

County Executive's Report to Commission

March 10, 2014

2015 Budget: Budget Committee has begun work on the 2015 Budget with recommendations for the three (3) debt service funds.

Don Wicks: Former County Commissioner Don Wicks served from 1986-1998 and again from 2002-2006 and is currently under hospice care.

School Liaison Committee Meeting: The School Liaison Committee appointed Ron Berry, Wade McCullough, Gary Aytes and Ron Woody to a subcommittee to meet with the State Department of Education to gain a better understanding of the Roane County Education BEP earnings. The subcommittee traveled to Nashville last Friday, March 7th. County Executive Woody also met the previous week with TACIR regarding fiscal capacity (wealth) of the county. More will be discussed and recorded in the next School Liaison Committee meeting scheduled for March 27, 2014.

Delinquent Tax Property: Woody discussed with Commission the status of county-owned property which has been acquired through the Delinquent Property Tax process. Woody indicated that a lengthy report would be provided in the next few months regarding the process the county is using to acquire, manage and dispose of delinquent tax property owned by the county.

Currently, the county has taken the property which has been voted on by the commission with minimum bids and been selling it on GovDeals. The county is assuring the bidder that the county would take care of all the property tax (city or county) and filing the deeds with the Register of Deeds. Currently, four (4) properties have been sold, paid for and deeds prepared. Two (2) properties have been sold, paid for and deeds are being prepared. An additional three (3) properties have been sold, but not paid for due to recent sales.

The county continues to refine the sales process. The county has been asked by one city to pay \$908 of city back taxes on an individual property. The county is still working through the city back taxes which are owed.

Alliance Report: Executive Woody deferred to Alliance CEO/President Leslie Henderson to present the Annual Alliance Report.

ECA Meeting: Woody reported a recent Washington, D.C. trip with Scott Stout related to the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA). Roane County is a member with membership fees and travel costs paid by a grant. The main purpose of the recent meeting was a discussion of DOE land transfer, environmental clean-up, small modular reactors (SMR's) and activities at the WIPP site in Carlsbad, NM. Oak Ridge Mayor Tom Beehan is the chair of ECA.

Y-12 Contract: The Y-12 contract has been under protest from the existing contractors against the newly awarded contractor, Consolidated Nuclear Services (CNS). The third appeal was upheld for the new CNS contract last week. It appears that the labor force at Y-12 will be reduced.

Mixed Drink Tax: Woody informed the Commission of a 1980 law which instituted a Mixed Drink Tax requiring 50% of the revenue earned to be paid to the General Purpose School Fund. Roane County government booked the schools' 50% to the wrong fund and will be making the adjustment within the next 30 days. The city governments apparently did not submit their 50% to education and the school board may have to request these funds from the cities.