

January 12, 2024

Hey all,

Here's this week's report.

Blessings and keep the faith.

Bill

Williamson County Commission

The **full board** met on Monday [agenda video](#). Three people spoke out about what they considered to be misrepresentations from the county election commission on paper ballots and voting machines. Their comments start at 11:29 mark. [Here](#) is an article about the meeting from The Tennessee Conservative. Part of their presentation was a demand that the entire election commission be replaced.

The rest of the meeting followed the agenda, and I must admit looking at the numbers makes my eyes glaze over and this was such a busy week, I haven't had the time to really dig into them. If any of you are strong in accounting and want to weigh in, please do.

The **planning commission** met on Thursday [agenda video](#). The actual meeting starts at the 12:29 mark and the explanation for deferring the vote on 5G towers starts at 21:20. The resolution on the 5G towers will be taken up at a joint session of the planning and county commissions on January 29th at 5:30. Public comments will be allowed.

The reason that the vote was differed was due to some changes in wording. Instead of school buildings, it was changed to school buildings where children are present for educational purposes. Other wording with regards to notification are under review as well. I have attached the screenshot that was provided at the meeting.

Some points for proposed additional wording are: requiring regular inspections of the towers, justification for the towers e.g. are there complaints that calls in the area dropping off, are there other possible sites for the towers?

Williamson County Election Commission

They met on Thursday [agenda](#) no video. **Next week they will be meeting** on Thursday the 18th, 4 pm at 405 Downs Blvd. to discuss and vote on item 6 on the [agenda](#). **I encourage as many of you as possible to attend this meeting.**

- During the public comment section of the meeting, four individuals addressed the late added agenda item whereby the WCEC is seeking a WCC resolution declaring much of

vendor (direct contractors and sub-contractors) information confidential. Three individuals spoke about the idea of doing away with voting machines/technology as being a bad idea, their belief that nothing in the "[Citizens Truth Review](#)" is true and that all elections in WC are safe when it comes to voting on machines.

- Thursday, January 11th was the deadline for firms to submit a proposal regarding their expertise to handle the hand-marked paper ballot feasibility study. One firm has done so. The WCEC received two calls from other firms but no responses. They gave us no names.
 - Last week, we did an open records request for the names of those who had responded but have been told "the WCEC does not maintain a record of firms that have indicated interest in responding to the RFP."
 - The WCEC will address next steps at next month's meeting, eight months after the WCEC was given the green light to pursue the feasibility study.
- The Commission identified three new vote centers for the upcoming elections:
 - The new Arrington school on Cox Road
 - Brentwood high school
 - A church at the entrance of Stevens Valley subdivision, which, I believe, is on Sneed Rd. They weren't specific and it sounds like Chad still needs to check out this location.
- They identified at least five early voting locations for the March 5, 2024, presidential preference primary/county primary election. There are a couple more, but I missed them.
 - WC election center
 - Brentwood library
 - Franklin Rec Center
 - College Grove Community Center
 - Fairview Rec Center
 - They want to "standardize" these locations
- They discussed an election commission communication strategy for the 2024 election cycle. Commissioner Rod Willilams apparently is in charge of this. He suggested:
 - They don't have the staff to do a full effort but Rod suggests:
 - A basic effort presenting key facts that are readily available
 - Do a moderate tweak to the existing website
 - Probably no or limited social media
 - Potentially live streaming an event like the recent Wilson County public open house event where they allowed citizens to come ask questions about the equipment
 - A simple newsletter with information that could be read in 90 seconds.
 - Jonathan said this was spot on what he was thinking.
- There are three candidates for sheriff for the March 5, 2024 county primary election/August 1 2024 county general election. They wouldn't tell us who the candidates are.
- They discussed the late added item to the agenda seeking a County Commission resolution declaring a wide, unknown amount of information about election vendors, their electronic information, processing systems, telecommunications, and other "sensitive" communications systems to be deemed confidential so citizens cannot secure this information. This could include Albert Sensors, VPNs, etc.
 - Jonathan claims this is to protect social security numbers, but actually SS#s are already protected when citizens procure public records.
 - Our information is this is coming from TN Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins who says that since he and some county commissions are unable to handle the

- onslaught of public records requests, if they simply make more items “confidential,” then they’ll be able to better handle, more speedily, the requests.
- This will be a critical issue when it reaches the County Commission that will need everyone commenting and sending messages to their County Commissioners. A key question would be how can we trust the WCEC about what they say will be the extent of what is deemed confidential after we saw them misrepresent the machines and hand-marked paper ballots in May/June when they were trying to convince the County Commissioner to give them the county/state/federal taxpayer monies to purchase the ES&S machines? Read the Citizen’s Truth Report [here](#) and [here](#) about this.
 - This is the second time that the WCEC issued an agenda – or a change in the agenda -- without the week’s advance notice, which is what the law demands.
 - Strike one occurred last summer when a meeting had to be rescheduled because the notice went out too late.
 - This is strike two.
 - Finally, Chad discussed a proposal to amend the precinct assignments for WC.
 - Right now, we have 34 precincts, down from 43 when the county went to vote centers in 2020. (And you wonder why voting centers are so crowded now? We’re down 42% in voting locations.)
 - Chad said with the advent of vote centers, “precincts don’t hold the value they used to.” (But our state constitution says we should be voting in precincts, not vote centers. [Article IV Section 1](#) What happened to their value?)
 - When redistricting occurred in 2022 they went with 34 precincts, but a number of them contained far more than the 6,000 voters maximum they were supposed to have in a precinct.
 - By law, precincts can’t grow larger, but we have a burgeoning population and number of registered voters.
 - After meeting with a state official, they decided they will divide many of those precincts and create more. They will attempt to keep them to one ballot style per precinct. (So, if we could move back to precinct voting vs. vote center voting, this would mean all precincts would only need one ballot, which would make hand-marked paper ballots possible to add without keeping us in vote centers and without adding uncertified ballot-on-demand machines to the tune of \$500k+ in costs.)
 - Duda claims we’re moving from 35 precincts to 53 or 56 precincts.
 - Here are five short items explaining why it’s important for us to move back to precinct voting vs. vote center voting: : [Here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Williamson County School Board

The policy committee met on Monday [agenda audio](#). The work session met on Thursday [agenda video](#). Next Tuesday is the full board meeting [agenda](#) Starts at 6:30 PM at 1320 W. Main.

A lot of minutiae was discussed at both the policy and work session. The work session was almost two hours, and a good portion of time was spent discussing a new policy where courses that were pass fail are now getting letter grades and how this effects the transcripts for students who previously took the course as a pass fail. The new policy would allow them to have their grade

converted, upon their request, to a letter grade on their transcript. Apparently, even with pass fail courses, the teachers have numeric grades that can be converted to letter grades.

We are going to continue to speak out against the LGBT+ flags and banners in our schools as we see this as indoctrination that does not belong in the classroom. If you can make it to the board meeting on Tuesday, please do so.

Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA)

Work session was on Tuesday [agenda video](#). BOMA meeting was on Tuesday [agenda video](#). Budget and finance met on Thursday [agenda video](#).

Watch the first 37 mins to get the full report on our cities' budget. Bottom line is that we project very conservatively, and we are solvent. Again, someone with an accounting background could provide a better synopsis.

There were several more meetings this week and you can check them out [here](#).

**If not me, who?
If not now, when?**

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Heb. 11:1)