



Lawrence County
**FACILITIES | PROPERTY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

DATE: November 6, 2025 | **TIME:** 5:00 p.m. – 5:32 p.m.

PRESENT: County Executive David Morgan. **Commissioners:** Denny Gillespie, Shane Eaton, Dave Ray, Barry Luffman, Travis Cauwels, Phillip Heatherly, and Scott Franks. **Director of Accounts & Budgets** Brandi Williams, **Solid Waste Director** Gary Wayne Hyde, **Solid Waste Assistant Director** Zac Fralix, **Emergency Management Director** Shelton Barnett, **Chief Deputy** George Barturen, Jerry Hartsfield with TLM, Sheriff John Myers, Anthony Washburn, and John Uzbasic.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Scott Franks, Vice-Chair Randy Brewer, and Travis Cauwels.

ABSENT: Sandy Newton and Tim Clifton.

Shelton Barnett: TN Advanced Communication Network (TACN) has made a proposal to put a 300 ft. tower at the site of existing 180-ft. tower near the County Highway Department. This was a site was considered by EMS for a new tower, to deal with some of the emergency communications problems we have. TACN construction would save .75 to \$1 million, county will sign a contract for lease of property and we will use the TACN tower. Will wait to approve after contract is in hand. Audio quality will be much improved with this system.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- **Executive Morgan:** We have money in our budget to pay for these renovations, and tomorrow SCTDD is submitting a grant application for \$500,000. Many are applying for a relatively small amount of funds for the entire state.
- Approval would place us on the National Register of Historic Places. This would only affect the outside of the building, which would need to stay as close to original as possible. It will not restrict any work inside it.
- **Hartsfield:** Proposed design of Sheriff's Department façade and new security checkpoint are put on hold because they would change the way the building looks. The grant is seeking funds to repair the clock tower, clean and re-caulk the granite tiles covering the front of the courthouse, and put a coating on

all outside surfaces to make them weather-proof. Grant encourages preservation.

- Sheriff's Department balcony needs to be addressed for safety reasons. The Courthouse as a whole is in good shape.
- **Executive Morgan** asked about next steps, suggests Sheriff's Department work continues. Hartsfield states columns are needed to help support the balcony, and this could be done without violating the historic register guidelines. Anything new has to be in keeping with the original design.
- We will know about grant approval December 15.
- **Commissioner Heatherly** expressed hesitation about accepting grant that may tie our hands as far as future work at the Courthouse.
- \$1 million is placed in the budget for courthouse renovation. Hartsfield said all projects, excepting the security entrance change, should be around \$750,000. Real numbers will be revealed with the bids, which can go out in January. Construction could begin in February. Project will take most of the summer.
- Another committee meeting will be called after grant decision is made. Issue will probably be put on the January agenda.
- **Hartsfield** said a new security entrance could be developed using the stairwell that will work with our historical register placement.
- **Commissioner Heatherly** stated that we need to look at data for EMS responses to make decisions about placement of EMS primary and satellite stations. He believes Henryville is a good location, but we also need one to the east.

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Brewer. **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 3/0.

Minutes Submitted By: Nancy Brewer

Formatted By: Christian Tyree