

BENTON COUNTY MAY 18, 2026

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON MAY 18, 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 Matthew Arnold and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Matthew Arnold

**ROLL CALL BY COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN– 14 Present and 4 Absent
(Rosanne K. Ward, Sonny Hall, Keith Arnold, and Debbie Bain)**

******Chairman Pro-Temp Jeff Murphy served as Temporary Chairman******

ANNOUNCING OF QUORUM BY COUNTY CLERK, Wanda Malin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Price and seconded by Commissioner Kiehn to amend the agenda for Line Item 23 (*Amendment to Resolution No. 16*). On a voice vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed to Amend Agenda.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve amended Agenda. On a voice vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed for Amended Agenda.


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) **Approval of Releasing the Trustee of Benton County from the 2024 Tax Aggregate of \$8,568,410**
- 8) **A RESOLUTION by Director of Schools Mark Florence to move funds in the amount of \$ 23,140.23 within the school's budget. (20260518-01)**
- 9) **A RESOLUTION by Director of Schools Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$ 255,000 within the school's budget. (20260518-02)**
- 10) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 to cover funding of County Commissioner's payroll for the remainder of the current fiscal year. (20260518-03)**
- 11) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$14,418.25 to various Benton County Offices in order to be properly funded and finish out the remainder of the fiscal year. (20260518-04)**
- 12) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$ 360.11 received from miscellaneous refunds to a proper line item for expenditure. (20260518-05)**
- 13) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$15000.00 to cover funding of autopsies for the remainder of the current fiscal year. (20260518-06)**
- 14) **A RESOLUTION by Benton County Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$6225.00 received from the City of Camden to the library budget. (20260518-07)**
- 15) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$165,487.64 received from the Wortham Masonry Invoice Terminal Renovation Grant to a proper line item for expenditure. (20260518-08)**
- 16) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate funds in the amount of \$16,000 to a proper line item for expenditures related to ARPA within the Capital Projects Fund budget. (20260518-09)**
- 17) **A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,408.97 to cover a projected shortfall in Jail Medical Claims. (20260518-10)**
- 18) **A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$3300.00 received from the Sex Offender Registry to appropriate line items in the Sheriff's budget for expenditure. (20260518-11)**
- 19) **A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$35.00 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure. (20260518-12)**
- 20) **A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$325.00 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure. (20260518-13)**
- 21) **A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate funds in the amount of \$72,600.00 within the Jails Budget to address expected shortfalls within payroll line items. (20260518-14)**
- 22) **A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate funds in the amount of \$76,000.00 within the Sheriff's Budget to address expected shortfalls within payroll line items. (20260518-15)**

AMENDMENT #1 TO RESOLUTION 20260518-16

- 23) A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to appropriate funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 within the Sheriff's Budget to cover a short-fall in overtime pay for the Sheriff's Dept. (20260518-16)
- 24) A RESOLUTION, by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$8500.00 to cover water bills for the Benton County Jail for the remainder of the fiscal year. (20260518-17)
- 25) Appointing Notaries
- 26) Any Other Business
- 27) Adjourn

CITIZENS FORUM

Grant Southerland- Elected as New Post Commander 102
Debbie Baldwin- Grandparent of a Camden Marching Band Member, Fundraisers, Etc.

COMMISSIONERS FORUM

Rocky Presson

COUNTY MAYOR, ATTORNEY, FINANCE ADVISOR, OR PROCLAMATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Kiehn and seconded by Commissioner Horton for the approval of minutes. On a voice vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Motion was made by Commissioner Nunnery and seconded by Commissioner Burke to approve the Report of Public Utilities. On a voice vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RELEASING THE TRUSTEE OF BENTON COUNTY FROM 2024 TAX AGGREGATE
\$8,568,410

Motion was made by Commissioner Nunnery and seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve Releasing 2024 Tax Aggregate from Trustee. On a voice vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-01

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS MARK FLORENCE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Director of Schools Mark Florence to move funds in the amount of \$ 23,140.23 within the school's budget.

WHEREAS: The estimate of expenditures was not enough to meet the necessary expenditures for certain subsidiary items in the primary series in the School Budget;

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

INCREASE

71100 722	Regular Instruction Equipment	\$10,353.01
71300 730	Vocational Equipment	\$12,787.22

DECREASE

71100 189	Regular Instruction Other Salaries	\$ 3,599.98
71100 201	Social Security	428.78
71100 204	Retirement	407.89
71100 212	Medicare	100.36
71100 471	Instructional Software	5,816.00
71300 116	Vocational Salaries	10,015.70
71300 201	Social Security	675.09
71300 204	Retirement	1,813.18
71300 212	Medicare	157.90
71300 399	Other Contracted Services	125.35

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 Price to approve Resolution No. 20260518-01. On a roll call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-02

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS MARK FLORENCE

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Director of Schools Mark Florence to budget funds in the amount of \$255,000 within the school's budget.

WHEREAS: The State Department of Education has funded a Summer Learning Camp;

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

INCREASE

46590 SLC	Other State Education Funds	\$210,000.00
47590 SLC	Other Federal Thru State	45,000.00

INCREASE

71100 116 SLC	Teachers	\$ 67,700.00
71100 163 SLC	Educational Assistants	15,360.00
71100 201 SLC	Social Security	5,151.00
71100 204 SLC	State Retirement	7,104.00
71100 212 SLC	Medicare	1,205.00
71100 217 SLC	Hybrid Retirement	688.00
71100 399 SLC	Other Contracted Services	6,250.00
71100 429 SLC	Instructional Supplies	2,500.00
72120 131 SLC	Health Services Medical Personnel	5,400.00
72120 201 SLC	Social Security	335.00
72120 204 SLC	State Retirement	486.00
72120 212 SLC	Employer Medicare	79.00
72120 217 SLC	Hybrid Retirement	56.00
72130 123 SLC	Other Student Support Guidance	5,000.00
72130 201 SLC	Social Security	311.00
72130 204 SLC	Retirement	450.00
72130 212 SLC	Medicare	73.00
72130 217 SLC	Hybrid Retirement	51.00

72610 166 SLC	Custodial Personnel	7,840.00
72610 201 SLC	Social Security	488.00
72610 204 SLC	State Retirement	515.00
72610 212 SLC	Employer Medicare	114.00
72710 105 SLC	Transportation Supervisor	2,000.00
72710 142 SLC	Mechanics	6,000.00
72710 146 SLC	Bus Drivers	18,000.00
72710 201 SLC	Social Security	1,612.00
72710 204 SLC	Retirement	2,195.00
72710 212 SLC	Medicare	378.00
72710 315 SLC	Contracts with Vehicle Owners	6,000.00
72710 412 SLC	Diesel Fuel	23,497.00
73100 105 SLC	Cafeteria Supervisor	2,000.00
73100 165 SLC	Cafeteria Personnel	11,920.00
73100 201 SLC	Social Security	864.00
73100 204 SLC	State Retirement	915.00
73100 212 SLC	Employer Medicare	202.00
73100 422 SLC	Food Supplies	1,000.00

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 Melton and seconded by Commissioner Horton to approve Resolution No. 20260518-02. On a roll call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-03

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,000 to cover funding of County Commissioners' payroll for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

WHEREAS, there exists a projected shortfall in the County Commission's payroll line item; and,

WHEREAS, in order to properly fund this payroll item, it is necessary to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,000 for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this 18th day of May, 2026, that the following funds are appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 10,000

INCREASE:

101.51100.191 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FEES \$ 9100

101.51100.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 700

101.51100.212 MEDICARE \$ 200

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 Nunnery and seconded by Commissioner Lashlee to approve Resolution No. 20260518-03. On a roll call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-04

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$14,418.25 to various Benton County Offices in order to be properly funded and finish out the remainder of the fiscal year.

WHEREAS, funds will need to be appropriated to cover costs associated with Benton County offices' payroll shortage, and;

WHEREAS, Mayor Ward requests that the funds, as outlined below, be appropriated for these purposes, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the following funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 1208.65
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INCREASE:

101.51300.119	ACCOUNTANTS	\$ 1051.00
101.51300.201	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 65.16
101.51300.212	MEDICARE	\$ 15.24
101.51300.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 68.84
101.51300.210	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 8.41

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 477.17
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INCREASE:

101.51500.106	DEPUTIES	\$ 415.00
101.51500.201	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 25.73
101.51500.212	MEDICARE	\$ 6.02
101.51500.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 27.10
101.51500.210	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 3.32

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 2795.65
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INCREASE:

101.51600.106	DEPUTIES	\$ 2431.00
101.51600.201	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 150.72
101.51600.212	MEDICARE	\$ 35.25
101.51600.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 159.23
101.51600.210	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 19.45

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 1434.05

INCREASE:

101.51800.105 DIRECTOR \$ 1247.00
101.51800.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 77.31
101.51800.212 MEDICARE \$ 18.08
101.51800.204 RETIREMENT \$ 81.68
101.51800.210 UNEMPLOYMENT \$ 9.98

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 5447.18

INCREASE:

101.53100.106 DEPUTIES \$ 4735.43
101.53100.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 293.60
101.53100.212 MEDICARE \$ 68.92
101.53100.204 RETIREMENT \$ 311.35
101.53100.210 UNEMPLOYMENT \$ 37.88

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 93.15

INCREASE:

101.55120.103 ASSISTANTS \$ 81.00
101.55120.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 5.02
101.55120.212 MEDICARE \$ 1.17
101.55120.204 RETIREMENT \$ 5.31
101.55120.210 UNEMPLOYMENT \$ 0.65

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 2105.65

INCREASE:

101.56300.105 DIRECTOR \$ 1831.00
101.56300.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 113.52
101.56300.212 MEDICARE \$ 26.55
101.56300.204 RETIREMENT \$ 119.93
101.56300.210 UNEMPLOYMENT \$ 14.65

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 763.60

INCREASE:

101.58220.167 MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL \$ 664.00
101.56300.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 41.17
101.56300.212 MEDICARE \$ 9.63

101.56300.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 43.49
101.56300.210	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 5.31

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 93.15
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INCREASE:

101.55710.149	LABORERS	\$ 81.00
101.56300.201	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 5.02
101.56300.212	MEDICARE	\$ 1.17
101.56300.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 5.31
101.56300.210	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 0.65

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 Kiehn to approve Resolution No. 20260518-04. On a roll call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.



 MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



 WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-05

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward, to budget funds in the amount of \$360.11 received from miscellaneous refunds to a proper line item for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Senior Citizens Office was issued a refund from their Wal-Mart credit card account totaling \$360.11 and must be budgeted to the proper line-item for future expenditure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that funds in the amount of \$360.11 be budgeted in the following manner:

INCREASE REVENUES :

101.44170 MISCELLANEOUS REFUND \$ 360.11

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.56300.422 FOOD SUPPLIES \$ 360.11

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 Horton and seconded by Commissioner Holland to approve Resolution No. 20260518-05. On a role call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-07

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Benton County Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$6225.00 received from the City of Camden to the library budget.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Library has received funds in the amount of \$6225.00 for City of Camden allocation/contribution collected in the month of April (4th quarter fiscal year) 2026; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to budget the said funds in the amount of \$6225.00 within the library budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$6225.00 received by the Benton County Library for the City of Camden allocation/contribution received for the month of April (4th quarter fiscal year) 2026 be budgeted as the following:

INCREASED REVENUES:

101.48130 CONTRIBUTIONS (City of Camden Allocation) \$ 6225.00

INCREASED EXPENDITURES

101.56500.169 PART-TIME PERSONNEL \$ 6225.00

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 Holland and seconded by Commissioner Melton to approve Resolution No. 20260518-07. On a roll call vote 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-08

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & PROPERTY COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to budget funds in the amount of \$165,487.64 received from the Wortham Masonry Invoice Terminal Renovation Grant to a proper line item for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Airport has received a payment of \$165,487.64 from a Terminal Renovation Grant; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary and prudent to budget these funds to a proper line item to allow for expenditures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on the 18th day of May, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:

INCREASE:

189.47590 OTHER FEDERAL THROUGH STATE \$ 165,487.64

INCREASE:

189.91110.724 SITE DEVELOPMENT \$ 165,487.64

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 Douglas to approve Resolution No. 20260518-08. On a roll call 14 Ayes, 0 No, and 4 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

Commissioner Keith Arnold enters the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-09

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate funds in the amount of \$16,000 to a proper line item for expenditures related to ARPA within the Capital Projects Fund budget.

WHEREAS, Benton County has identified a need to fulfill obligations related to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was previously anticipated in the current fiscal year budget; and

WHEREAS, in order to properly utilize these funds, they must be appropriated to a proper expenditure line item;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on the 18th day of May, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

171.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 16,000.00

INCREASE:

171.91110.308 CONSULTANTS \$ 16,000.00

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 Melton and seconded by Commissioner Holland to approve Resolution No. 202600518-09. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-10

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,408.97 to cover a projected shortfall in Jail Medical Claims.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Jail has identified a shortfall of funds in the line item used to pay inmate medical bills; and

WHEREAS, additional funds will need to be appropriated in order to sufficiently fund it 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 the 18th day of May 2026 that funds in the amount of \$10,408.97 be appropriated and budgeted in the following manner:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.39000	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$10,408.97
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INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54210.507	Medical Claims	\$10,408.97
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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 Price and seconded by Commissioner Melton to approve Resolution No. 20260518-10. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.



 MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



 WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-11

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$3300.00 received from the Sex Offender Registry to appropriate line items in the Sheriff's budget for expenditure.

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to budget said revenues in the amount of \$3300.00 to the appropriate expenditure accounts within the SOR budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that funds in the amount of \$3300.00 received by the Benton County Sheriff's Office for revenues be budgeted as follows:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.43395	Sexual Offender Registration Fee -- Sheriff	\$3300.00
		\$3300.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54160.599	Other Charges	\$2200.00
101.54160.358	Remittance of Revenues	\$1100.00
		\$3300.00

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 Horton to approve Resolution No. 20260518-11. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-12

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$35.00 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff's Office has received revenues in the amount of \$35.00 for the month of April, 2026; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to budget said revenues in the amount of \$35.00 to the appropriate expenditure accounts within the Jail's Budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$35.00 received by the Benton County Sheriff's Office for revenues for the month of April, be budgeted as follows:

INCREASE REVENUES:

101.44560	Damages Recovered from Individuals	\$35.00
		\$35.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54210.499	Other Supplies & Materials	\$35.00
		\$35.00

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 Kiehn to approve Resolution No. 20260518-12. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-13

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher to budget funds in the amount of \$325.00 received from miscellaneous sources to proper line items for expenditure.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff's Office has received revenues in the amount of \$325.00 for the month of April 2026; and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to budget said revenues in the amount of \$325.00 to the appropriate expenditure accounts within the Sheriff's Department Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the funds in the amount of \$325.00 received by the Benton County Sheriff's Office for revenues for the month of April 2026 be budgeted as follows:

INCREASE REVENUES:

101.44170	Miscellaneous Refunds – (Tow Bill)	\$325.00
		\$325.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.353	Towing Services	\$325.00
		\$325.00

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 Kiehn and seconded by Commissioner Burke to approve Resolution No. 20260518-13. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.



MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-14

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate funds in the amount of \$72,600.00 within the Jails Budget to address expected shortfalls within payroll line items.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff expects a shortfall of funds within various payroll line items; and,

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to appropriate funds from the unassigned fund balance line items to cover an expected payroll expense 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 18th day of May, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:

DECREASE FUND BALANCE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$72,600.00
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INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54210.105	SUPERVISOR/DIRECTOR(s)	\$3,000.00
101.54210.110	LIEUTENANT(s)	3,500.00
101.54210.115	SERGEANT(s)	20,000.00
101.54210.133	PARAPROFESSIONALS	5,000.00
101.54210.160	GUARDS	35,000.00
101.54210.165	CAFETERIA PERSONNEL	3,000.00
101.54210.167	MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL	3,100.00

TOTAL		\$72,600.00
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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 Melton and seconded by Commissioner Price to approve Resolution No. 20260518-14. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-15

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KENNY CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET & LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Benton County Sheriff Ken Christopher to appropriate funds in the amount of \$76,000.00 within the Sheriff's Budget to address expected shortfalls within payroll line items.

WHEREAS, the Benton County Sheriff expects a shortfall of funds within various payroll line items; and,

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to appropriate funds from the unassigned fund balance line items to cover an expected payroll expenses 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 18th day of May, 2026 that funds be budgeted as follows:

DECREASE FUND BALANCE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$76,000.00
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INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.105	SUPERVISOR/DIRECTOR(s)	\$25,000.00
101.54110.108	INVESTIGATOR(S)	12,000.00
101.54110.110	LIEUTENANT(s)	8,000.00
101.54110.115	SERGEANT(s)	25,000.00
101.54110.133	PARAPROFESSIONALS	3,000.00
101.54110.161	SECRETARY	3,000.00

TOTAL		\$76,000.00
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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 Melton and seconded by Commissioner Price to approve Resolution No. 20260518-15. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.



 MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR



 WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-16

SPONSORED BY THE BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUDGET AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to appropriate funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 within the Sheriff's Budget to cover a short-fall in overtime pay for the jail.

WHEREAS, The Benton County Sheriff's Department has identified a shortfall of funds in various line items, and

WHEREAS, Additional funds will need to be appropriated in order to sufficiently fund them 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 18th day of May, 2025 that funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 be budgeted in the following manner:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.39000	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$25,000.00
		\$25,000.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.187	Overtime Pay	\$25,000.00
		\$25,000.00

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 Fowler and seconded by Commissioner Nunnery to amend Resolution No. 20250518-16 (See below Amendment #1 to Resolution No. 2026018-16). On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed to Amend.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

*****Amendment #1 to Resolution 20260518-16*****

AMENDMENT #1 TO RESOLUTION 20260518-16

By the Benton County Budget Committee

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-16

SPONSORED BY THE BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF KEN CHRISTOPHER

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUDGET AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Sheriff Ken Christopher, to appropriate funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 within the Sheriff's Budget to cover a short-fall in overtime pay for the Sheriff's Dept.

WHEREAS, The Benton County Sheriff's Department has identified a shortfall of funds in various line items, and

WHEREAS, Additional funds will need to be appropriated in order to sufficiently fund them 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 18th day of May, 2025 that funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 be budgeted in the following manner:

DECREASE REVENUES:

101.39000	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$25,000.00
		\$25,000.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

101.54110.187	Overtime Pay	\$25,000.00
		\$25,000.00

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 Commissioner Price and seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve as amended Resolution 20260518-16 (See above Amended Resolution No. 20260518-16). On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed as Amended.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-17

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION, by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$8500.00 to cover water bills for the Benton County Jail for the remainder of the fiscal year.

WHEREAS, there exists a projected shortfall in the expenditure line item for water bills; and;

WHEREAS, it will be necessary to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$8500.00 in order to cover this expenditure.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of, May 2026 that funds in the amount of \$8500.00 be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE \$ 8500.00

INCREASE:

101.54210.454 WATER AND SEWER \$ 8500.00

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 Horton and seconded by Commissioner Douglas to approve Resolution No. 20260518-17. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

NOTARIES

Christopher Chase Jordan

Motion was made by Commissioner Nunnery and seconded by Commissioner Kiehn to approve notaries. On a voice vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Carries.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Motion was made by Commissioner Melton and seconded by Commissioner Nunnery to Suspend the Rules to bring to the floor Resolution No. 20260518-18, Resolution No. 20260518-19, and Resolution No. 20260518-20. On a roll call vote 12 Ayes, 3 No (Kiehn, Price and Fowler), and 3 Absent. Motion Passed to Suspend the Rules.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-18

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,792.00 to Benton County Sheriff Department's budget due to shortfall in payroll to be properly funded and finish out the remainder of the fiscal year.

WHEREAS, funds will need to be appropriated to cover costs associated with Benton County Sheriff's Department payroll shortage, and;

WHEREAS, Mayor Ward requests that the funds, as outlined below, be appropriated for these purposes, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the following funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 10,792.00

INCREASE:

101.54110.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 4,712.00
101.54110.212 MEDICARE \$ 1,102.00
101.54110.204 RETIREMENT \$ 4,978.00

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 Nunnery to approve Resolution No. 20260518-18. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-19
SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$3,550.00 to Benton County Sheriff Department for a short fall in overtime in order to be properly funded and finish out the remainder of the fiscal year.

WHEREAS, funds will need to be appropriated to cover costs associated with Benton County Sheriff's Department payroll shortage, and;

WHEREAS, Mayor Ward requests that the funds, as outlined below, be appropriated for these purposes, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the following funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$ 3,550.00

INCREASE:

101.54110.201 SOCIAL SECURITY \$ 1550.00
101.54110.212 MEDICARE \$ 362.50
101.54110.204 RETIREMENT \$ 1638.00

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 Fowler and seconded by Commissioner Kiehn to approve Resolution No. 20260518-19. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 20260518-20

SPONSORED BY BENTON COUNTY MAYOR MARK WARD

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 18, 2026

A RESOLUTION by Mayor Mark Ward to appropriate and budget funds in the amount of \$10,309.20 to Benton County Jail for a shortfall in the jail's budget to be properly funded and finish out the remainder of the fiscal year.

WHEREAS, funds will need to be appropriated to cover costs associated with Benton County Jail payroll shortage, and;

WHEREAS, Mayor Ward requests that the funds, as outlined below, be appropriated for these purposes, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Tennessee assembled in regular session on this the 18th day of May, 2026 that the following funds be appropriated and budgeted as follows:

DECREASE:

101.39000	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$ 10,309.20
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INCREASE:

101.54210.201	SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 4501.20
101.54210.212	MEDICARE	\$ 1052.70
101.54210.204	RETIREMENT	\$ 4755.30

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 Kiehn and seconded by Commissioner Melton to approve Resolution No. 20260518-20. On a roll call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Passed.


MARK WARD, COUNTY MAYOR


WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to adjourn the meeting. On roll a call vote 15 Ayes, 0 No, and 3 Absent. Motion Carries.

WANDA MALIN, COUNTY CLERK, DO CERTIFY THIS TO BE A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF THE MAY 18, 2026, BENTON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING.



COUNTY MAYOR, MARK WARD



COUNTY CLERK, WANDA MALIN