

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Knox County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. in the Main Assembly Room of the City-County building, Main Street. Those members present were Commissioners Damon Rawls, Courtney Durrett, Gina Oster, Shane Jackson, Angela Russell, Terry Hill, Rhonda Lee, Adam Thompson, Andy Fox, Larsen Jay and Kim Frazier. Also present were Ms. Sherry Witt, Knox County Clerk, Mr. Mike Moyers, Knox County Senior Deputy Law Director, and members of the news media.

Ms. Sherry Witt, Knox County Clerk, presided.

The following proceedings were had and entered of record to-wit:

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IN RE: CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Sherry Witt, Knox County Clerk, called the meeting to order.

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IN RE: ROLL CALL – (1:00 P.M.)

Mrs. Haley Wilson, Clerk Recorder, called the roll.

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IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIAL SESSION REORGANIZATION:

No one requested to speak.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION WITH THE ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Consideration of the re-organization of the Knox County Commission with the election of Chair and Vice-Chair was before the Board of Commissioners.

Upon roll call for nominations for Chair of the Knox County Commission, Commissioner Rawls passed. Commissioner Durrett nominated Commissioner Oster. Commissioner Oster passed. Commissioner Jackson passed. Commissioner Russell passed. Commissioner Hill passed. Commissioner Lee passed. Commissioner Thompson passed. Commissioner Fox passed. Commissioner Jay passed. Commissioner Frazier passed.

Commissioner Jay moved to cease nominations and elect Commissioner Oster Chair by acclamation. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

Commissioner Gina Oster was elected Chairwoman of the Knox County Commission.

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At this time, Ms. Witt, Knox County Clerk, stepped down from the Chair and Commissioner Oster, Chairwoman, presided.

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Upon roll call for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Knox County Commission, Commissioner Durrett passed. Commissioner Oster nominated Commissioner Frazier. Commissioner Jackson passed. Commissioner Russell passed. Commissioner Hill passed. Commissioner Lee passed. Commissioner Thompson passed. Commissioner Fox passed. Commissioner Jay passed. Commissioner Frazier passed. Commissioner Rawls passed.

Commissioner Jay moved to cease nominations and elect Commissioner Frazier Vice-Chair by acclamation. Commissioner Durrett seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

Commissioner Kim Frazier was elected Vice-Chairwoman of the Knox County Commission.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING COMMISSIONERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION (STANDING COMMITTEES NOT COMPOSED OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION INCLUDE THE BEER BOARD, INSOLVENCY BOARD, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND RULES COMMITTEE) – R-24-9-101-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioners to the Standing Committees of the Knox County Commission (Standing Committees not composed of the entire membership of the Commission include the Beer Board, Insolvency Board, Legislative Affairs Committee and Rules Committee) was before the Board of Commissioners.

The following Commissioners were nominated for appointment to the Beer Board: Commissioners Rawls, Oster, Jackson, Hill, Thompson, Jay and Frazier.

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The following Commissioners were nominated for appointment to the Insolvency Board: Commissioners Jackson, Russell, Hill and Lee.

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Commissioner Oster indicated the following Commissioners desired to serve on the Legislative Affairs Committee: Commissioners Lee, Jay, Rawls, Durrett, Russell, Thompson and Fox (7 members total).

Due to the Legislative Affairs Committee being a five (5) member Committee, Commissioner Oster indicated roll call votes for nomination would be taken for each commissioner and the two (2) commissioners with the least votes would be removed for nomination.

Upon roll call for nomination for Commissioner Lee for the Legislative Affairs Committee, Commissioners Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay, Frazier, Rawls and Durrett voted aye.

Commissioner Lee received 11 votes.

Upon roll call for nomination for Commissioner Jay for the Legislative Affairs Committee, Commissioners Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay, Frazier, Rawls, Durrett and Oster voted aye.

Commissioner Jay received 11 votes.

Mr. Mike Moyers, Knox County Senior Deputy Law Director, was present and suggested that rather than voting on each Commissioner on the list, each Commissioner should be allowed to make a nomination and go through that process until the five (5) slots have been filled.

Upon roll call for nominations for appointments to the Legislative Affairs Committee, Commissioner Fox nominated Commissioner Lee. Commissioner Durrett nominated Commissioner Rawls. Commissioner Russell passed. Commissioner Jackson nominated Commissioner Durrett. Commissioner Lee nominated Commissioner Fox. Commissioner Thompson nominated himself. Commissioner Jay passed. Commissioner Rawls passed. Commissioner Frazier nominated Commissioner Jay. Commissioner Oster passed. Commissioner Hill passed.

Commissioner Thompson withdrew his name for nomination.

The following Commissioners were nominated for appointment to the Legislative Affairs Committee: Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Lee, Fox and Jay.

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Commissioner Oster indicated the following Commissioners desired to serve on the Rules Committee: Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Lee, Thompson, Fox and Frazier (6 members total).

Upon roll call for nominations for appointments to the Rules Committee, Commissioner Rawls nominated himself. Commissioner Durrett nominated herself. Commissioner Oster nominated Commissioner Frazier. Commissioner Jackson nominated Commissioner Thompson. Commissioner Russell nominated Commissioner Fox. Commissioner Hill passed. Commissioner

Lee nominated herself. Commissioner Thompson passed. Commissioner Fox passed. Commissioner Jay passed. Commissioner Frazier passed.

Due to the Rules Committee being a five (5) member Committee, Commissioner Oster indicated roll call votes for nomination would be taken for each commissioner and the commissioner with the least votes would be removed for nomination.

Upon roll call for nominations for appointments to the Rules Committee, Commissioner Durrett voted for herself. Commissioner Oster voted for Commissioner Frazier. Commissioner Jackson voted for Commissioner Rawls. Commissioner Russell voted for Commissioner Fox. Commissioner Hill voted for Commissioner Rawls. Commissioner Lee voted for herself. Commissioner Thompson voted for Commissioner Rawls. Commissioner Fox voted for himself. Commissioner Jay voted for Commissioner Durrett. Commissioner Frazier voted for herself. Commissioner Rawls voted for Commissioner Thompson.

Mr. Mike Moyers, Knox County Senior Deputy Law Director, was present and spoke on the matter.

Commissioner Thompson withdrew his name for nomination.

The following Commissioners were nominated for appointment to the Rules Committee: Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Lee, Fox and Frazier.

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Commissioner Jay moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-101-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioners to the Standing Committees of the Knox County Commission (Standing Committees not composed of the entire membership of the Commission include the Beer Board, Insolvency Board, Legislative Affairs Committee and Rules Committee). Commissioner Durrett seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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A brief recess was taken at this time and the following committees convened and elected its Chair and Vice-Chair as follows:

Beer Board - Commissioner Frazier - Chair; Commissioner Jay - Vice-Chair.

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Insolvency Board - Commissioner Hill - Chair; Commissioner Russell - Vice-Chair.

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Legislative Affairs Committee - Commissioner Durrett - Chair; Commissioner Jay - Vice-Chair.

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Rules Committee - Commissioner Frazier - Chair; Commissioner Fox - Vice-Chair.

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Finance Committee - Commissioner Jay - Chair; Commissioner Russell - Vice-Chair.

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Telecom Committee - Commissioner Thompson Chair; Commissioner Fox - Vice-Chair.

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The Board of Commissioner's meeting reconvened at this time.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING TWO (2) COMMISSIONERS TO THE KNOX COUNTY AUDIT COMMITTEE – R-24-9-102-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing two (2) commissioners to the Knox County Audit Committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-102-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioners Shane Jackson and Angela Russell to the Knox County Audit Committee. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE : CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO SERVE AS A NON-VOTING LIAISON TO THE KNOX COUNTY ETHICS COMMITTEE - R-24-9-103-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing/reappointing a commissioner to serve as a non-voting liaison to the Knox County Ethics Committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-103-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Damon Rawls to serve as a non-voting liaison to the Knox County Ethics Committee. Commissioner Durrett seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO THE KNOX COUNTY FIRE AND TECHNICAL RESCUE COMMITTEE – R-24-9-104-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing a commissioner to the Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-104-SS – Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Larsen Jay to the Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO THE KNOX COUNTY EMPLOYEE INSURANCE BENEFITS COMMITTEE - R-24-9-105-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing/reappointing a commissioner to the Knox County Employee Insurance Benefits Committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-105-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Adam Thompson to the Knox County Employee Insurance Benefits Committee. Commissioner Durrett seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO SERVE ON THE KNOX COUNTY INVESTMENT COMMITTEE ALONG WITH THE CHAIR OF COMMISSION - R-24-9-106-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing a commissioner to serve on the Knox County Investment Committee along with the Chair of Commission was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-106-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Terry Hill to serve on the Knox County Investment Committee along with the Chair of Commission. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and

upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING FOR THE COMMISSION'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025 AND APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING FOUR (4) COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE ON SAID COMMITTEE - R-24-9-107-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, providing for the Commission's continued participation in the Joint Education Committee through August 31, 2025 and appointing/reappointing four (4) commissioners to serve on said committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-107-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, providing for the Commission's continued participation in the Joint Education Committee through August 31, 2025 and reappointing Commissioner Kim Frazier and appointing Commissioners Shane Jackson, Angela Russell, and Andy Fox to serve on said committee. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO THE METRO DRUG COALITION BOARD OF DIRECTORS - R-24-9-108-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing a commissioner to the Metro Drug Coalition Board of Directors was before the Board of Commissioners.

Upon roll call for appointment to the Metro Drug Coalition Board of Directors, Commissioners Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay, Frazier, Oster and Russell voted for Commissioner Lee. Commissioners Rawls, Durrett and Jackson voted for Commissioner Rawls. Commissioner Lee received 8 votes. Commissioner Rawls received 3 votes.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-108-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Rhonda Lee to the to the Metro Drug Coalition Board of Directors. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING FOUR (4) COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE ON THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ALONG WITH THE CHAIR OF COMMISSION - R-24-9-109-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing/reappointing four (4) commissioners to serve on the Personnel Committee along with the Chair of Commission was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-109-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, reappointing Commissioner Rhonda Lee and appointing Commissioners Courtney Durrett, Angela Russell and Terry Hill to serve on the Personnel Committee along with the Chair of Commission. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, CONFIRMING THE KNOX COUNTY MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER ANDY FOX TO THE KNOX COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION - R-24-9-110-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, confirming the Knox County Mayor's appointment of Commissioner Andy Fox to the Knox County Public Records Commission was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Durrett moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-110-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, confirming the Knox County Mayor's appointment of Commissioner Andy Fox to the Knox County Public Records Commission. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING TWO (2) COMMISSIONERS TO THE KNOX COUNTY RETIREMENT AND PENSION BOARD - R-24-9-111-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing two (2) commissioners to the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-111-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing

Commissioners Damon Rawls and Shane Jackson to the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, REAPPOINTING COMMISSIONER TERRY HILL TO THE KNOX COUNTY RETIREMENT AND PENSION BOARD - R-24-9-112-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, reappointing Commissioner Terry Hill to the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-112-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, reappointing Commissioner Terry Hill to the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO COMPLETE AN UNFULFILLED TERM ON THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION COMMITTEE - R-24-9-113-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing a commissioner to complete an unfulfilled term on the Agricultural Extension Committee was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Jay moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-113-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Adam Thompson to complete an unfulfilled term on the Agricultural Extension Committee. Commissioner Durrett seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO COMPLETE AN UNFULFILLED TERM ON THE KNOX COUNTY CODE COMMISSION - R-24-9-114-SS:

Consideration of a Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing a commissioner to complete an unfulfilled term on the Knox County Code Commission was before the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oster moved to approve Resolution R-24-9-114-SS - Resolution of the Commission of Knox County, Tennessee, appointing Commissioner Adam Thompson to complete an unfulfilled term on the Knox County Code Commission. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Commissioners Rawls, Durrett, Oster, Jackson, Russell, Hill, Lee, Thompson, Fox, Jay and Frazier voted aye. The motion carried 11-0-0-0.

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IN RE: **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Knox County Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Oster declared the meeting adjourned.

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KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

GINA OSTER, MADAM CHAIR