

**BENTON COUNTY MARCH 16, 2026**

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON MARCH 16, 2026 THAT THE BENTON COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION  
AT THE BENTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE @ 6:00 PM.**

Opening of meeting was by Sheriff Kenny Christopher or Deputy.

Invocation was led by Charles Cooper and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nick Horton

**ROLL CALL BY COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN- 16 Present and 2 Absent  
(Frank Lashlee and Rocky Presson)**

**ANNOUNCING OF QUORUM BY COUNTY CLERK, Wanda Malin  
APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Price to approve the agenda.  
On a voice vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**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) Commissioners Forum**
  - 4) County Mayor, Attorney, Finance Advisor, or Proclamations**
  - 5) Approval of Minutes**
  - 6) Report of Public Utilities**
  - 7) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the amount of \$ 5165.00 received from an Airport Terminal Renovation Grant to a proper line item for expenditure. (20260316-01)**

- 8) A RESOLUTION by DOE Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 35000.00 received from the State for reimbursement for paid Parental Leave to the school's budget. (20260316-02)
- 9) A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to budget funds in the amount of \$948.86 received from insurance payments on damaged sheriff department vehicles to an expenditure line item to allow for proper expenditure. (20260316-03)
- 10) A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to budget funds in the amount of \$372.51 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure. (20260316-04)
- 11) A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$8000.00 to fund a reimbursable grant from the states for salaries and wages. (20260316-05)
- 12) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$23,962.86 to the Animal Shelter Budget in order to close out the balance on the Tuturea Fund. (20260316-06)
- 13) A Resolution by Mayor Ward to Appropriate funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 to cover a short fall in the Sanitation Management budget for Waste Tire Disposal. (20260316-07)
- 14) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the total amount of \$ 2500.00 received from donations, to a proper line item for expenditure in the Animal Shelter Budget to purchase fencing. (20260316-08)
- 15) A RESOLUTION, by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 1500.00 to cover an expenditure obligation to Guardian Advisors, LLC for debt service fees. (20260316-09)
- 16) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ 1000.00 to a proper line item for expenditure in the Senior Center's Budget for the purchase of food. (20260316-10)
- 17) A RESOLUTION by Mayor Ward to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ 3500.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the line item for Pauper Burials. (20260316-11)
- 18) Appointing Notaries
- 19) Any Other Business
- 20) Adjourn

**CITIZENS FORUM**

**COMMISSIONERS FORUM**

Terry Kiehn- Rules of Order; Private Act  
 Dwayne Fowler- Audit Committee Meeting; TVA Impact Funds  
 Scott Hill, SCR- Facebook Live Streaming Policy  
 Jerry Price- Public Open Records; Formerly Requested Documentation regarding outcome from Benton Co. Airport taking back hangers

**COUNTY MAYOR, ATTORNEY, FINANCE ADVISOR, OR PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Mark Ward and the Benton County Commissioners recognized and applauded Charles Cooper for doing a great job while employed at the Benton County Mayor's Office as Administrative Assistant. Mr. Cooper has resigned from his position and his last day on the job was Friday, March 13, 2026.

Mayor Mark Ward introduced Brian Williams from Securitas Technology Corporation to the Benton County Commission regarding summary for a "New" Security Camera System at the Benton County Jail

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Kiehn and seconded by Commissioner Holland for the approval of minutes. On a voice vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the Report of Public Utilities. On a voice vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 20260316-01**

**SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD**

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & PROPERTY COMMITTEES**

**March 16, 2026**

**A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the amount of \$ 5165.00 received from an Airport Terminal Renovation Grant to a proper line item for expenditure.**

**WHEREAS, the Benton County Airport has received a payment of \$ 5165.00 from the State of Tennessee for a Terminal Renovation Grant; 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 16th Day of March, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:**

**INCREASE:**

189.47590            OTHER FEDERAL THROUGH STATE            \$ 5165.00

**INCREASE:**

189.91110.724        SITE DEVELOPMENT                                \$ 5165.00

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

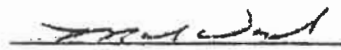
**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN**

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Holland to approve Resolution No. 20260316-01. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316-02

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY DOE MARK FLORENCE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION by DOE Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 35000.00 received from the State for reimbursement for paid Parental Leave to the school's budget.

WHEREAS: The Benton County Board of Education received a reimbursement for State Paid Parental Leave from the state;

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

INCREASE

46596 PPL Paid Parental Leave \$35,000.00

71100 370 Contracted Subs \$30,000.00

71100 370 Contracted Subs 5,000.00

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Melton to approve Resolution No. 20260316-02. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 03**

**SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER**

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES**

**March 16, 2026**

**A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to budget funds in the amount of \$948.86 received from insurance payments on damaged sheriff department vehicles to an expenditure line item to allow for proper expenditure.**

**WHEREAS, Payments in the amount of \$948.86 have been received from insurance reimbursements on wrecked vehicles and,**

**WHEREAS, it is necessary to move said funds into an expenditure line item for proper expenditure.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:**

<b>Decrease Fund Balance:</b>		<b>Amount:</b>
101.49700	Insurance Recovery	\$948.86
		\$948.86
<b>Increase Expenditures:</b>		<b>Amount:</b>
101.58400.338	Maintenance and Repair of Vehicles	\$948.86
		\$948.86

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**

Motion was made by Commissioner Bain and seconded by Commissioner Price to approve Resolution No. 20260316-03. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 04

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to budget funds in the amount of \$372.51 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff's Office has received revenues in the amount of \$372.51 for the month of February, 2026, and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to budget said revenues in the amount of \$372.51 to the appropriate expenditure accounts within the Sheriff's Office and Jail Budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$372.51 received by the Benton County Sheriff's Office for revenues for the month of February, 2026 be budgeted as follows.

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.44170	Miscellaneous Refunds	\$300.00
101.44560	Damages Recovered from Individuals	\$72.51
		<b>\$372.51</b>

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.353	Towing Services	\$300.00
101.54210.335	Maintenance and Repair – Buildings	\$72.51
		<b>\$372.51</b>

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Bain to approve Resolution No. 20260316-04. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 05

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$8000.00 to fund a reimbursable grant from the states for salaries and wages.

WHEREAS, The State of Tennessee offers a reimbursable grant through the Tennessee Highway Safety Office, which pays salaries for deputies working saturation work details, and

WHEREAS, Funds should have been appropriated at budget time to cover expected expenditures prior to receipt of reimbursements, and

WHEREAS, It will be necessary to appropriate \$8,000.00 to the proper expenditure line item to cover previously paid, and future expenditures for the fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, When reimbursement checks are received, they can be deposited directly to the County General Fund.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that funds in the amount of \$8000.00 be budgeted in the following manner:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.39000	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$8000.00
		<b>\$8000.00</b>

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.189	Other Salaries and Wages	\$8000.00
		<b>\$8000.00</b>

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. 20260316-05 was Pulled\*\*\***

**RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 06**

**SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD**

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**March 16, 2026**

**A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$23,962.86 to the Animal Shelter Budget in order to close out the balance on the Tuturea Fund.**

**WHEREAS, there exists a need to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 23,962.86 to the Animal Shelter Budget in order to "carry over" the Balance into the new fiscal year; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026, that funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:**

**DECREASE:**

101.100.39000      UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE (Tuturea)      \$ 23,962.86

**INCREASE:**

101.100.55120.357      VETERINARY SERVICES      \$ 23,962.86

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**

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Fowler to amend Resolution No. 20260316-06 (See Below Amendment #1 to Resolution No. 20260316-06). On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed to Amend.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**\*\*\*Amendment #1 to Resolution No. 20260316-06\*\*\***

**AMENDMENT #1 TO RESOLUTION 20260316-06**

**By the Benton County Budget Committee**

**To delete everything after the header and replace with the following:**

**A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$23,962.86 to the Animal Shelter Budget in order to close out the balance on the Tuturea Fund.**

**WHEREAS, there exists a need to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 23,962.86 to the Animal Shelter Budget in order to order to close out the balance on the Tuturea Fund; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026, that funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:**

**DECREASE:**

101.100.39000      UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE (Tutirea)      \$ 23,962.86

**INCREASE:**

101.100.55120.357      VETERINARY SERVICES      \$ 23,962.86

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**

Motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve as amended Resolution No. 20260316-06 (See Above Amendment#1 to Resolution No. 20260316-06). On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed as Amended.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 07

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

March 16, 2026

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

A Resolution by Mayor Ward to appropriate funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 to cover a short fall in the Sanitation Management budget for Waste Tire Disposal.

WHEREAS, due to increased fees being charged to the county for waste tire disposal, the line item for funding this service is depleted, and

WHEREAS, in order to properly fund this line item, the Benton County Mayor requests that funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 be appropriated from the unassigned fund balance to the Sanitation Management budget, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$ 10,000.00 be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 10,000.00
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INCREASE EXPENDITURE:

101.55710.399	OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$ 10,000.00
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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

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to approve Resolution No. 20260316-07. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK



RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 09

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: Budget Committee

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION, by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 1500.00 to cover an expenditure obligation to Guardian Advisors, LLC for debt service fees.

WHEREAS, there exists a need to fund the expenditure line for paying for fees related to debt service from Guardian Advisors, LLC; and,

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 1500.00 in order to cover this expenditure; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

151.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 1500.00

INCREASE:

151.82330.699 OTHER DEBT SERVICE \$ 1500.00

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve Resolution No. 20260316-09. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 10

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: Budget Committee

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ 1000.00 to a proper line item for expenditure in the Senior Center's Budget for the purchase of food.

WHEREAS, in order to properly fund the Benton County Office on Aging/Senior Center, it will be necessary to appropriate funds in the amount of \$1000.00 to an appropriate expenditure account within the Senior Center Budget for the purchase of food.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$1000.00 be appropriated and budgeted as follows.

DECREASE:

101.39000 Unassigned Fund Balance \$1000.00

INCREASE:

101.56300.422 Food Supplies \$1000.00

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Price and seconded by Commissioner Bain to amend Resolution No. 20260316-10 (Amendment to change the Amount from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 in the Above Resolution No. 20260316-10). On a roll call vote 8 Ayes, 8 No (Furr, Melton, Arnold, Horton, Miller, Ward, Douglas, and Burke), and 2 Absent. Motion Passed to Amend Failed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to approve original Resolution No. 20260316-10 (See Above Original Resolution No. 20260316-10). On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 11

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: Budget Committee

March 16, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Ward to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ 3500.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the line item for Pauper Burials.

WHEREAS, there is currently a low balance in the line item that funds pauper burials, and,

WHEREAS, to properly fund this line item, it is necessary to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ 3500.00 to the line item as outlined below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th day of March, 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$ 3500.00 be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 3500.00
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INCREASE:

101.51300.341	PAUPER BURLALS	\$ 3500.00
		\$ 3500.00

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to approve Resolution No. 20260316-11. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

NOTARIES

Wendy L. Vaughn, Rolando S. Banasco, and Haley Briona Oatsvall

Motion was made by Commissioner Nunnery and seconded by Commissioner Kiehn to approve notaries. On a voice vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Carries.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to Suspend the Rules to bring to the floor Resolution No. 20260316-12. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed to Suspend the Rules.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO. 20260316 - 12**

**SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD**

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: Budget Committee**

**March 16, 2026**

**A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$ 25000.00 to cover a projected shortfall for services rendered by the County Attorney**

**WHEREAS, Benton County is in receipt of invoices from the county attorney for services rendered; and**

**WHEREAS, the current funds budgeted for this purpose are projected to be insufficient for properly funding for these and future services; and,**

**WHEREAS, it is reasonable and prudent that funds in the amount of \$ 25000.00 be appropriated and budgeted for the purpose of meeting this obligation; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 16th Day of March 2026 that funds be appropriated and budgeted for this purpose as follows:**

**DECREASE:**

101.39000          UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE          \$ 25000.00

**INCREASE:**

101.51400.331          LEGAL SERVICES          \$ 25000.00

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**

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve Resolution No. 20260316-12. On a roll call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Passed.

  
MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR

  
WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Melton to adjourn the meeting. On roll a call vote 16 Ayes, 0 No, and 2 Absent. Motion Carries.

**WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK, DO CERTIFY THIS TO BE A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF THE MARCH 16, 2026, BENTON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN