

**RHEA COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. PHIL SWAFFORD BUILDING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

Present were: Jim Reed, Chairman; Jim Vincent, County Executive; Linda Shaver, County Clerk; Commissioners: Cashman, Dunn, Fisher, Stephens, Thedford, Welch Absent: Francisco  
Commission meeting opened with Prayer and Pledge to the American Flag.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS ON AUGUST 19 AND AUGUST 26, 2025**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Welch to approve the minutes of the previous meetings.

MOTION CARRIED BY UPLIFTED HAND VOTE AND SO ORDERED

**3. DISTRICT 7 UNEXPIRED TERM ELECTION RULES**

Motion Commissioner Cashman, second Commissioner Fisher to approve the District 7 Unexpired term election rules. Copy of rules follow next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**4. RHEA COUNTY COMMISSION 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT VACANCY**

Commissioner Welch nominated Jacob Ellis, Commissioner Cashman seconded the nomination Commissioner Cashman made the motion that nominations cease and Jacob Ellis be elected by Acclamation. Commissioner Thedford seconded the motion.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**5. ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Welch that Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Budget Committee and Purchase and Finance Committee remain the same for the annual term.

VOTED: AYE: Dunn, Fisher, Reed, Stephens, Thedford, Welch NAY: Cashman

ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**6. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Dunn to approve Budget Amendments County General Fund 101, Amendment #1 through #31. Amendments follow next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**7. CHAIRMAN REED CALLED FOR RE-ELECTION, DUE TO A MAJORITY VOTE ON PREVIOUS VOTE, FOR Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Budget and Finance Committee.**

**VOTE FOR CHAIRMAN:**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Dunn for Chairman of commission to remain the same as previous year.

VOTED: AYE: Dunn, Fisher, Reed, Stephens, Thedford, Welch, Ellis NAY: Cashman

ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED FOR CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSION REMAIN THE SAME, CHAIRMAN JIM REED RE-ELECTED

**8. VOTE FOR VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Dunn for Vice-Chairman of commission to remain the same as previous year.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED FOR VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSION REMAIN THE SAME, VICE-CHAIRMAN PHILIP DUNN RE-ELECTED

**9. VOTE FOR PURCHASE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Cashman for Finance Committee to remain the same as previous year.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

ELECTED: Commissioner Welch, Dunn, Francisco, Stephens

MOTION CARRIED FOR PURCHASE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE AND SO ORDERED

**10. VOTE FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Welch for Budget Committee to Remain the same as previous year with the change from former Commissioner Tommy Ballard to Commissioner Jacob Ellis.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

ELECTED: Commissioner Cashman, Ellis, Fisher, Reed, Thedford

**11. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Stephens to approve Budget Amendments Solid Waste Fund 116, Amendment #1. Amendment follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**12. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Cashman to approve Budget Amendments Highway Department Fund 131, Amendments #1 and #2. Amendments Follow next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Dunn to approve Budget Amendments School Department Fund 141, Amendments #1 through #7. Amendments follow next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**14. READ INTO MINUTES RHEA COUNTY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Stephens to Read Into the Minutes Rhea County Committee Minutes from Rhea County Regional Planning Commission Meeting on May, June, July 2025. Minutes from Rhea Medical Center Board of Directors' Meeting July, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED BY UPLIFTED HAND VOTE AND SO ORDERED

**15. LIST OF DELETIONS, CHANGES, AND PICKUPS MADE FROM PROPERTY ASSESSOR AND THE STATE TO THE 2023 TAX ROLL.**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Fisher to approve the report from the Rhea County Trustee, Neva Webb with the List of Deletions, Changes and Pickups. List follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**16. RESOLUTION #25-09-69 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TOURIST DEVELOPMENT AND RHEA COUNTY**

Motion Commissioner Cashman, second Commissioner Thedford to approve Resolution #25-09-69 Approving and Accepting The Grant Contract Between the State of Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Rhea County for \$4900.00 with a Grantee Match of \$1470.00 for a Total Project of \$6370.00 to be used for Map and Rack Cards. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco

MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**17. RESOLUTION #25-09-70 AUTHORIZING STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**

Motion Commissioner Dunn, second Commissioner Thedford to approve Resolution #25-09-70 Authorizing State of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security Grant Contract Known as the Statewide School Resource Officer (SRO) Grant Program in the Amount of \$600,000 for Rhea County Sheriff's Department to Maintain School Resource Officers for each school. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**18. RESOLUTION #25-09-71 APPROVING GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION AND RHEA COUNTY**

Motion Commissioner Welch, second Commissioner Cashman to approve Resolution #25-09-71 Approving Grant Contract Between the State of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and Rhea County for \$1,568,399.00 With A Grantee Match Of \$1,568,399.00 For Two Soccer Fields-Lighting, Fencing, Bleachers With Concrete Pad, Concession/Restroom Building and Parking at the Abel Sports Complex, approved with City of Dayton approval. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**19. RESOLUTION #25-09-72 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE \$30,000 NON-MATCHING GRANT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY AND RHEA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR ENFORCEMENT OF TENNESSEE DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE LAWS**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Dunn to approve Resolution #25-09-72, As presented above highlighted. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**20. RESOLUTION #25-09-73 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE \$159,332.20 NON-MATCHING GRANT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY AND RHEA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR PROJECT: SAFE JOURNEY**

Motion Commissioner Fisher, second Commissioner Dunn to approve Resolution #25-09-73 As presented above highlighted. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**21. RESOLUTION #25-09-74 APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION AND RHEA COUNTY FOR MAINTAINED TRAIL CROSSINGS AND SIGNAGE FOR THE CUMBERLAND TRAIL**

Motion Commissioner Cashman, second Commissioner Thedford to approve Resolution #25-09-74 as presented above highlighted. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**22. RESOLUTION #25-09-75 APPOINT MEMBER TO RHEA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

Motion Commissioner Thedford, second Commissioner Ellis to Approve Resolution #25-09-75 To appoint a member to the Rhea County Planning Commission to serve the remainder of an Unexpired term held by Tommy Ballard. Rick Wilkey shall be appointed to serve with term Expiring August, 2026. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**23. RESOLUTION #25-09-76 AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD A RESOLUTION BETWEEN RHEA COUNTY AND THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK FOR DAKTRONICS LIVE VIDEO DISPLAY**

Motion Commissioner Dunn, second Commissioner Cashman to approve Resolution #25-09-76 to Amend the Agenda to add Resolution #25-09-77. Signatures of commissioners Entered on Amendment. Resolution follows next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**24. RESOLUTION #25-09-77 Authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of Lease No. 20000036669 dated August 11, 2025 (the "Lease"), in principal amount not to exceed \$539,563.96 between Rhea County and The Huntington National Bank and prescribing Other details in connection therewith for Daktronics Live Video Display**

Motion Commissioner Stephens, second Commissioner Thedford to approve Resolution #25-09-77 as presented above highlighted. Resolution and Letter from La-Z-Boy Foundation And Lease Agreement follow next pages.

VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**25. ELECTION OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND APPROVE BOND**

Motion Commissioner Dunn, second Commissioner Thedford to approve the following to be A notary public and approve their bond.

Brandy Nichole Anderson, Barbie Hall, Heather Lutes, Kimberly F. Devillier, Rebecca Elaine Frost

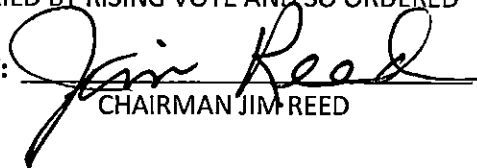
VOTED: AYE: ALL NAY: NONE ABSENT: Francisco  
MOTION CARRIED AND SO ORDERED

**26. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Commissioner Fisher, second Commissioner Cashman that the meeting of the Commission adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED BY RISING VOTE AND SO ORDERED

APPROVED BY:

  
CHAIRMAN JIM REED