in the Purchasing Department.

The newly appointed Purchasing Commission held its first meeting on February 29, 2012 in the County Executive's conference room.

There was a brief period of orientation for the Commission followed by discussions about various purchasing policies and the use of Decision Making Analyses. The Commission then reviewed the proposed Purchasing Manual. After discussion, the Purchasing Commission voted to recommend approval of the Purchasing Manual to the Roane County Commission for adoption. This is the first revision of the Purchasing Manual since its adoption in the 1980's.

The most notable changes in the policies were to raise the dollar amount that requires a purchase order from \$100 to \$500 and to clarify the number of days that is required for a purchase order to be entered into the Purchasing and Accounting system.

Many thanks to the Purchasing Commission members: Ron Woody, Commissioner Nick Forrester, Wade Creswell, Lynne Spires and Doris Thompson

**SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTOR (SMNR):**

In an article in the January 2011 County Executive’s newsletter, we mentioned the Department of Energy (DOE) and its discussion of a Small Modular Nuclear Reactor (SMNR). The local news media and other publications continue to discuss the SMR concept and the potential project location at the TVA site adjacent to the DOE Reservation. The potential site location is the former proposed Clinch River Breeder Reactor (CRBR) site.

TVA, along with Babcock and Wilcox, desires to submit a proposal for the CRBR site. A resolution will be filed for the May Roane County Commission meeting requesting the Roane County Government’s support. The DOE, along with President Obama, desires to further explore the SMR concept as a national policy, and as such is accepting proposals for the construction of an SMR plant.

In the winter of 2010-11, various government leaders including Kingston Mayor Troy Beets and Roane County Executive Ron Woody toured the site. The DOE, and specifically the Oak Ridge Operation, desires to operate the Oak Ridge facility with zero carbon emission (no coal-produced energy) and to accomplish this goal, consideration has been given to proposed a Small Modular Nuclear Reactor for DOE in Oak Ridge.

**Did you know? ...** (by Robert Bailey, County Historian)

...that Rockwood was created as a “Company Town”? A man by the name of John T. Wilder, who was the brigadier general of the 17th Indiana Voluntary Infantry in the Union Army, when passing through this area during the war became very interested in Roane County when he observed the dying of clothes with red ore from the mines near present day Harriman. After scouting many areas in East Tennessee, he chose Roane County due to its coal and iron ore deposits. In 1865, he purchased 928 acres of land in Roane County and in 1867, along with Hiram S. Chamberlain and 5 mid-western capitalists, organized The Roane Iron Company and eventually purchased over 20,000 acres in the area.

The first president of the Roane Iron Company was a man by the name of William O. Rockwood. General Wilder was concerned that the use of his own name for this new furnace site would prejudice the project against local southern sympathizers. Therefore, he directed that the new town be called Rockwood. In 1868, the first blast furnace was constructed. Here, the coal and iron ore were used from the mountain to make pig iron.

In its early days, Rockwood was truly a Company town. Most of the employees were paid in company script which was primarily only accepted at the Company store. The first script was paper script but later they switched to coins. As the Tennessee Ernie Ford country song goes most of the workers at the Roane Iron Company “owed their soul to the Company store.” The company also owned most of the housing that the miners and iron workers lived in. The Roane Iron Company went bankrupt in 1932 marking the end of Rockwood being just a “Company Town.”

**FY13 Budget Progress** by Kaley Walker

Here we are in May and the Budget Committee has been hard at work on the fiscal year 2013 budget for months already. Roane County has 24 active funds in our budget. So far the budget committee has met, discussed, argued and recommended 12 of the funds. It seems we are about ½ way through, however only about 20% of the property tax related funds have been recommended. The General Fund and Capital Fund still remain along with all of the Education related budgets which are still in progress. The budget committee plans on meeting at least three times this month in hopes of having a significant portion of the budget complete before the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2012. Budget committee has recommended:

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>2012 Tax Rate</b>	<b>Recommended 2012 Tax Rate</b>
111 Urban Services Fund	2 Rural Pennies	2 Rural Pennies
116 Solid Waste Fund	3 Countywide Pennies	3 Countywide Pennies
118 Ambulance Fund	1 Countywide Penny	1 Countywide Penny
122 Sheriff Drug Fund	No Tax Money	No Tax Money
123 Recycling Fund	2 Countywide Pennies	2 Countywide Pennies
126 District Attorney General Fund	No Tax Money	No Tax Money
131 Highway Fund	9.5 Countywide Pennies	9.5 Countywide Pennies
151 General Debt Service Fund	14 Countywide Pennies	10 Countywide Pennies
152 Rural Debt Service Fund	14 Pennies all residents except Harriman and OR	14 Pennies all residents except Harriman and OR
156 Education Debt Service Fund	2 Pennies (no OR tax)	2 Pennies (no OR tax)
359 Economic & Community Fund	No Tax Money	No Tax Money
363 D.A. Drug Fund (DTF)	No Tax Money	No Tax Money

**Commission Action April 9, 2012**

- Various resolutions authorizing County Attorney to file lawsuits for overgrown vegetation/accumulation of debris on various properties were adopted.
- Adopted Resolution #04-12-01: Honored Jim Gann for his service to the county and to the community as the Administrator of Roane Medical Center. Mr. Gann has announced his pending retirement.
- Adopted Resolution #04-12-16: Changed a historical tradition which reflected the Commission’s support of Education by allowing proceeds for sale of real property to be placed in Education Capital Fund in lieu of education debt fund.
- Adopted Resolution #04-12-17: In support of a VA Hospital in Harriman
- Adopted Resolution #04-12-21: Adoption of Revised Purchasing Policy with approval of updated Purchasing Manual
- Adopted Resolution #04-12-25: Commission approved acceptance of TVA Foundation money restricted to Swan Pond Recreation Complex in the amount of \$501,571.79. Funds shall be used for the construction of baseball/softball fields along with soccer fields and related amenities.
- A presentation was made to County Executive Woody and the Roane County Commission by Leslie Henderson, President and CEO of the Roane Alliance, of a check in the amount of \$567,500.00 from the Industrial Development Board for the sale of RRBTP property to Volkswagen and Sam Weaver (Proton Power, Inc.)

**May Meetings and Events:**

- May 1, 2012 - Back Tax Committee – 6:30 p.m. (Chancery)
- May 3, 2012 – Recreation Advisory Board – 5:00 p.m. (The Cottage at Roane County Park)  
Environmental Review Board – 6:00 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Courthouse)
- May 7, 2012 - Sheriff’s Liaison Committee – 6:00 p.m.
- May 8, 2012 - Fire Board – 6:00 p.m.
- May 13, 2012 - Mother’s Day
- May 14, 2012 – Public Hearing on Zoning – 6:00 p.m.  
Roane County Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- May 15, 2012 – Beer Board – 5:30 p.m. (*if needed*)
- May 16, 2012 – Board of Zoning Appeals - 6:00 p.m. (*if needed*)  
Planning Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- May 17, 2012 - Budget Committee – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- May 21, 2012 - Emergency Services Committee – 6:00 p.m.
- May 24, 2012 - County Board of Public Utilities – 6:00 p.m.
- May 28, 2012 - COURTHOUSE CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY
- May 30, 2012 - Budget Committee – 6: 00 p.m.

Check the website [www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org) or more information on Committee meetings.

**2013 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes:**

As the Budget Committee meets and recommends the 2013 Budget, the related minutes are available on the county website, [www.roanegov.org](http://www.roanegov.org).

**Find past articles about Employee Benefits**

<b>Retirement</b>	October 2011 November 2011
<b>Vacation/Sick Leave</b>	December 2011
<b>401(k)</b>	February 2012 March 2012 April 2012 May 2012

**County Government Day 2012:**

On April 10-11, 2012 the Tennessee County Services Association hosted County Government Day in Nashville. The Roane County Commission had an opportunity to meet with legislators and receive an update on legislative activity. The following Commissioners attended the event: Randy Ellis, James Brummett, Carolyn Granger, Bobby Collier, Ron Berry, and Nick Forrester.

**Dial 2-1-1:**

2-1-1 is a free, easy-to-remember number that connects individuals with vital community resources they need. Whether you are looking for a volunteer opportunity or need assistance finding food or shelter, 2-1-1 can locate the services you need. Trained specialists listen to callers and assess their situation, help them find the answers to their questions, and provide them with the information they need.

**The Courthouse will be closed on Monday, May 28, 2012 in observance Of Memorial Day.**

**If you have an item of interest related to our county, please submit to Sheila or me. Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.**

**Ron Woodv**