



Lawrence County

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 | **Time:** 5:00-6:28 p.m.

PRESENT: County Executive David Morgan; **Commissioners** Scott Franks; Randy Brewer; Sandy Newton; Shane Eaton; Travis Cauwels. **LCFR Director** Tyler McDow; Jerry Hartsfield, **TLM**; **Sheriff** John Myers, **EMA Director** Shelton Barnett, Anthony Washburn, John Uzbasic, Katy and Jason Eagle.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Scott Franks; **Vice-Chairman** Randy Brewer; Sandy Newton, Travis Cauwels.

ABSENT: Tim Clifton

PRAYER: Scott Franks

Public comment by Katy Eagle, who thanked Commissioners for their 7/28 vote against a 12-month mandatory moratorium on data centers in the county.

Jerry Hartsfield, TLM:

- (Plans presented are included on zip file in meeting folder)
- Gave overview of all plans for Courthouse renovations. Points of discussion included:
- Work outside includes a new coating system and new façade for Sheriff's Department.
- East entrance will be redesigned; additional area will be enclosed for safety checkpoint. Visitors will enter a lobby area, then pass through another checkpoint to gain access to the building at large.
- Interior work includes two-person lift in lobby area for access to the mezzanine level.
- Plan requires review by the Tennessee Historical Commission so to not interfere with the grant
- Bids will need to be examined at meeting tentatively set for August 18; pre-construction meeting to determine the low bid; then notice to proceed will be issued.

- Contractors should begin work in September and will be given six months to complete. Most materials are readily available, so acquisition should not cause delays.
- Building will remain open during the entire construction.
- Eight windows on the south side will not be replaced, will get 3M film coating to make them bullet resistant.
- **Sheriff, Commissioner Cauwels** state that 3M film will not work and is extremely expensive. All agree that bulletproofing the east entrance area is most important
- Bell will be removed and repaired. Discussion followed. Clock system that can be controlled from a phone. Possibility of lighting the clock so it can be viewed at night.

Tyler McDow:

- Working to improve ISO ratings, which will lower residents' insurance rates.
- ISO calls for a fire station within 5 road miles of everyone. This will require construction of new satellite stations on Busby Road, at former David Crockett School site, and Ethridge Crossroads.
- Former Crockett school site may be contaminated by debris from school being buried there. Brownfields remediation grant is available from the State of Tennessee
- Just purchased first ladder truck from government surplus for \$300,000. It will require approximately \$30,000 of work, but this compares to a \$1 million price tag for a new ladder truck.

Shelton Barnett:

- Funds for a new Emergency Operations Center in Lawrence County were put in the Congressional budget. The grant to build or renovate an existing building is \$2.606 million and requires an \$868,000 match to total \$3.474 million.
- **Barnett** showed plan based on Anderson County, TN EOC. Space would allow government setup in the event of a disaster that destroys the courthouse or City Hall.
- **Commissioner Franks** asked if current Health Department is an option after new facility is ready;
- **Barnett** replied that the area is prone to flooding.
- Current National Guard Armory and 11 acres surrounding it are offered at \$1 million.
- State settles bidding war with the first person to pay; state agencies get first dibs.

- The City of Lawrenceburg is interested in the building. If the City bought it, a new EOC could be built on the property. **Barnett** said he believes it would be better to build a modern facility; that renovation costs could climb.
- Initial grant deadline requires decision about construction vs. purchase/renovation.
- **Commissioner Franks:** would rather have our match be the \$1 million to purchase the building and land.
- If the Armory is purchased, EOC would be in the basement. That is currently a locker space, and has had water in it.
- Joint Facilities and Budget meeting scheduled for Monday, August 10, at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment.

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

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 4/0.

Minutes Submitted By: *Nancy Brewer*

Formatted By: *Christian Tyree*