



Office of the Mayor

BENTON COUNTY TENNESSEE

1 Court Square, Room 102
Camden, TN 38320

December 15, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Mark Ward, County Mayor

The Board of County Commissioners will meet in regular session on **Monday, December 15, 2025** at the Benton County Courthouse at **6:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

- I. Opening of Meeting by Sheriff or his appointee.
- II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call by County Clerk or Chief Deputy
- IV. Announcing of Quorum by County Clerk, Wanda Malin
 - 1) Approval of Agenda
 - 2) Citizens Forum
 - 3) Comments from DA Neil Thompson and PD Tas Gardner
 - 4) Commissioners Forum
 - 5) County Mayor, Attorney, Finance Advisor or Proclamations
 - 6) Approval of Minutes
 - 7) Report of Public Utilities

- 8) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to authorize a twelve dollar and fifty cent charge by the clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies for the purposes authorized and set out in T.C.A. § 40-3-106 for the District Attorney. (20251215-01)
- 9) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to authorize a twelve dollar and fifty cent charge by the clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies for the purposes authorized and set out in T.C.A. § 40-14-210 for the Public Defender. (20251215-02)
- 10) A RESOLUTION by Benton County DOS Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 8,000.00, received from the Second Harvest Food Grant to the Schools Budget. (20251215-03)
- 11) A RESOLUTION by Benton County DOS Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 38,728.57, received from Insurance Recovery to the Schools Budget. (20251215-04)
- 12) A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$ 3,000.00 received from a State of Tennessee Cost Sharing Grant to a line item in the Sheriff's Budget for proper Expenditure. (20251215-05)
- 13) A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher requesting a budget amendment to properly fund a newly hired investigator position. (20251215-06)
- 14) A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Legislative Body to update the current Budget Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541. (20251215-07)
- 15) A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Legislative Body to urge the General Assembly to enact an update to the current Budget Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541. (20251215-08)
- 16) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the amount of \$ 4,348.84 received from Miscellaneous Refunds to a payroll line item. (20251215-09)
- 17) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to allow the Benton County Trustee to round property taxes and interest. (20251215-10)
- 18) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to amend Resolution 20251117-14 as passed by the Benton County Commission in regular session on November 17, 2025 to correct a typographical error. (Regarding Clerk & Master Copier/Printer/Scanner System). (20251215-11)
- 19) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the total amount of \$ 600.00 received from donations, to proper line items for expenditure in the Animal Shelter Budget. (20251215-12)
- 20) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds received from the TDEC-ARPA Grant to proper line items for expenditure to Harbor Town Utility and Community Development Partners. (20251215-13)

- 21) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds to proper line items for expenditure to Harbor Town Utility and Community Development Partners. (20251215-14)
- 22) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 5,250.00 to an appropriate expenditure line to pay for County Commission voting software and permission to enter into any related agreements. (20251215-15)
- 23) A RESOLUTION by Commissioners Arnold and Murphy to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 6,000.00 to fund an AI Technology subscription for use of the Benton County Chamber of Commerce. (20251215-16)
- 24) A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 18,150.00 to expenditure line items for purchasing Ballistic Shields for School Resource Officers. (20251215-17)
- 25) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 12,000.00 to an appropriate expenditure line to help fund ballpark improvements at the Benton County Sports Complex. (20251215-18)
- 26) A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Budget Committee, to modify the distribution of the Victim's Assistance Fee. (20251215-19)
- 27) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds received from Airport Grants to a proper line item for expenditure. (20251215-20)
- 28) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 50,000.00 to the airport's budget to cover a shortfall in Aviation Fuel. (20251215-21)
- 29) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$ 50,000.00 to the airport's budget. (20251215-22) •
- 30) Appointing Notaries
- 31) Any Other Business
- 32) Adjourn

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-01

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to authorize a twelve dollar and fifty cent charge by the clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies for the purposes authorized and set out in T.C.A. § 40-3-106 for the District Attorney

WHEREAS, upon adoption of an appropriate resolution by a county legislative body, T.C.A. § 40-3-106 makes it the duty of the clerk of every court in that county having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies to include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) that must be remitted to the county government, except in counties that are part of a multiple county judicial district as defined in T.C.A. § 16-2-506, in which case this charge must be remitted to the office of the executive director of the district attorneys general conference for the purpose of providing supplemental funding for the office of the district attorney general within that judicial district. Any unencumbered moneys and any unexpended balance of such funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not revert to the state general fund but must be carried forward for the purpose for which they were originally intended; and

WHEREAS, under T.C.A. § 40-3-106 the aforesaid clerks may only charge the twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of such county; and

WHEREAS, the county legislative body in Benton County, Tennessee finds that implementation and collection of the foregoing charge is in the best interests of the county.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, meeting in regular session at Camden, Tennessee, on this 15th day of December, 2025, that:

SECTION 1. The clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies shall include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) that must be remitted to the county government, except in counties that are part of a multiple county judicial district as defined in T.C.A. § 16-2-506, in which case this charge must be remitted to the office of the executive director of the district attorneys general conference for the purpose of providing supplemental funding for the office of the district attorney general in this judicial district. Any unencumbered moneys and any unexpended balance of such funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not revert to the state general fund but must be carried forward for the purpose for which they were originally intended;

SECTION 2. All costs collected by Benton County government pursuant to this Resolution must be used for providing support services for the purpose of promoting public safety at the sole discretion of the district attorney general for the 24th judicial district;

SECTION 3. Benton County may supplement the funds of the district attorney general system to promote public safety. The costs collected by Benton County under this Resolution are supplemental and in addition to any funds received under T.C.A. § 40-3-106 or under title 8, chapter 7 of the Tennessee Code Annotated, relative to district attorneys general;

SECTION 4. In every misdemeanor and felony prosecution in which restitution is ordered or the privilege tax for the criminal injuries compensation fund established by T.C.A. § 40-24-107 is also levied, the cost imposed by this Resolution does not have priority over collection of that restitution or privilege tax; and

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval, the public welfare requiring it.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote ___ ___ ___ Voted AYE ___ ___ ___ Voted NAY -----Passed
..... Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-02

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to authorize a twelve dollar and fifty cent charge by the clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies for the purposes authorized and set out in T.C.A. § 40-14-210 for the Public Defender

WHEREAS, upon adoption of an appropriate resolution by a county legislative body, T.C.A. § 40-14-210 makes it the duty of the clerk of every court in that county having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies to include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of twelve dollars and fifty centers (\$12.50) that must be reinitted to the county government, except in counties that are part of a multiple county judicial district as defined in T.C.A. § 16-2-506, in which case this charge must be remitted to the office of the executive director of the Public Defenders conference for the purpose of providing supplemental funding for the office of the Public Defender within that judicial district. Any unencumbered moneys and any unexpended balance of such funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not revert to the state general fund but must be carried forward for the purpose for which they were originally intended; and

WHEREAS, under T.C.A. § 40-14-201 the aforesaid clerks may only charge the twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of such country; and

WHEREAS, the county legislative body in Benton County, Tennessee finds that implementation and collection of the foregoing charge is in the best interests of the county.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, meeting in regular session at Camden, Tennessee, on this 15th day of December, 2025, that:

SECTION 1. The clerk of every court in Benton County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felonies shall include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) that must be remitted to the county government, except in counties that are part of a multiple county judicial district as defined in T.C.A. § 16-2-506, in which case this charge must be remitted to the office of the executive director of the district Public Defenders conference for the purpose of providing supplemental funding for the office of the district Public Defender in this judicial district. Any unencumbered moneys and any unexpended balance of such funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not revert to the state general fund but must be carried forward for the purpose for which they were originally intended;

SECTION 2. All costs collected by Benton County government pursuant to the Resolution must be used for providing representation and support services to indigent defendants in criminal proceedings at the sole discretion of the Public Defender for the 24th judicial district;

SECTION 3. Benton County may supplement the funds of the district Public Defender to represent indigent defendants in criminal proceedings. The costs collected by Benton County under this Resolution are supplemental and in addition to any funds received under T.C.A. § 40-14-210 or under title 8, chapter 14 of the Tennessee Code Annotated, relative to Public Defenders, for services rendered by the Public Defender and assistants to the indigent;

SECTION 4. In every misdemeanor and felony prosecution in which the privilege tax for the criminal injuries compensation fund established by T.C.A. § 40-24-107 is also levied, the cost imposed by the Resolution does not have priority over collection of that restitution or privilege tax; and

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval, the public welfare requiring it.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote ___ ___ ___ Voted AYE ___ ___ ___ Voted NAY ----- Passed
..... Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-03

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY DOS MARK FLORENCE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Benton County DOS Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 8,000.00, received from the Second Harvest Food Grant to the Schools Budget.

WHEREAS: The Benton County Board of Education received the Second Harvest Food Grant;

THEREFORE: Be it resolved by the Benton County Board of Commissioners to approve the following changes within the 2025-26 budget as follows;

INCREASE

46980	Other State Grants	\$8,000.00
72120 429	Health Services Supplies	\$8,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY----- Passed
_____ Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-04

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY DOS MARK FLORENCE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Benton County DOS Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$38,728.57, received from Insurance Recovery to the Schools Budget.

WHEREAS: The Benton County Board of Education received Insurance Recovery funds from TN Risk Management;

THEREFORE: Be it resolved by the Benton County Board of Commissioners to approve the following changes within the 2025-26 budget as follows;

INCREASE

49700	Insurance Recovery	\$38,728.57
72620 336	Maintenance & Repair Services/Equipment	\$16,728.57
72620 399	Maintenance Other Contracted Services	12,000.00
72620418	Maintenance Equipment/Parts	10,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
 On a Roll Call Vote ___ ___ ___ Voted AYE ___ ___ ___ Voted NAY ___ ___ ___ Passed
 Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-05

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 received from a State of Tennessee Cost Sharing Grant to a line item in the Sheriff's Budget for proper Expenditure.

WHEREAS, The State of Tennessee offers the Tennessee Law Enforcement Hiring, Training, and Recruitment Program Cost Sharing Grant as an incentive program for Newly hired Officers, and

WHEREAS, a Grant invoice was submitted to and approved by the state in the amount of \$3,000.00 and Benton County has received the funds, and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to appropriate \$3,000.00 to the proper expenditure line item for payment to deputy Jasmine Allen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th day of December, 2025 that funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 be budgeted in the following manner:

INCREASE REVENUES:

101.47250	Law Enforcement Grants	\$3,000.00
		\$3,000.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.140	Salary Supplements	\$3,000.00
		\$3,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
 On a Roll Call Vote ___ ___ ___ Voted AYE ___ ___ ___ Voted NAY ----- Passed
 Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-06

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher requesting a budget amendment to properly fund a newly hired investigator position.

WHEREAS, the Sheriffs Department investigation case load cannot be thoroughly completed with 2 positions, and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff Department has found a qualified candidate, who will be an asset to the department, and

WHEREAS, funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 need to be moved to the appropriate expenditure line to properly fund the position's salary for the duration of the fiscal year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th day of December, 2025 that funds be budgeted as follows:

Decrease expenditures:	Amount:
101.54110.106 Deputies	\$30,000.00
Increase Expenditures:	Amount:
101.54110.108 Investigator(s)	\$30,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _ _ _ _ Voted AYE _ _ _ _ Voted NAY-----Passed
_____Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-07

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY PRIVATE ACTS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & PRIVATE ACTS COMMITTEES

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Legislative Body to update the current Budget Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541

WHEREAS, Benton County is in the need of an update to the Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541; and,

WHEREAS, Benton County requires to update the Budget Private Act to reflect the needs of the County Legislative Body and the citizens of the county; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, meeting in Regular session on this 15th day of December, 2025, in Camden, Tennessee, to approve the update to the Budget Private Act of 1939, Chapter 541.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this will take effect immediately after passage by 2/3 vote of the elected County Legislative Body.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote ___ Voted AYE ___ Voted NAY ___ Passed
..... Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-08

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY PRIVATE ACTS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & PRIVATE ACTS COMMITTEES

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Legislative Body to urge the General Assembly to enact an update to the current Budget Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541

WHEREAS, Benton County is in the need of an update the Private Act of 1939 Chapter 541; and,

WHEREAS, Benton County requires to update the Budget Private Act to reflect the needs of the County Legislative Body and the citizens of the county; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, meeting in Regular session on this 15th day of December, 2025, in Camden, Tennessee, that the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee is urged to enact a update to the private act to authorize the Budget Private Act of 1939.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the county clerk shall send copies of this resolution to the members of the General Assembly representing Benton County.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote ___ ___ ___ Voted AYE ___ ___ ___ Voted NAY ----- Passed
_____ Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-09

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the amount of\$ 4,348.84 received from Miscellaneous Refunds to a payroll line item.

WHEREAS, an employee who resigned from employment with Benton County was mistakenly overpaid for vacation time upon separation; and,

WHEREAS, upon discovery of the miscalculation, the former employee was asked to return the funds overpaid, which was done promptly; and,

WHEREAS, these funds need to be moved to a payroll expenditure line item; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that budgeted for this purpose as follows:

DECREASE:

101.44170	MISCELLANIOUS REFUNDS	\$4,348.84
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INCREASE:

101.56300.105	SUPERVISOR/DIRECTOR	\$4,348.84
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Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed ----- 'Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-10

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to allow the Benton County Trustee to round property taxes and interest.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-102(a)(1) authorizes counties to levy an ad valorem tax upon all property subject to such tax; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-5-102(a)(2) directs that the amount of such tax shall be fixed by the county legislative body of each county; and

WHEREAS, the rounding of ad valorem property tax amounts to the nearest dollar would simplify and expedite the payment and collection of property taxes in the county; and

WHEREAS, the rounding of property taxes and interests will not significantly impact the revenues of Benton County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the rounding of property taxes and interests will be a convenience to county taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Benton County Legislative Body desires to authorize the office of the Benton County Trustee to round property taxes and interests to the nearest dollar; NOW

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Benton County Commission meeting in regular session on the 15th day of December, 2025, that the office of the Benton County Trustee is hereby authorized to round individual ad valorem property taxes and interests to the nearest dollar. Such rounding shall be applied uniformly to all property tax bills in the county for real and personal property, whether such property is locally assessed or centrally assessed and shall be accomplished by rounding amounts ending in \$0.01 to \$0.49 down to the nearest dollar amounts ending in \$0.50 to \$0.99 up to the nearest dollar. Such rounding shall apply to both the tax amount and any interest added to delinquent taxes.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL be effective for the 2025 tax year and subsequent tax years, the public welfare requiring it.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____ .Absent _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-11

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to amend Resolution 20251117-14 as passed by the Benton County Commission in regular session on November 17, 2025 to correct a typographical error. (Regarding Clerk & Master Copier/Printer/Scanner System)

WHEREAS, it is necessary to fund a new Bizhub 301 Copier/Printer/Scanner System for the Benton County Clerk & Master's Office; and,

WHEREAS, this equipment is vital to the operations of this office; and,

WHEREAS, this equipment will be leased for the sum of\$ 175.00 per month; and,

WHEREAS, the county commission will need to grant Mayor Ward authority to enter into any needed agreement for this equipment and appropriate and budget funds for this purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that Benton County Mayor Mark Ward be given authority to enter into agreement as needed for the above-described equipment and that funds be appropriated and budgeted for this purpose as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 1250.00

INCREASE:

101.53400.330 LEASE PAYMENTS \$ 1250.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____ Absent _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-13

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds received from the TDEC-ARPA Grant to proper line items for expenditure to Harbor Town Utility and Community Development Partners.

WHEREAS, Benton County is in receipt of funds in the amount of\$ 11,629.27 received from the TDEC-ARPA Grant; and,

WHEREAS, these funds need to be budgeted to a proper line item for expenditure; and,

WHEREAS, these funds will be distributed to the Harbor Town Utility District(\$ 9,386.96) to pay their vendors/contactors and to Community Development Partners(\$ 2,242.31) for consulting fees; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that funds be budgeted for this purpose as follows:

INCREASE:

171.47401	AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT GRANT #1	\$11,629.27
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INCREASE:

171.91110.316	CONTRIBUTIONS	\$9,386.96
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171.91110.308	CONSULTANTS	\$2,242.31
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TOTAL		\$ 11,629.27
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Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
 On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE ___ Voted NAY ___ Passed _____ Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-14

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds to proper line items for expenditure to Harbor Town Utility and Community Development Partners.

WHEREAS, Benton County is in receipt of funds in the amount of\$ 11,629.27 received from the TDEC-ARPA Grant; and,

WHEREAS, these funds only cover the grant portion of the county's obligation (Local Cost) to Harbor Town Utility District and Community Development Partners; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds need to be appropriated and budgeted to allow for the remaining payments to Harbor Town Utility District(\$ 1,408.04) to pay their vendors/contactors and to Community Development Partners(\$ 5,757.69) for consulting fees; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that funds be appropriated and budgeted for this purpose as follows:

INCREASE:

171.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 7,165.73
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INCREASE:

171.91110.316	CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 1,408.04
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171.91110.308	CONSULTANTS	\$ 5,757.69
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TOTAL		\$ 7,165.73
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Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
 On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____ Absent _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-15

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR: JI MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 5,250.00 to an appropriate expenditure line to pay for County Commission voting software and permission to enter into any related agreements.

WHEREAS, Benton County's current software license for County Commission voting use will expire at the end of the current calendar year; and,

WHEREAS, funds need to be appropriated and budgeted to a proper line item to pay for

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that permission is given to enter into any needed agreements with Open Meeting Technologies concerning the above referenced software and service and that funds be appropriated and budgeted for this purpose as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$5,250.00

INCREASE:

101.51100.312 CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE AGENCIES \$5,250.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____ Absent _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

**SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS KEITH ARNOLD, PHIL MELTON
AND JEFF MURPHY**

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Commissioners Arnold and Murphy to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of\$ 6,000.00 to fund an AI Technology subscription for use of the Benton County Chamber of Commerce.

WHEREAS, tourism is a large contributor to the overall economy of Benton County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Benton County Chamber of Commerce and it's Director Loris Matlock, work tirelessly to promote Benton County Tourism opportunities locally and across the entire region; and

WHEREAS, there exists tools and technology that would be of great benefit to our Tourism Director, the Chamber of Commerce, The Tennessee River Resort District Board, and the Benton County Government. This technology called Placer AI and has already been a proven asset to neighboring counties; and

WHEREAS, this access to valuable information would allow The Chamber, TRRD, and Benton County to see demographic data to gauge our tourism promotion efforts, and help all that are involved in promoting tourism make better decisions as to where and how to invest our marketing efforts; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Benton County Commission meeting in regular session on the 15th Day of December, 2025 approves funding the amount of\$ 6,000, for a one-year subscription to Placer AI, starting January 1, 2026 and appropriates and budgets funds for this purpose as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$6,000.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.58110.316 TOURISM \$6,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____

On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed--- **Absent**

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-17

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 18,150.00 to expenditure line items for purchasing Ballistic Shields for School Resource Officers.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff's Office has received revenues in the amount of \$150,000.00 From the School Resource Officer Grant to be used for paying salaries and outfitting School Resource Officers,,and

WHEREAS, funds in the amount of \$97,283.00 were appropriated at budget time for salaries, leaving a grant balance of \$52,717.00, and

WHEREAS, The Benton County Sheriffs department seeks to purchase 4 expandable ballistic shields for School Resource Officers to increase the safety and security of officers and their assigned school, and

WHEREAS, Funds in the amount of \$18,150.00 will need to be appropriated to the correct line item for expenditure.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th day of December, 2025 that the funds in the amount of \$18,150.00 received by the Benton County Sheriff's Office be budgeted as follows.

DECREASE FUND BALANCE:

101.39000	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$18,150.00
		\$18,150.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.716	Law Enforcement Equipment	\$18,000.00
101.54110.327	Freight	\$150.00
		\$18,150.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY----- Passed
.....Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-18

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of\$ 12,000.00 to an appropriate expenditure line to help fund ballpark improvements at the Benton County Sports Complex.

WHEREAS, in the Benton County FY26 Budget, funds were put in place for improvements at the Sports Complex Ballfields; and,

WHEREAS, sealed bids were recently solicited and received for improvements to landscaping and related work; and,

WHEREAS, bids were reviewed and discussed by the Parks & Recreation Board and the Property Committee and all bids came in over the remaining amount budgeted for this purpose; **and**,

WHEREAS, formal acceptance of a bid is delayed until additional funds can be appropriated and budgeted to meet this need; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds need to be appropriated and budgeted to a proper line item to fund this project and allow for acceptance of a bid; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that funds be appropriated and budgeted for this purpose as follows:

DECREASE:

171.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 12,000.00

INCREASE:

171.91110.724 SITE DEVELOPMENT \$12,000.00

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed ___ Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-19

SPONSORED BY THE BENTON COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by the Benton County Budget Committee, to modify the distribution of the Victim's Assistance Fee

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated 40-24-109 allows for any county legislative body to establish a "victim's assistance assessment" of forty-five dollars(\$ 45.00) to fund a program which assists victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, this victim's assistance fee is currently established and collected in Benton County; and

WHEREAS, The Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center and Women's Rape Assistance Program (WRAP) serve victims of severe sexual and physical abuse by offering services such as forensic interviews, court preparation and victim advocacy; and

WHEREAS, The Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center and Women's Rape Assistance Program (WRAP) request to become the designated recipients of this fee with 50% going to Carl Perkind Center and 50% going to WRAP; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that funds outlined above be distributed as described.

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____ .Absent

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

RESOLUTION NO. 20251215-20

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds received from Airport Grants to a proper line item for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Airport has received a payments totaling \$ 44,697.88 from State of Tennessee as grant reimbursement; and,

WHEREAS, these monies need to be budgeted to a proper expenditure account to pay associated invoices; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 15th Day of December, 2025 that funds be budgeted as follows:

INCREASE:

189.47590 OTHER FEDERAL THROUGH STATE \$44,697.88

INCREASE:

189.91110.717 MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT \$44,697.88

Upon a Motion by _____ Seconded by _____
On a Roll Call Vote _____ Voted AYE _____ Voted NAY _____ Passed _____; Absent _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN

