

NEW BUSINESS

December 3, 2025

Good morning, Madam Clerk:

David Mundy asked me to drop this off to you. He requests this be on the December agenda.

For Discussion: Complaint filed in Chancery Court – Disposition of 16 Human Remains

Please include a copy of the complaint in the December Commissioner's Packet.

Kind regards,

Wayne Lee

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR CLAIBORNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE
AT TAZEWELL

CLAIBORNE COUNTY, A POLITICAL
SUBDIVISION ORGANIZED AND
EXISTING PURSUANT TO THE LAWS
OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

Petitioner

Case No. 20520

Disposition of Cremains: Tyra Parish, Caroline Baxter, Teresa Walker
Earl Curry, Betty Wilson, Patrick J. O'Donnell, Charles W. Hatfield
Hubert Hatfield, Brenda Fields, Penny L. Chadwell, Sam A. Estep
Robert Destefano, Jimmy T. Ferrell, Ray Horner, Wanda Bard,
and Charles S. Peacock

COMPLAINT TO AUTHORIZE BURIAL OF CREMAINS

Comes now the Petitioner, Claiborne County, Tennessee and would show unto the court
as follows:

I

Claiborne County, Tennessee is required to provide for disposition of deceased indigent
persons in Claiborne County, Tennessee.

II

As a result of providing this service the cremains of approximately sixteen (16) bodies
are in the possession of the Claiborne County Mayor.

III

The Claiborne County Commission has designated a plot of land for burial of cremains.

IV

The Petitioner avers the cremains of the individual bodies could be provided a proper
and respectful burial in the plot of land with records maintained as to identity and location.

V

The cremains are the following individuals:

1. Tyra Parish
2. Caroline Baxter
3. Teresa Walker
4. Earl Curry
5. Betty Wilson

FILED

NOV 19 2025

AT 10:50 (AM) PM
Patricia Simmons, C & M

6. Patrick J. O'Donnell
7. Charles W. Hatfield
8. Hubert Hatfield
9. Brenda Fields
10. Penny L. Chadwell
11. Sam A. Estep
12. Robert Destefano
13. Jimmy T. Ferrell
14. Ray Horner
15. Wanda Bard
16. Charles S. Peacock

VI

WHEREFORE, THE PETITIONER PRAYS:

1. That publication issue notifying relatives and next to kin of this pending litigation.
2. That individuals provide information or claim for the cremains of their loved ones and next of kin.
3. That an Order issue allowing burial of any remaining cremains in the plot of land designated by the Claiborne County Commission.
4. That an Order enter authorizing burial of the cremains of the individuals in the possession of Claiborne County, Tennessee.
5. That an Order enter requiring Claiborne County, Tennessee to identify, mark and retain records for the burial of the cremains.
6. That Petitioner have such other, further, different, and general relief to which it is entitled.

CLAIBORNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

By: 
JOE BROOKS, Mayor

ESTEP & ESTEP

By: James D. Estep, III
James D. Estep, III, Attorney for Claiborne
County, Tennessee
P.O. Box 770
Tazewell, TN 37879
Telephone No. (423) 626-3525
BPR No. 00943

OATH:

STATE OF TENNESSEE:
COUNTY OF CLAIBORNE:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public of the State and County mentioned personally appeared, JOE BROOKS, with whom I am personally acquainted (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence), and who, upon oath acknowledged himself to be Mayor of Claiborne County, Tennessee, the within named bargainor, a corporation, and that he as such, Mayor, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained, by signing the name the corporation, by himself as Mayor.

Joe Brooks
JOE BROOKS, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 4th day of September,
2024.

My Commission Expires: 8-31-26



COST BOND

We acknowledge ourselves as surety for all costs, taxes and damages in this case in accordance with T.C.A. 20-12-120.

CLAIBORNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

By: 

JOE BROOKS, Mayor

ESTEP & ESTEP

By: 

James D. Estep, III Attorney for Claiborne
County, Tennessee

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 126

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, the Family Justice Center (FJC) receives contributions from citizens throughout the year to support the operations of the FJC; and

WHEREAS, this resolution recognizes contributions received in 2025; now

THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission must approve the following budget amendment in order for these monies to be expended.

		<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
101-53600-499	Other Supplies & Materials	\$100	
<u>101-48130</u>	<u>Contributions</u>		<u>\$100</u>
	Total	\$100	\$100

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025 that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Sherry McCreary
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 3:25 pm de.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 127

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

WHEREAS, the Family Justice Center (FJC) received a one-time flexible spending award through a partner agency; and

WHEREAS, this resolution recognizes contributions received in 2025; now

THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission must approve the following budget amendment in order for these monies to be expended.

		<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
101-53600-499	Other Supplies & Materials	\$2,500	
<u>101-48130</u>	<u>Contributions</u>		<u>\$2,500</u>
	Total	\$2,500	\$2,500

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025 that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Sherry McCreary
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 3:25 pm D.C.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 128

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE HVE GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security has provided a \$10,000 High Visibility Enforcement of Tennessee Traffic Safety Laws (HVE) grant to the Sheriff's Office for the period from October 1, 2025 through October 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the grant will fund law enforcement activities to decrease the number of driving under the influence (DUI) crashes;

THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission must approve the following budget amendment in order for the funds to be expended.

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
101-54110-187-HVE Overtime-HVE	\$4,456	
101-54110-201-HVE Social Security-HVE	277	
101-54110-204-HVE State Retirement-HVE	262	
101-54110-212-HVE Employer Medicare-HVE	65	
101-54110-499-HVE Other Supplies and Materials	\$4,940	
101-46290-HVE Other Public Safety Grants		\$10,000
Total	\$10,000	\$10,000

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025, that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Tim Shrout
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 3:25 pm DC.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-129

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SHERIFF – MENTAL HEALTH TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Claiborne County Sheriff's Office has received Mental Health Transportation funding from the State of Tennessee; and the Sheriff's Office wants to use these funds to purchase a vehicle for transporting inmates; and

WHEREAS, unspent Mental Health Transportation funds received by the County in prior fiscal years can be carried over to support this expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission approves the following budget amendment in order for these monies to be expended:

		<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expense</u>
101-46980-MHT	Prisoner Transportation	\$47,658	
101-39000	Fund Balance	\$ 62	
101-54220-718-MHT	Workhouse-Motor Vehicles		\$47,720

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025, that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Tim Shrout
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 3:25 pm DTC

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 130

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE SRO GRANT

WHEREAS, the Claiborne County Sheriff's Office was awarded a Statewide School Resource Officer (SRO) grant from the State of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2026; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2026 County budget includes \$975,000 in SRO grant revenue, but the actual grant award is \$1,125,000, which requires amending the County budget to include the \$150,000 in additional revenue and adding \$150,000 in additional appropriation authority for eligible grant expenses;

THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission must approve the following budget amendment in order for the SRO grant funds to be expended.

		<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
101-54110-170	School Resource Officer	\$79,250	
101-91130-718	Motor Vehicles	\$70,750	
101-46240	School Resource Officer Grants		\$150,000
	Total	\$150,000	\$150,000

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025, that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Tim Shrout
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 3:25 pm DE

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-131

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FUND 101 Sheriff

WHEREAS, Fund 101 (Sheriff Dept.) has received a payment of \$14,870.42, for insurance recovery related to an accident that occurred with a vehicle; and

WHEREAS, this payment can be placed into the Fund 101 budget to replace funds that were spent to make repairs related to the accident; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Claiborne County Commission must approve the following budget amendment in order for this money to be expended:

		<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expense</u>
101-49700	Insurance Recovery	\$14,870.42	
101-54110-338	Site Development		\$14,870.42

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Claiborne County Commission, meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December 2025, that this resolution is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Duly passed and approved this 15th day of December 2025.

JOE BROOKS, COUNTY MAYOR

/s/ Tim Shrout
SPONSOR

ATTEST:

KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK

FILED 12-1-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
PM 3:25 pm B.C.

Resolution 2025 - 132
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ETHRA-OOA GRANT FY26

Sponsor: David Mundy

WHEREAS, Claiborne County has been awarded a grant from the East Tennessee Human Resources Agency's Office On Aging for building improvements at the Harrogate and Tazewell Senior Centers; and,

WHEREAS, Claiborne County has been awarded \$40,000; \$20,000 to each center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the following line items are to be adjusted as follows:

	Increase
101-56300-335-OOA26	\$40,000.00

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this the 15th day of December, 2025.

Joe Brooks, County Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen Hurst, County Clerk

FILED 12-3-25
KAREN HURST, COUNTY CLERK
BY: 12-25 pm B.C.