

# County Executive's Newsletter to the County Commission



Roane County Government

## "Preparing to Achieve"

By Ron Woody, County Executive

During the summer and fall of an election year, your county government often slows in their activities as members are running for elections and as the commission upon start of a new term begins organizing with the adoption of the Rules of Procedure and committee appointments. During the September commission meeting, the Rules of Procedures and other organizational resolutions were adopted. During the October commission meeting, the new committee assignments were approved. A committee roster for October 2014 to December 2015 is located on the county website on the County Commission page. Additionally, listed within the roster is the statutory requirement for the existence of the committee, as applicable, or the resolution establishing the committee. Outside of these statutory requirements, committees may be internal or recommended advisory committees to the commission.

As the committees begin convening, I would recommend that each committee develop three (3) to five (5) goals or objectives for the committee in the coming year. I would also recommend the committee minutes not only record action items of the committee, but also note the members present, members absent, others present and discussion items whether acted upon or not.

Committee work often begins a process of where resolutions are drafted and recommendations made to the commission. I would stress that if significant action is needed by the commission, then the committee could recommend the calling of a commission work session. The commission has discussed having additional work sessions and the channel of recommendation from the committees may prompt a work session of the commission.

We are preparing a series of article related to county government for our local newspapers. Upon submission of these articles, we will publish them on the website under County Executive.

"Changing Government through Research, Study and Analysis"

Volume 5, Issue 11

November 2014

Thanksgiving Day– Nov 27th



### Inside this issue:

RC United Way Update	2
Upcoming Holidays	2
Did You Know About...?	3
Highway Department Update	3
Ambulance Service Operations	4
New EMS Director	4
New HazMat Class	5
Upcoming Meetings	5

*Gratitude makes sense  
of our past, brings  
peace for today, and  
creates a vision for  
tomorrow.*

*~ Melody Beattie*

# Employee Consideration

## Upcoming Holidays

Nov. 4th– State Election

Nov. 11th– Veterans' Day

Nov. 27th & 28th–  
Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 24th, 25th & 26th–  
Christmas Holiday

Congratulations

### **Darrell Williams,**

VP of Business Development for the Roane Alliance, on being designated as a Certified Economic Developer by the UT Center for Industrial Services.

Congratulations, Darrell!

## Roane County United Way Update by Dina Jackson, Executive Director

Tis the season... the season to give thanks. As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, family and friends are making plans to celebrate and to give thanks for that which they are grateful. As the Director for the Roane County United Way (RCUW), I would like to thank you for your support of an organization that has been an anchor in our community for 59 years and continues to look for ways to make Roane County a sustainable and more successful community.

And how does the Roane County United Way have an impact on the success of our community? By fostering conditions that support a healthy environment for economic growth. Stable employment, good wages, established businesses, and technology development are all good indicators that a community is strong; and these areas must be nurtured in order for the community to sustain a healthy environment. As a community, it is also important to address social issues such as serious crime related to illegal drug use or high unemployment due to lack of an educated/skilled workforce. Successfully addressing these issues is paramount to ensuring the long-term stability of the community and continued economic growth.

That is why the Roane County United Way has expanded its efforts with a business model that focuses on creating long-lasting change in our community through Education, Financial stability and Health/Well Being initiatives. Under this new business model, we believe that the RCUW partners that provide services to address these critical areas will have more of an impact on making our community a healthy community.

The Roane County United Way is driven by accountability and effectiveness, and members of the community are encouraged to participate and advocate. We ask stakeholders from the community at the city/county government level, businesses, individuals, environmental and community groups to work together cooperatively to support the RCUW mission which is to make lasting changes to our community and to provide the for basic human needs of community residents needing assistance. Working hand in hand, we are... "United".

We are approaching our Community Investment time of the year, in which we solicit and receive applications from our RCUW partners requesting funding to support various services provided to the community. As always, our community involvement in this process continues, with volunteer panels reviewing the applications submitted to ensure goals are being met and your investment (RCUW donation) is wisely spent in Roane County.

If you already contribute to the Roane County United Way, we appreciate your support. If you haven't, we encourage you to do so this year. And as we move into the holiday season, take a moment to reflect on the lives we share as a community and how you can make this a better place to live. Thank you, Dina Jackson, Executive Director Roane County United Way



## Did You Know About . . . Lewis and Clark?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's expedition from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and back had a Roane County connection. In the fall of 1803 four soldiers from Fort Southwest Point were recruited to travel with them on their trek which took two years to complete. Three of them were from Captain John Campbell's 2nd Infantry, those being Privates Hugh Hall, Thomas Proctor Howard, and Corporal Richard Warfington (Worthington, Worbindington, etc.). Hall was originally from

Pennsylvania. Howard was from Massachusetts, and Warfington was from North Carolina. Private John Potts (who was born in Germany) was recruited from Capt. Purdey's Company. Warfington was the only corporal in the group going on this expedition. He became well respected by the captains in the group. However, Hugh Hall stole from his comrades and received fifty lashes as punishment. Clark noted that Hall drank and was one of the most adventuresome of the party.

The Roane County  
Courthouse  
Business Offices and  
Courts  
will be closed on

**November 4**  
Election Day

**November 11**  
Veterans' Day

**November 27 & 28**  
Thanksgiving

*YOU ARE INVITED*

*To attend the Eighth Annual*

## ***FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION***

*THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014*

*6:00 pm*

*In the Circuit Courtroom*

*2nd floor of Roane County Courthouse*

### ***2014 Roane Treasures:***

*Jerry Goddard*

*Clarence Nelson*

*Teddy Lee Morton*

*Nathan Hickey*

*J. Polk Cooley*

***Golden Treasure: Lieselotte "Lotte" O'Brien***

## Highway Department Update

Happy Fall Y'all!!! As the weather turns cooler we are continuing the process of getting ready for....SNOW! We are making sure that our equipment and our snow/ice routes are ready in case we get bad weather.

If you have been out and about at any of the great events and festivals in Roane County we hope you have noticed our Keep Roane Litter Free booth and seen our "litter critter" walking around, taking pictures, and shaking hands. We believe that in addition to being out picking up litter that we also need to bring awareness to the problem of litter in our area. We are active in the Green Team and, once again, if you would like us to speak at a function or attend an event then give us a call at 882-9782.

If you have any items of interest for the newsletter, please submit to Melanie at [melanie.townsend@roanecountytn.gov](mailto:melanie.townsend@roanecountytn.gov) by the 20th of the month.

~Ron

## **Ambulance Service Operations**

Roane County owns and operates a 24hr/day/365 day/year ambulance service which responds to E911 emergency calls and convalescent runs from nursing home to hospital and hospital to hospital. This service operates with four (4) 24 hour trucks with two (2) back up vehicles in case one of the first-line trucks are out of commission due to vehicle service or repair.

When all four vehicles are in station, the county is in status "4." When three of the four trucks are out of station on call, the county is in status "1." If all trucks are in service on calls, the department goes to status "0" and the next emergency call is then dispatched from another county.

Due to the need to have trucks available for emergency calls, the ambulance department does not schedule convalescent runs which would put the department below status "2." This maintains two ambulances for emergency calls.

What makes balancing the ambulance status and service between emergency and convalescent runs difficult? The county generates revenue when the service is being used. Thus the scheduled convalescent runs are the bread and butter of the financial operations of the ambulance department. Having ambulances waiting on emergency calls generates no revenue until the call is made and even then, there is no guarantee of revenue

Balancing the use of ambulances to

generate revenue with the need to have ambulances available for emergency calls is further exacerbated by service needs and equipment breakdowns. A solution to help insure vehicles are available for emergency calls would be to add another truck and crew to the fleet, but it must be remembered that no significant revenue increase would be realized but an additional \$400,000 in expenditures would be added to the department budget.

Commission must evaluate and understand the risks and challenges of ambulance department operation. No matter how many ambulances and crews a service may have, there is always the possibility and probability of status "0."

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## **Tim Suter Hired as New Emergency Medical Services Director**

The Office of Emergency Services welcomes Mr. Tim Suter as Roane County's new Emergency Medical Services Director. Tim comes to Roane County Ambulance Department with nearly 20 years in the Knox County EMS private market, serving in the capacity of Paramedic, Marketing Director, General/Operations Manager, and EMS Director. Tim has a Bachelor of Business Administration and is a Certified Paramedic. He is also a Certified Ambulance Administrator and the Vice-Chair of the East Tennessee Regional Communication Center Council.

Tim graduated from RCHS in 1985 and took his first EMS job with the Roane County Ambulance Service in 1988. He has two (2) children, Emilee and Gage. He and his kids attend Faith Promise Church in Knoxville. Tim enjoys golf, kayaking, fishing, spending time with his kids and coaching youth baseball and basketball.

In 1997, Tim was selected as an American Ambulance Association Premier Provider and in 2003 was named the Multiple Sclerosis New Volunteer of the Year for the East Tennessee Region.

Tim plans to use his knowledge and level of expertise to reconstruct an EMS Service that employees and the community can have confidence in. We would like to welcome Tim back to the Roane County EMS and look forward to working with him in the coming days.

## New HazMat Class Provided by Roane County OES

On October 6th through the 17th, Roane County Office of Emergency Services held a TEMA Hazardous Materials Operations class. Chuck Hiatt, Roane County OES, served as lead instructor for this new class. This class has just been completely redesigned by TEMA.

The new Hazardous Materials Operations class is a 40 hour long intensive class to teach emergency personnel defensive operation practices. The class put on by Roane County Office of Emergency Services was the first such class to be taught as a night class. TEMA had expressed great interest in how the class did, and due to the success of Roane County's class, TEMA says

they will continue to allow night classes to be taught across the state as needed.

Roane County offered this class at night in order to offer the volunteer fire departments the same opportunity to attend training as full time firefighters. This class finished with 8 students, 4 from Kingston City Fire Department, 2 from Harriman Fire Department, 1 from Wartburg Fire Department, and 1 TEMA District Coordinator. All of the students passed the final 50 question test with a 90% or better.

Roane County Office of Emergency Services also had several guest instructors that played a huge role in

the success of the class. The following served as guest instructors:

- Deputy Chief Larry Lewis from ORNL Fire Department,
- Training Officer Danny Parker from ORNL Fire Department,
- Training Officer Steve Payne from Y-12 Fire Department,
- Deputy Chief Chris South from Crossville City Fire Department,
- Chuck Hiatt from Roane County Office of Emergency Services as lead instructor.

More information is available about the class in the front page article in the Roane County News from October 17-19, 2014.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
November 3rd	Tourism Committee	Alliance	5:00 pm
November 3rd	Industrial Liaison Cmte	Alliance	6:00 pm
November 4th	<b>Courthouse Closed</b>	Election Day	
November 6th	Budget Committee	CR	4:00 pm
November 6th	Founders' Day	CCR	6:00 pm
November 10th	Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
November 11th	<b>Courthouse Closed</b>	Veterans' Day	
November 13th	Risk Management Cmte	OES	6:00 pm
November 13th	Emergency Services Cmte	OES	7:00 pm
November 17th	Sheriff's Liaison Cmte	QCR	6:30 pm
November 18th	PUB	WWP	5:30 pm
November 18th	Fire Board	QCR	6:30 pm
November 19th	Planning Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
November 20th	ERB	CR	6:00 pm
November 25th	Road Committee	QCR	6:30 pm
November 27 & 28	<b>Courthouse Closed</b>	Thanksgiving	



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