



County Executive's Newsletter to the Commission

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Happy 4th of July!

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IDENTIFIED ISSUES By County Executive Ron Woody

We have written extensively over the last three years about the financial affairs of our county and practices and policies that are in place to help the legislative body and the Executive's office manage the county's resources. As we manage the financial affairs and services provided to our citizens we continually try to look into the future and identify the opportunities and challenges before us.

During the 2014 Budget Committee meetings each month we reviewed our concerns/challenges, good news, neutral issues, and future plan. Our list is not all-inclusive as we attempt to identify issues. The following summarizes what we have identified as areas of which the Commission and Executive must be aware:

Concerns/Challenges:

- Future capital funding - Jail, Office of Emergency Services, and Swan Pond Recreation Complex
- School Resource Officer – potential expansion of services
- Loss of sales tax impact with reduction of TVA contracts and employees as the ash recovery operation is being completed
- Loss of sales tax impact as the Department of Energy's environmental management budgets are reduced
- Loss of Hall Income Tax funds with change in state law
- Over-crowding issues at the Roane County Jail that have increased operational and capital costs
- Fee offices' loss of revenue
- Need for Human Resource staff to manage hiring and termination practices along with employee benefit issues. Roane County has no Human Resource Office.
- Flat state gasoline tax supporting increased highway operational costs
- Employee compensation - Excluding school personnel, employees have had one 2% raise over the past five (5) years
- School financial management - as local revenues remain flat and state revenue declines as student population declines
- Impacts of Affordable Health Care Act
- Property Assessment values appear to be declining which may be the first time in decades. This directly impacts property tax revenue at the current tax rate.

Good News:

- The capital budget plan is working well and has allowed the county to meet many capital needs without borrowing money as these needs were funded in the past.
- Riley Creek Campground is providing a valuable service to Roane citizens and tourism without a cost to the Roane taxpayer.
- Ambulance operations have continued to improve
- Development continues in the Midtown community
- The Federal project of the rebuilding of Y-12 with the Uranium Processing Facility should have a very positive impact on Roane County
- TVA and Babcock & Wilcox's development of the Old Clinch River site with a small modular reactor should have a positive impact

Neutral:

- Non-profit contributions remain the same
- Cost of the county planning contract with ETDD remains the same after the state abolished the State Planning Office

Plans going forward:

- Debt service budget should be stable
- Capital investment outside of large projects appears to be adequately funded
- Employee compensation needs to be addressed
- Changes in TCRS (Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution)

As we continue into the next year, the Budget Committee will continue to review our list of concerns/ challenges and opportunities, and we anticipate making changes to our list as we solve and address these issues and as other issues develop over time.

The FY 2014 County Budget

By Ron Woody, County Executive

The Budget Committee has completed their work on the 2014 Budget with the filing of the Appropriation, Tax, and Non-Profit resolutions for the July Commission meeting and consideration for a July Commission vote.

Outside of the recalibration of the debt taxes in 2012 Budget, it appears we will have another No Increase tax budget.

The economic recession continues in Roane County and as it has often been said due to Roane County heavily relying on federal institutions, "Roane County is the last into a national recession and then the last out of the recession." We hope to have a financial recovery in 2014.

TVA Developing Lakeshore Park, Fulfilling Public Recreation Commitments

In March, TVA began the first phase of construction at Lakeshore Park, which is located off of Swan Pond Circle Road. In a little over three months, TVA has developed a series of paved walking trails, installed three fishing piers, a couple of courtesy docks, and picnic and overlook areas. This month construction began on a restroom facility on the far end of the peninsula. In the fall, TVA will kick-off phase two of the project, which includes a boat ramp, a footbridge that spans the east embayment, and the continuation of paved walking trails along the middle and north embayments. TVA will also develop wetlands and a wildlife habitat area. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by Spring of 2015.

In addition to the recreational amenities TVA is providing, it is partnering with Roane County on the design for future ball fields in the Swan Pond area. The ball fields will be developed and maintained by Roane County and will be a great complement to the county's existing public park and recreational areas.

Welcome Volkswagen!

Volkswagen Group of America, with local facility Senior Manager John Kutz, hosted an Open House, Tour and Ribbon Cutting on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at their new distribution facility in the Roane Regional Business and Technology Park. A group of Volkswagen employees from across the nation attended, as well as Axel Shultz-Heuermann, Head of the Supply Chain VW Group who flew in from Germany, and Anu Goel, Vice-President of Parts and Vehicle Logistics, from their corporate Michigan office. Tennessee and Roane County delegations welcomed and thanked the VW Corporation for their commitment to Roane County and Tennessee. Speakers were Tennessee Deputy Governor Claude Ramsey, State Senator Ken Yager, State Representative Kent Calfee, and Roane County Executive Ron Woody. Woody's remarks can be found on the county website: www.roanegov.org.

Roane County welcomes Annie's Catering to Roane County.

Anna and Sam Seat are newcomers to Roane County and have worked with the County's Economic Development Administration loan program to buy and continue to operate Junior's Restaurant in Rockwood. They promise to continue many lasting traditions at Junior's, but also to add a few new surprises. In addition to continuing the existing restaurant, they will also be doing catering for events in the area.

Go by and welcome them to Roane County and help keep small business alive and well in Roane County!

Articles on the Schools and Roane County FY2014 Budget

On the county website under County Executive, one can find Executive Summaries dealing with various subjects. **Executive Summaries dealing with the Schools and the FY2014 Budget are: #32-Funding Education in Roane County, #33-Enhancing School Safety in Roane County, #34-Roane County Schools Operations – Joint Meeting, and #35-FY2014 County Budget.**

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TVA Continues to Achieve Milestones, Make Significant Project on Ash Recovery

TVA continues to make significant progress on the recovery and clean-up of the Kingston Ash Recovery site. The project is ahead of budget and on schedule to be completed November 2014. The end of June marked the achievement of two critical milestones of the project. The first milestone was the removal of the last section of ash from the middle embayment, which was placed in the containment cell. The second milestone was the placement of the first section of liner on a segment of the containment cell. The liner will eventually cover the entire containment cell and then it will be covered by two layers of clay and topsoil and finally seeded with grass.

TVA continues to work close with Roane County, Environmental Protection Agency, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on its clean-up efforts, and remains committed to environmentally and aesthetically restoring the surrounding land.

Did you know about. . . .

The murder of Pony Cash?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

The murder of Oliver Springs Marshal, Henry J. "Pony" Cash, by William West in 1904 created an interesting legal question. Do you try the murderer in the county from which he fired the fatal shot? Or do you try him in the county in which the victim drops dead? This is what happened in this unusual case.

Oliver Springs sits where three counties (Roane, Anderson and Morgan) come together. William West fired the fatal shot from the Anderson County side while Pony Cash was killed on the Roane County side. Finally it was decided that the trial would be heard in Roane County since Pony was murdered there. However, many depositions in the case file always asked the question of where William West and Pony Cash were located when the fatal event occurred.

Pony Cash and his six year old son were on their way to hear Ralph Bingham, who was a well-known speaker at the time, when he was shot four times by West. He was probably killed almost instantly as he died without speaking. The trial of William West went forward in Roane County and he was convicted and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

Pony Cash is buried in the Oliver Springs Cemetery (which is located in Roane County!).

Congratulations!

Arlene Daugherty, Debbie Terry, Martha Tucker, Lynn Farnham, and Scott Stout completed the County Officials Certificate Training Program (COCTP) and received their Certified Public Administrator designations at the Capstone Event at Montgomery Bell State Park in May and June.

Horizon Center Industrial Park Receives Ready-To-Recruit Site Designation

Roane County's Horizon Center Industrial Park has been successful in certifying a 28-acre parcel as a "Ready to Recruit" site. Located within the City of Oak Ridge and marketed by the Oak Ridge Economic Partnership, the industrial park property was once owned by the United States Department of Energy and has been released for, and developed into, commercial and industrial properties. Special thanks to the Oak Ridge Economic Partnership, Oak Ridge Industrial Development Board, Oak Ridge Utility Board, TVA and DOE for their work and effort into the development of The Horizon Center Industrial Park and specifically the site designation for these 28 acres. The Roane County Alliance and the Roane County Industrial Development Board have submitted applications for two sites (Roane County Industrial Park – Cardiff, and Roane Regional Business and Technology Park) for the same designation and we hope to be successful in achieving a certified site designation for these properties.

Meet Your Commissioners



Bobby Collier

Bobby Collier is in his 15th year of representing the 6th Commission District (Kingston), and serves on the Budget Committee, the Codes and Review Committee, the Committee on Committees, the Emergency Services Committee, the Courthouse and Courtroom Security Committee, the In-Lieu-Of-Tax Committee, the Personnel Committee, the Road Committee, and the Safety Committee. Bobby is no stranger to service to Roane Countians. His Father, Bob Collier, served as Highway Superintendent in Roane County for many years. Bobby has been elected and is now serving as President of the Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA). This association is statewide over County Commissioners, County Mayors, and County Road Supervisors. Bobby is the first Roane County Commissioner to serve in this position and feels very appreciative of such a high honor.

Bobby was born on in 1943 at Harriman hospital. He attended Kingston Elementary School and Kingston Junior High before transferring to Midway High School.

After graduation he served in the Air Force, stationed in Texas where he met his future wife, Peggy. After his service, he returned to Tennessee to graduate from Tennessee Tech in 1969 with a degree in Business Management. After graduation from Tech he worked for the Boy Scouts of America and operated a retail business in the Chattanooga area where his son, Robbie was born in 1972. After the birth of their son, he and Peggy moved back to Roane County where Bobby worked for the County Highway Department for a while. In 1975 he was hired at the Oak Ridge complex and spent the next 30 years there before retiring in 2005.

He decided to take a role in representing Roane County residents in order to make a difference, and feels he has accomplished that goal. Using his business expertise, his knowledge of Safety and Security issues, and his deep seated desire to help others, he has improved the way government operates in Roane County.

Being involved in the Jaycees for many years, Bobby saw children of Roane County going without many of the joys of childhood and became involved in the Jaycee's Camp Hope in the 1970s. Through this involvement, he founded and continues to operate the REACH program. REACH uses donations and volunteers to assure that children in Roane County enjoy a happy Christmas holiday by providing funds for each child to shop for family members and even themselves. He is quick to recognize that it would not be possible without the generosity of the citizens and business owners of Roane County.

Since retirement, Bobby has been able to enjoy more time traveling with Peggy and enjoying the activities of his four granddaughters. He is happy to be more involved in their participation in athletic activities at which all excel.

Bobby has two sisters, Linda Townsend, who will soon retire from TDOT and Carolyn Granger, who also serves as a Roane County Commissioner. It looks like the Collier family learned early what "giving back" really means.

July Meetings and Events:

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

8 th	County Commission	CH	7:00pm
9 th	Beer Board	CH	5:30pm
9 th	Fire Board	CH	6:00pm
11 th	Environmental Review Board	CH	6:00pm
17 th	Board of Zoning Appeals- <i>if needed</i>	CH	6:00pm
17 th	Planning Commission	CH	7:00pm
18 th	Codes Committee	CH	6:00pm
25 th	County Board of Public Utilities	CH	5:30pm

Appreciation Cookout for Accounting And Retirement Party for Sheila

Ron, Becky and Madison Woody hosted employees of Ron's departments at his house on May 24th for a cookout. Great food, conversation, boating and corn-hole competitions took place.



Household Hazardous Waste Event a Success!

Roane County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on May 11th was a huge success this year. Thanks to the hard work of Ralph Stewart, his employees and many volunteers, a total of 4,646 hazardous items was collected. A total of 161 households participated in the event.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make the day successful.

Roane County is engaged in protecting our residents and our environment.

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

Ron