



County Executive's Newsletter to the Commission

www.roanegov.org

November 2013 –

Issue #39

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Veteran's Day, November 11th and Thanksgiving, November 28th & 29th
Courthouse Closed
Commission Meeting scheduled on November 18, 2013

October Agenda

By County Executive Ron Woody

Looking back at the last week in September and the month of October many meetings were attended and conducted related to moving Roane County forward. Just to name a few:

- TVA InvestPrep review and interview for grant evaluations regarding the Jones Road site at Roane Regional Business and Technology Park (preparing for industrial growth)
- EDA Loan closing (supporting local businesses)
- Oak Ridge Emergency Management Conference (insuring safety for workers and residents)
- Property/Solid Waste Committee meeting (allocating space at Courthouse and Health Department to improve delivery of service along with continuing support for the UT Extension construction project)
- Proposed airport at old K-25 site
- Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (preparing industrial property of DOE to be used for industrial development) Quarterly meeting
- Swan Pond Sport Complex (development and recreation opportunities for current residents and improved tourism)
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (insuring that we are prepared for emergency response and help eliminate known risk)
- Oak Ridge Reservation Community Alliance (identifying, eliminating and preparing for potential risk relative to the DOE facilities and activities) Quarterly meeting
- East Tennessee Economic Council (focusing on growth for the Anderson, Roane and Oak Ridge communities) 7:30am Friday Oak Ridge meetings
- East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (focusing on meeting community needs of housing, feeding, transportation of the elderly and social needy) Monthly meeting
- East Tennessee Development District (community planning, infrastructure planning and grant administration)
- Tennessee Department of Transportation (meeting with Commissioner of Transportation regarding local road projects)
- Tennessee County Services Association (lessons learned: revenue enhancement issues of situs tax of sales, mixed drink and water usage tax at point of sale) Annual meeting
- Uranium Processing Facility cookout (Tennessee's largest construction project)
- Solution Summit (discussion of jail issues)
- Budget Committee (working on out financial plan) Monthly meeting
- Association of Tennessee Valley Governments (continuing to work with TVA on understanding energy needs plans for new energy source of small modular reactor) Quarterly meeting
- Department of Veteran's Affairs (working to better serve veterans)
- Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association (continuing to learn and apply need accounting requirement of financial reporting) Annual meeting
- County Commission meeting (approving and implementing policy direction of the County Commission) Monthly meeting
- Student Government Day (preparing students for civic/social leadership)
- Industrial Development Board (working on job industry) Monthly meeting

Progress Continues in Roane County.

Veterans' Service Office

Roane County is planning to improve our service to our very deserving veterans. Historically, Roane County has distributed limited funds to four different County Service Officers (CSO). The state Office of Veterans' Affairs has requested that Roane County, along with other counties in our region, consider improving services to our veterans. After reviewing our limited services and the need for additional services in Roane County, the Commission is working to improve our veterans' services.

Resolution #10-13-07 was adopted at the October Commission meeting allocating Courthouse space. The Commission will have an opportunity in November to establish a departmental budget. More on this service can be found on the county website under County Executive- DMA- DMA#14 Veterans' Service Office. More to come. . .

Thank You Bobby Collier

The citizens of Roane County would like to extend our gratitude to the past president of Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA), Commissioner Bobby Collier, for his outstanding service and leadership to our community and across the state.

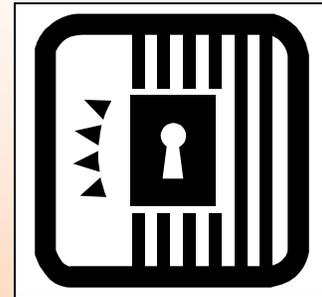
Congratulations Carolyn Granger

We would like to welcome Carolyn Granger to her new leadership position. Commissioner Granger has now been elected as Secretary in TCSA. She also serves on the Board of Directors for TCSA. Congratulations, Carolyn. We know you will represent us well.

Jail Solutions Summit

In mid-October, Executive Woody, Chief Assistant Jack Jinks, State Representative Kent Calfee and Andy Kirkland attended a Jail Solutions Summit hosted by Knox and Anderson Counties. Over sixty (60) attendees including District Attorneys, Bond/Bail men, County Executives/Mayors, State Legislators, Sheriffs, Jail Administrators and Department of Mental Health officials met in Knoxville to brainstorm on finding a jail overcrowding solution and rising healthcare costs. Problems identified included:

1. More women incarcerated
2. Prescription drug abuse
3. Meth usage
4. More crime stemming from drug usage
5. Inadequate payment to house felony inmates
6. Healthcare costs
7. Repeat offenders
8. Mental illness



Solutions or alternatives to incarceration by the use of/establishment of:

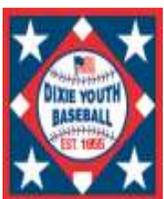
1. Ankle monitors- will not prevent really bad criminals from committing really bad crimes
2. Bonding (but not on "Own Recognizance")
3. Drug courts
4. Knox County Safety Center- individuals are not incarcerated thus still have insurance through SSI &

TennCare

Reuse of DOE Properties

Executive Woody helped facilitate the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) discussions of reuse of DOE land and personal property. With the planned reduction of DOE facilities, budgets and activities, communities will try to transition their federal properties. Oak Ridge Reservation revitalization program was established with the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) in 1995. Much success has been accomplished over the years but current federal policies of transfer of property have for all practical purposes stopped property transfer and revitalization of DOE sites. Executive Woody is both a member of ECA and a board member of CROET.

Dixie Youth State Baseball Tournament Coming July 2014



The Tennessee Dixie Youth Baseball board of directors met Saturday, October 12, 2013 in Springfield, TN. Roane County was selected to be the host of the 2014 Dixie Youth Baseball State Tournaments for the 5/6 year old and 7/8 year old leagues. The tournaments will be July 2-6, 2014 and will feature 32 teams with 12 players per team. Dixie Youth Baseball National Director Tony Brown and Assistant Director Tennessee Dixie Youth Baseball Alan Reed represented Roane County at the meeting. Roane County looks forward to hosting the tournament, the players and their families. "Thank you" to Tony and Alan for your support and influence in marketing Roane County.

Founder's Day
November 5, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m.
Second floor of the Courthouse
Plan to attend as we honor Roane County's Treasures

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EMPLOYEE CONSIDERATION

FSA- FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Enrollment for the Flexible Spending Account (FSA), for the calendar year 2014, will start October 18, 2013 and will continue through November 15, 2013. FSA is an IRS approved program that allows employees to set aside pre-tax dollars for medical and dependent care expenses. The purpose of a FSA is to help employees save money on their income taxes. Employees that are currently enrolled in the 2013 plan, and any employee that would like to participate for the year 2014, will need to complete an enrollment form. See Linda Stooksbury (717-4113) for more information.

HANDICAP PARKING AT THE COURTHOUSE

Due to an increased need for handicap parking in the Courthouse parking lot, Building Maintenance will be allocating more of the curb slots to handicap parking. The 30 minute parking slots will be moved to the first row of the central parking slots. Please be on the look-out for these changes. We would ask that employees who are able would park in the outer parking spaces and leave the closer spaces for the elderly and customers of our respective offices.



Did you know about . . . Poplar Creek Seminary?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

A Tennessee Historical Commission marker for the Poplar Creek Seminary was dedicated on October 9th, 2013. The marker is located off Highway 58 in the former Wheat Community which is now in the Oak Ridge part of Roane County. The George Jones Baptist Church is visible behind the marker. The marker reads:

"Poplar Creek Seminary" Wheat Community citizens established the Poplar Creek Seminary in 1877 as a center of higher education for area children. The seminary's name was changed in 1886 to Roane College, chartered by the state of Tennessee as an accredited college. At its peak the school enrolled 200 K through 12 and college students. In 1908, Roane College closed, replaced by the new Wheat High School near what is today called Highway 58. Wheat High School closed in 1942 when the surrounding community became part of the World War II Manhattan Project. "



The first president of Poplar Creek Seminary was W.H. Crawford who was also a teacher. In 1878, land was given by J.W. and Martha J. Pyatt to the Trustees of the Poplar Creek Seminary. Those trustees were D.H. Gallaher, James W. Watson, J.F. Browder, W.T. Gallaher, George Jones, J.W. Pyatt and A.J. Burum (secretary). In 1879, George and Lucinda Jones gave 200 acres to the school which was to be "applied solely to the benefit of said institution."

In 1886, Poplar Creek Seminary became Roane College. Six Trustees of Poplar Creek Seminary made an application for a Charter of Incorporation with the State of Tennessee to create a school of higher learning. It had the power to "confer degrees and graduate students after passing satisfactorily through the course of study." The Board of Trustees was to consist of representatives of the three denominations located in the community (Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist). There was not to be a majority of any of the denominations.

I have a personal connection to Roane College, in that my great-grandfather, Richard A. Ladd, attended there in the mid-1880s. He took the Normal Course of Study which was required to teach in the Tennessee public schools. After completing his studies, he became a teacher in the Roane County school system.

In 1908, Roane College became a part of the Roane County education system, and the name was changed to Wheat High School. Until 1916, Wheat High School was still under the control of the Roane College Board of Trustees.

Wheat High School closed for the Christmas Holidays in 1942 and never reopened. As a result, the students of families who were still in the area were bussed to Dyllis.

If you have an item of interest related to our county, please submit to Melanie or me. Deadline for submission is the 20TH of the month.
Ron

Residential Competition with West Knoxville

Recent data was provided regarding the Department of Energy (DOE) residential changes since 2008. Roane County lost 262 DOE workers, Anderson County lost 210 and Knox County gained 436 DOE employees living in these respective communities. Although we may not know the specific meaning of this data, we can draw a few conclusions. First, it appears that new employees, of the DOE and related contractors, are not considering Roane County as a place to reside or if considering Roane County choosing another option. Second, the total workforce of DOE and related contractors has declined and we can anticipate additional decreases. In conclusion, what we need to consider is where do we want to be in the next five years and beyond.

In Memoriam Debbie Terry

Deborah Jean "Debbie" Terry, age 54 of Kingston, passed away Wednesday September 25, 2013 at Parkwest Medical Center. She was employed by Roane County Government having served 14 ½ years in the Accounting Department. She was a devoted Christian, member, and pianist at The First Christian Church in Harriman. Debbie is preceded in death by her father William Walter Raines and infant son Phillip Bunch

Survivors include:

Loving Husband of over 9 years David Terry of Kingston

Daughters: Jennifer Evans & Husband John of Kingston
Rufena Jean Bunch of Kingston

Sons: DeWayne & wife Tara Bunch of Springfield, TN
Jesse Walker of Harriman

Mother Mary Ann Raines

Sisters: Kay Hebert & Husband Daniel of Madisonville
Rhonda Palmer and Husband Ricky of Tellico Plains
Susan Gill & Husband Jason of Connersville, IN

Brothers Donnie & wife Brenda Raines

John Paul & wife Casie Raines

Nathaniel & wife Lianne Raines

Grandchildren: Jacob and Joey York

Chloe, Sadie, and Little Jesse Walker

Alyssa Evans

Gabriella Deborah

Olivia and Kayleigh Leach

Jorga Sue

Elias Bunch

Debbie is also survived by several nieces, nephews, extended family members and special friends. Debbie's quiet and patient spirit will be missed by all who knew her.

Oak Ridge Emergency Management Forum

Emergency Management Director Scott Stout and Executive Woody attended the Oak Ridge Emergency Management Forum at the end of September. The program was sponsored by the U.S. DOE and the Tennessee Energy Management Agency. The program topic was Back to Basics: Partnerships in Energy Management. Partnerships save lives and include not only federal and state government agencies but the local city and county government, and as important, the many volunteer agencies of amateur radio operators, American Red Cross, volunteer fire departments and first responders, as well as the local faith-based organizations and our diligent neighbors. To all who participate we say, "Thank you" and encourage the continued planning.

The Courthouse will be closed:

Monday, November 11, 2013
in observance of the Veterans' Day holiday.

Thursday, November 28 & Friday, November 29, 2013
in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Tuesday, December 24 & Wednesday, December 25, 2013
in observance of the Christmas holiday.

November Meetings and Events:

Meetings may be scheduled after this Newsletter is published so please check www.roanegov.org for more info

18 th	County Commission	CH	7:00pm
5 th	Founder's Day	CH	6:00pm
12 th	Fire Board	CH	6:00pm
14 th	Budget Committee	CH	6:30pm
20 th	Planning Commission	CH	7:00pm
26 th	County Board of Public Utilities	CH	5:30pm

No ERB meeting this month

2014 Holiday Schedule

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<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DAY/DAYS OFF</u>
NEW YEAR'S DAY '14	JANUARY 1	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	JANUARY 20	MONDAY	MONDAY
PRESIDENT'S DAY	FEBRUARY 17	MONDAY	MONDAY
GOOD FRIDAY	APRIL 18	FRIDAY	FRIDAY
MEMORIAL DAY	MAY 26	MONDAY	MONDAY
INDEPENDENCE DAY	JULY 4	FRIDAY	FRIDAY
STATE PRIMARY & COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION	AUGUST 7	THURSDAY	THURSDAY
LABOR DAY	SEPTEMBER 1	MONDAY	MONDAY
STATE GENERAL ELECTION	NOVEMBER 4	TUESDAY	TUESDAY
VETERAN'S DAY	NOVEMBER 11	TUESDAY	TUESDAY
THANKSGIVING DAY AND HOLIDAY	NOVEMBER 27 NOVEMBER 28	THURSDAY FRIDAY	THURSDAY FRIDAY
CHRISTMAS EVE	DECEMBER 24	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY
CHRISTMAS DAY	DECEMBER 25	THURSDAY	THURSDAY
DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS*	DECEMBER 26	FRIDAY	FRIDAY

*(We are getting the day after Christmas off because Mr. Woody decided to take back Columbus Day, October 13th, and give us the day after Christmas.) This decision is only for the 2014-year holiday.

OES Participates in Watts Bar Shelter Drill

By Scott Stout, Acting Director OES

The Roane Office of Emergency Services (OES) participated in a Watts Bar shelter drill on October 16th at Roane State Community College. This drill would have been a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) graded exercise, however, the government shut down prevented this from happening. The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) supported the (OES) with a walk through of the drill to identify strengths and weaknesses. The Hazmat Team set up the gross decontamination tent and radiological surveying equipment for the walk through. The American Red Cross, Roane County Health Department, Tennessee Department of Health, Roane State Police, OES EMS Division and the Communication Division of OES all participated in this drill. Areas of concern were identified and are being addressed.

Budget Reference Notebook (BRN)

The Accounting and Budget Department continues to compile information for the BRN. We would request our elected officers and department heads to consider submitting information for the BRN.

Our goal is to prepare a document that will assist our legislative body, the public, and our departments to more clearly understand the operations of our government operations.

Our website, www.roanegov.org, has a template on the Count Executive's page. For more information, contact Kaley Walker, Director of Accounts and Budgets at kwalker@roanegov.org or 717-4118.