



Haywood Local Government/Rules Committee (LGC)

April 14, 2026; 4:30PM – 6:00PM

Haywood Justice Center - Conference Room

Committee Members - Commissioners

Sharon Hayes (Chair) • Alan O'Quin (Vice Chair)

Jim Duke • Sheronda Green • Rhonda Thompson

Minutes:

I. Call to Order - Determination of Quorum - Welcome

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order and declared a quorum, with the following committee members present: Commissioners Hayes, O'Quin, Duke, Green;

Absent: Thompson

Others present: Sarah Levy (*County Attorney*); Billy Garrett, Jr (*Haywood County Sheriff*); Emma Covington (*Vision Haywood*)

II. Approval of Minutes – Upon motion duly made and seconded, minutes from the previous meeting March 10, 2026 were approved.

III. Public Comments – None

IV. Haywood County Attorney – Amendment to Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 350 – As an update, the amendment approved by County Commission in March has been submitted to Senator Walley, who is carrying the bill along with State Representative Shaw.

V. Appointments & Confirmations – *Rules Clarification*, TCA 5-6-106: “Except as otherwise provided...the county mayor shall appoint members of county boards and commissions and county department heads. Such appointees shall be subject to confirmation by the county legislative body, and in so doing, the legislative body may express its views fully and freely and shall vote for or against confirmation.”

This item will be incorporated into the next Rules Manual Update.

VI. Resolutions –*Rules Clarification* - A formal resolution is required to amend a previously adopted resolution. The recent Solid Waste fee increase necessitates such a resolution, as confirmed by Mayor Livingston. Previous Solid Waste resolutions were provided, along with an updated sample reviewed by Attorney Levy.

This item will be added to the next Rules Manual Update.

VII. DRAFT Resolution – PILOTs - Authority, Accountability, & Payments – Chair Hayes handed out the latest version of the PILOT resolution under development since the January meeting. Highlighted provisions were reviewed focusing on three core areas:

Pages 1–2: Authority – Provisions providing context regarding prior actions, legal basis, and county obligations; affirms the County is legally entitled to property tax revenues.

Page 3-4: Accountability – Recognizes the IDB Policy Matrix, reinforces community acceptability and due diligence, and affirms County oversight and fiscal fiduciary responsibility.

Page 5-6: Payment Distribution – Establishes predictable revenues for essential services and infrastructure; prescribes revenue distribution in alignment with approved property tax rates, while allowing reasonable IDB operational support.

Chair Hayes will circulate a revised draft in advance of the May 12 Local Government Committee meeting. All Commissioners will be invited to participate. The goal is to present the final resolution to the full County Commission for consideration on May 18.

VIII. Dyersburg State Community College – A local campus remains an ongoing priority. General discussion has continued in recent years regarding the future location for a local campus. Chair Hayes reinforced the economic and educational opportunities of a college in our county. Commissioner Green, Chair of the Education Committee, plans to include DSCC on the committee's agenda.

IX. Updates & Progress on Previous Actions – Brief updates were provided as follows:

1. **TACIR Data - Trends for Haywood County** – educational attainment and related trend data that reflects on our county was shared by Attorney Levy.
2. **County Website** – A meeting with county webmaster is pending to review proposed website updates as outlined in materials distributed at the February meeting.
3. **FY2025 County Audit** – The report has been released and contains six findings. The Audit Committee is required to meet and issue a report to the County Commission before June 30.
4. **Real Estate Fees** – Senator Walley's bill, SB0126, as introduced, would require that half of the revenue collected from recordation taxes be returned to the county.
5. **Rules Manual** – Future revisions are being compiled for a manual update planned for August. Updates will incorporate any newly enacted statutes affecting county rules.
6. **Commissioner Training** – The cutoff for the 2025-2026 training cycle is August 31. Recent courses include Maintenance of Effort (MOE), Centralized Finance, and Commissioner Training 101. Recordings of the classes are available online.
7. **HR Committee** – A meeting is required under the HR Resolution; however, there has been no activity.
8. **Capital Improvement Planning** – The CIP Committee, led by Chair O'Quin, is working with departments to update the facilities inventory in coordination with the Renaissance Group proposal to provide a comprehensive assessment for the county's capital assets.
9. **County Planner** – This position was recommended by JECDB 2-20-2024; LGC previously drafted the position description.
10. **IDB-BHEDC - *Happening Haywood*** – Commissioner Green, a member of IDB, reported that the strategic plan implementation is underway.
11. **Museum Committee** – This new committee, appointed by Mayor Livingston in 2025, has not yet met according to committee members. Chair Hayes suggested that the committee hold an inaugural meeting and elect a chairperson.
12. **America 250** – The Hatchie Trails event has been scheduled for June 13. Governor Lee has been invited in recognition of Tennessee's celebration of the country's anniversary.

X. Next Meeting & Adjournment– The committee's standing meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 4:30PM. The meeting was adjourned.