



December 26, 2024

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# Coffee

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Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

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# Coffee



Coffee County Courthouse

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# Chapter I - Administration

## County Legislative Body

### Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 401

**SECTION 1.** That the County Court of Coffee County, under the provisions of Section 9 of Article II, of the Constitution of Tennessee, is vested with powers to pass ordinances with regard to private and local affairs hereinafter expressly set forth, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members thereof, at any meeting of said County Court; providing notice of intention to present such ordinances or ordinance has been given in the manner hereinafter set forth.

**SECTION 2.** That an ordinance under the powers which it is deemed expedient to vest in said County Court shall only be considered by the County Court of Coffee County after notice of intention to propose an ordinance, together with a copy of the proposed ordinance under the authority of this Act, shall have been filed in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Coffee County, at least two weeks prior to the session of the County Court at which such ordinance shall be considered.

**SECTION 3.** That it shall be the duty of the Clerk of the County Court of Coffee County, upon the filing of intention to propose an ordinance, together with a copy of said proposed ordinance, to cause to be published in at least two newspapers of general circulation in Coffee County, a copy of said proposed ordinance, together with a copy of the notice of intention to propose said ordinance. Said newspaper publication shall carry the following statement, over the name of the County Court Clerk, "The above is a copy of an ordinance filed in my office on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, by Esquire \_\_\_\_\_." Said ordinance may be considered at any meeting of the County Court of Coffee County at any time within two weeks after the date said ordinance was filed."

**SECTION 4.** That acting as herein set forth said County Court of Coffee County may by ordinance: (1) Establish speed and/or load limits upon any county secondary roads, outside of incorporated towns, in said County; (2) Establish the hours and days of opening and closing of all county public offices in said County; (3) Enact Zoning and Health ordinances, applying to sections outside incorporated towns, in said County; (4) Establish a Coffee County Industrial Commission composed of not more than nine (9) members, for the purpose of encouraging industrial development in Coffee County, and appropriate not more than Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars annually for the use of such Commission in employing a full time executive director and other necessary personnel and carrying out the purposes of any ordinance enacted pursuant to this section.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 267

**SECTION 5.** That acting under the provisions of this Act, the County Court of Coffee County may provide that any violation of any ordinance, passed under the provisions of this Act, is a misdemeanor.

**SECTION 6.** That the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and that if any section, provision, exception, sentence, clause, phrase, or part of this Act, be held unconstitutional or void, the remainder of this Act shall continue in full force and effect, it being the Legislative intent now hereby declared that this Act would have been adopted even if such unconstitutional or void matter had not been included in same.

**SECTION 7.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 5, 1951.

## County Register

### Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 820

**SECTION 1.** That before any deed or other instrument which conveys or purports to convey the title in fee simple to any real estate shall be recorded it shall be the duty of the County Tax Assessor to examine the same and ascertain if the property described in said deed or instrument has been and is correctly assessed.

**SECTION 2.** That it shall be the duty of the County Tax Assessor to countersign every such deed or instrument after having recorded the transfer upon the assessment books of the property conveyed by said deed or instrument to be vested by such deed or instrument.

**SECTION 3.** That it shall be unlawful for any County Register or Deputy County Register to record or enter any deed or instrument coming within the provisions of Section 1 of this Act upon the records of the Register's Office or to receive such deed or instrument for the purpose of recording or entering the same upon the records, unless such deed or instrument shall have first been countersigned by the County Tax Assessor or his duly appointed deputy.

**SECTION 4.** That any County Register or Deputy Register who shall be convicted of violating the provisions of Section 3 of this Act shall be fined not less than Twenty-five nor more than Fifty Dollars.

**SECTION 5.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

**SECTION 6.** That this Act shall only apply to Counties having a population of not more than 18,970, and not less than 18,950, according to the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census.

**SECTION 7.** That this Act shall take effect September 1, 1948.

Passed: March 13, 1947.

## Entertainment Event Fee

### Private Acts of 2022 Chapter 53

**SECTION 1.** The legislative body of Coffee County may impose an entertainment event fee upon the sale, resale, and issuance of tickets, passes, admission cards, tokens, access bracelets, and other evidence of entitlement to admission to entertainment events that have an expected attendance of more than five hundred (500) persons.

**SECTION 2.** As used in this act, "entertainment event" means a gathering for entertainment purposes to participate in, watch, listen to, or otherwise experience athletic events, concerts, a series or collection of concerts, festivals, or other events. An "entertainment event" does not include an officially sanctioned event directly sponsored in full by a governmental entity, a public local education agency, a charitable organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under § 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, as an organization described in § 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, codified in 26 U.S.C. § 501 (c)(3), or combination thereof.

**SECTION 3.** The amount of the entertainment event fee for each ticket sold or distributed is:

(1) One dollar (\$1.00), if the admission cost or value of the ticket is equal to or less than one hundred dollars (\$100);

(2) Two dollars (\$2.00), if the admission cost or value of the ticket is greater than one hundred dollars (\$100) but less than three hundred dollars (\$300);

(3) Three Dollars (\$3.00), if the admission cost or value of the ticket is equal to or greater than three hundred dollars (\$300) but less than four hundred dollars (\$400); and

(4) Five Dollars (\$5.00), if the admission cost or value of the ticket is equal to or greater than four hundred dollars (\$400).

**SECTION 4.** Sellers of entertainment event tickets and distributors of complimentary tickets for entertainment events shall remit the fee due under Section 3, in full, to the Coffee County Accounts and Budget Director by the fifteenth day of the calendar month following the event. The Accounts and Budget Director shall create a form to be completed by sellers and distributors, or their representative, necessary or convenient to facilitate collection of the entertainment event fee. An amount not paid shall incur interest at one percent (1 %) of the amount due for each month or part of a month the fee is not timely paid. Collection costs for a delinquent fee will be paid by the seller or distributor or its representative.

**SECTION 5.** The funds collected by the Accounts and Budget Director shall be deposited in the county general fund and be used for purposes related to the entertainment event.

**SECTION 6.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Coffee County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body of Coffee County and certified to the secretary of state.

**SECTION 7.** For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 6.

Passed: April 14, 2022.

## Evidence of Indebtedness

### Private Acts of 1925 Chapter 525

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** The census figures given in the act seem to apply to Dickson County, however, the index of Private Acts of 1925 attributes the Act to Coffee County.

**SECTION 1.** That it shall be unlawful and is hereby declared to be a misdemeanor, for County Officials in all counties of the State, having a population of not more than 19,360 and not less than 19,342 by the Federal Census of 1920 or any subsequent Federal Census, to sign notes or any evidence of indebtedness as security except bonds. Provided, that it shall not be unlawful for any county official in said county or counties, to sign notes or renewals previously signed by them as security.

**SECTION 2.** That an official of said county or counties, violating Section 1, of this Act, is declared to be, and shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars, in the discretion of the court.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage; the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 6, 1925.

### Private Acts of 1943 Chapter 360

**SECTION 1.** That in all Counties of Tennessee having a population of not less than 18,950, nor more than 18,965 by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, all warrants which are evidences of indebtedness against the County shall bear interest at the rate of six (6%) per centum per annum from the date of their registration or from date on which this Act becomes effective, whichever is the latter date, and shall continue to bear interest until the date on which there is a sufficient amount of money or funds in the Treasury of the County to meet payment of same.

**SECTION 2.** That the provisions of this Act with respect to interest on said warrants shall apply to any and all warrants heretofore issued and which remain unpaid, and to any and all such warrants hereafter to be issued.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: January 20, 1943.

### Private Acts of 1953 Chapter 191

**SECTION 1.** That in counties of this State with a population of not less than 23,000, nor more than 23,100, by the Federal Census of 1950, or any subsequent Federal Census, the Quarterly County Court is authorized and empowered to require any or all boards, commissions, and organizations of the County Government to publish quarterly, or at such periods as the Quarterly County Court deems proper, a listing of all warrants, checks or other evidence of indebtedness or payments of indebtedness. Such publication shall be made in one or more newspapers of said county, and the cost of such publication shall be paid from the funds of the board, commission, or organization.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act is to take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 18, 1953.

## Land

### Public Acts of 1957 Chapter 366

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** The following act is a public act of special application and is not codified in Tennessee Code Annotated.

WHEREAS, There exists in Coffee County an ancient construction known and referred to as "Old Stone Fort"; and

WHEREAS, Historical evidence conclusively proves that this structure antedates the discovery of America

by at least thirty years; and

WHEREAS, In the interest of the citizens of our State and Nation, this ancient and historic landmark should be preserved for further explorations, study and enlightenment and should be maintained for public visitation; and

WHEREAS, The "Old Stone Fort" is located on the lands of John A. Chumbley of Manchester who is desirous that the Tennessee Historical Commission and/or the Department of Conservation acquire the Fort for the purposes above stated,

**SECTION 1.** That the Tennessee Historical Commission and/or the State of Tennessee, Department of Conservation be, and the same are, hereby authorized and empowered to use any funds appropriated or available to either or both of them for the acquisition of the "Old Stone Fort" property in Manchester, Tennessee, together with necessary easements for ingress and egress.

**SECTION 2.** That the Tennessee Historical Commission and/or the State of Tennessee, Department of Conservation be and they are hereby authorized to expend any funds appropriated or available to either or both of them for the exploration, development, preservation and maintenance of the "Old Stone Fort" after acquisition.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 20, 1957.

## Administration - Historical Notes

### County Legislative Body

The following acts once applied to the quarterly court or the county legislative body of Coffee County and are included herein for historical purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 68, authorized the qualified voters residing in any incorporated town which was also the county seat, to elect an additional Justice of the Peace.
2. Public Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 65, established a three member Board of Commissioners for Coffee County who would assume all the powers and duties formerly vested in the Quarterly Court. The initial members would be appointed by the Governor to staggered terms with their successors popularly elected to three year terms. The senior member of the Board would serve as President. The Board would meet quarterly with the Clerk of the County Court serving as Recorder. The President would receive \$300 per annum and the other members \$200 as compensation. The Quorum Courts were abolished. This Act was repealed by Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 15, and by Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 49.
3. Public Acts of 1883, Chapter 61, authorized the 13th Civil District of Coffee County to elect an additional Justice of the Peace. The Justice was required to reside and keep his office in the town of Tullahoma.
4. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 487, amended the general law (Public Acts of 1875, Chapter 42, and Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 246) for Coffee County to raise the fees of the Justices of the Peace for attending Quarterly Court from \$1.50 to \$2.50.
5. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 602, amended Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 68, so as to delete Coffee County from its provision authorizing an additional Justice of the Peace for the county seat. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 181.
6. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 50, directed the Quarterly County Court of Coffee County to meet on the second Monday in January, April, July and October, instead of on the first Mondays as fixed by statute. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 911.
7. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 108, provided that Justices of the Peace in Coffee County would receive \$7.50 per day and such mileage as is provided by law, for their attendance at the quarterly sessions of the County Court.
8. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 152, amended Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 108, to provide that Justices of the Peace in Coffee County would receive \$20 per day for attendance at sessions of the Quarterly Court, and \$10 per day for attendance at committee meetings of the Quarterly Court not to exceed five meetings per year. This Act did not receive local approval and therefore did not take effect.



9. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 306, set the compensation for members of the Quarterly Court at \$25 per day for regular meetings and \$10 per day for up to five committee meetings per quarter. Mileage would be as provided by law. This Act was approved locally.

**County Mayor**

The references below are of acts which once applied to the office of county judge, or county executive in Coffee County. They are included herein for historical purposes only. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 648, created the office of county judge in Coffee County.
2. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 170, amended Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 648, to provide the County Judge with the sum of \$600 per year as an additional compensation for his services as financial agent of the County. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 1.
3. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 216, amended Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 648, to empower the County Judge to grant writs of habeas corpus. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 1.
4. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 131, amended Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 648, to increase the compensation of the County Judge from \$600 to \$1,200 per annum. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 1.
5. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 471, amended Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 648, to provide that the additional compensation provided to the County Judge for his services as financial agent of the County would be \$150 per month until the Quarterly County Court met and appropriated such additional compensation as they saw fit. This provision would be superseded by any uniform general law of the State as to compensation of County Judges for services as financial agent. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 1.
6. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 299, transferred all the existing authority and jurisdiction relative to juveniles and juvenile courts from the County Judge to the Judge of the Court of General Sessions for Coffee County. This Act did not receive local approval and therefore never took effect.
7. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 15, transferred all the judicial jurisdiction and authority of the County Judge to the Juvenile and Probate Court. This Act did not receive local approval and therefore never took effect.

**General Reference**

The following private or local acts constitute part of the administrative and political history of Coffee County but are today no longer operative because they have either been superseded, repealed, or failed to receive local approval.

1. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 157, provided for a county drill of the militia in every county in the month of September. Coffee County was part of the 10th Brigade and would muster on the Wednesday and Thursday following the first Friday and Saturday in September.
2. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 34, incorporated the Coffee County Medicinal Springs, naming John Hereford, John Charles, Benjamin F. Hollins, Issac H. Roberts and Jonathan Webster as the owners.
3. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 251, empowered the Quarterly Court of Coffee County to permit the various departments, boards and agencies of the County to establish a group life, accident and health insurance plan for all officials and employees of the department, board or agency. This Act was not approved locally and never became effective.

## Chapter II - Animals and Fish

### Hunting on Sunday

#### Private Acts of 1949 Chapter 611

**SECTION 1.** That in counties of this State with a population of not less than 18,900, nor more than 19,000, by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons armed with a gun to hunt or chase game of any sort upon Sunday. Provided, however, that this act shall not apply to any area within said counties that are owned and controlled by the United States Government. Any person violating this Act shall upon conviction be fined not less than Five (\$5.00)

Dollars nor more than Twenty-Five (\$25.00) Dollars. Justices of the Peace shall have power to hear and determine the guilt of persons arrested and brought before them upon this charge irrespective of the entrance of a plea of guilty and shall render judgment upon the merits. Any person aggrieved by the judgment of any Justice of the Peace may appeal his conviction to the Circuit Court of said County upon executing bond or taking pauper's oath in lieu thereof for the payment of fine and costs and also executing bail bond for his appearance in the amount now provided by law for appearance in misdemeanor cases.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 313

**SECTION 2.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 6, 1949.

## Livestock Inspector

### Private Acts of 1949 Chapter 887

**SECTION 1.** That in counties of this State with a population of not less than 18,900, nor more than 19,000 by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, the Quarterly County Court is hereby authorized to elect for a term of one year, not exceeding two animal inspectors. In case a licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinarians shall be located in said county, then the Quarterly County Court shall be under the obligation to elect such inspectors from such licensed veterinarians to the extent of the number in said county. It shall be the duty of such livestock inspectors to make an inspection and examination of the livestock in said county and to treat such as may be found ailing or sick with the view to promoting the spread of health among such stock and to reduce the danger of infectious or contagious diseases. Such animal inspectors may contract with the owner or owners of any diseased livestock found by them for the treatment thereof by such inspectors, the compensation therefor to be mutually agreed upon between the parties. Such livestock inspectors may be compensated by the Quarterly County Court of such counties to which this Act applies in an amount not to exceed Ten (\$10.00) Dollars per annum for each inspector so appointed.

Elections thereof may be made by the Quarterly County Court at any regular term and the person so elected shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of such election. The said County shall not be liable for the default or negligence of any such livestock inspectors where such County Court has used care and caution in the selection thereof, but nothing herein shall exempt such inspectors personally for the negligence in the performance of their duties.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 15, 1949.

## Animals and Fish - Historical Notes

The following is a listing of acts that at one time affected, but no longer appear to have any effect on, hunting, fishing or animal control in Coffee County. They are included herein for reference purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 127, made it unlawful for any person to catch, kill or wound any fish in any of the streams, lakes, rivers or ponds in the State by seine, trap, gun, grabbing with hands, gig, poison, dynamite, or any other means, except rod and line or trot line.
2. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 227, exempted Coffee County from the provisions of Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 127, by permitting the catching of fish by hook and line, trot line, grabbing and seining.
3. Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 423, made it a misdemeanor for any nonresident of Coffee County to hunt or fish in said county without the written permission of the landowner.
4. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 405, exempted Coffee County from the provisions of Public Acts of 1919, Chapter 61, which regulated the ownership of dogs.
5. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 932, prohibited hunting or fishing on the lands of another without first procuring their consent. If a person has secured written consent, then a hunting or fishing license was not required. An open season on quail was declared between November 15th to February 1st, with a limit of 25 quail per day.
6. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 94, prohibited livestock from running at large, made the owner of

such stock liable for any damage done by the stock, and gave the person injured a lien on the destructive stock in order to secure payment of damages.

7. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 91, amended Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 151, to set the open season for hunting and trapping fur-bearing animals in Coffee County from October 15th to February 1st. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 40. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 40, was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 41.
8. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 272, made it unlawful for any person, group, firm or corporation to take, ship or transport more than fifty minnows per day out of Coffee County.
9. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 296, made it a misdemeanor to fish in Coffee County from April 16th to June 15th. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 85.
10. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 41, amended Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 151, to set the open season on fur-bearing animals from October 15th to February 1st.
11. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 85, amended Public Acts of 1923, Chapter 102, so as to make it unlawful to take fish in Coffee County from April 14th to May 31st.
12. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 90, provided that anyone who killed a hawk in Coffee County would receive a certificate for \$2 from the County Court Clerk. The certificate, when presented to the County Trustee, would allow the holder a credit of \$2 upon his or her taxes. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 538.
13. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 251, amended Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 90, so as to lower the bounty on hawks from \$2 to \$1. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 538.
14. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 346, made it lawful to catch non-game fish by means of a gig, at any time in Coffee County. The Act did not apply to private ponds and lakes.
15. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 364, made it lawful to hunt and fish without a license in Coffee County under certain conditions, but required the sportsman to carry the written consent of the landowner. The open season on fur-bearing animals was set from November 15th of February 15th.
16. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 14, amended Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 364, by deleting the provisions requiring the obtaining of the written consent of the landowner prior to hunting or fishing. The provision for an open season on fur-bearing animals was also deleted.
17. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 168, made it unlawful in Coffee County to hunt or fish upon the lands of another without their consent. It was also declared unlawful to discharge any firearm within range of any building, structure, public highway, or occupied pastures.
18. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 357, made it lawful to buy or sell the furs of wild animals in Coffee County without a license.
19. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 623, made unlawful to kill a fox in Coffee County except during the month of December.
20. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 159, created the position of county livestock inspector and gave him the right to vaccinate all animals subject to vaccination by law. The Court would elect an inspector at its July term and every two years thereafter. C. R. Denney was appointed by the Act to serve until August 1, 1957. This Act was not approved by the Quarterly County Court and did not become operative.

## Chapter III - Bond Issues

### Bond Issues - Historical Notes

A listing of the acts which authorized various bond issues for Coffee County is included below for reference purposes, although these acts are no longer current. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

#### **Courthouse**

1. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 191, authorized a bond issue of \$500,000 for the construction of a courthouse upon approval by the voters. The maximum interest rate on these bonds was set at 4% per year, and they would mature within 30 years. This act also provided for the election of a five member Courthouse Building Committee to supervise its construction. Provision for an annual tax levy was included.

**Debts**

1. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 86, authorized the County Court to borrow \$20,000 and to issue interest bearing notes for the payment of outstanding indebtedness from acquiring land for highway purposes. These notes were to bear interest of not more than 6% per year and were to mature within 3 years. Provision for a tax levy was included.
2. Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 215, authorized the Coffee County Quarterly Court to issue coupon funding bonds in the amount of \$65,000 for the payment of past indebtedness. The interest rate and maturity date of these bonds were to be determined by the County Court, but the interest rate was limited to 4% per annum. Provision for an annual tax levy was included.
3. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 359, authorized a bond issue for outstanding floating indebtedness in an amount of not more than \$50,000 with a maximum interest rate of 4% and a maturity date within thirty years from the date of issuance. Provisions for an annual tax levy were included.
4. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 360, provided that all warrants which are evidences of indebtedness against Coffee County shall bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of their registration or from the date on which this Act becomes effective, whichever is the latter date. This Act was both retroactive and prospective in its application.

**Parks**

1. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 731, authorized a bond issue of up to \$35,000 to be issued for acquiring park lands, with a maximum interest rate of 5%. A tax levy was required.

**Roads**

1. Private Acts of 1907, Chapter 321, provided for an election to determine if road bonds of \$150,000 should be issued with a maximum interest rate of 5% per annum, payable \$50,000 in 15 years; \$50,000 in 25 years and \$50,000 in 35 years from the date of issuance. A tax levy was mandated to create a sinking fund. The Act further provided for an additional issuance of \$100,000 in bonds to mature \$50,000 in 20 years and \$50,000 in 30 years. This issue was also subject to the results of a referendum. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1909, Chapter 4.
2. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 409, authorized a bond issuance of \$30,000 for the purchase of rights-of-way for highways, with a maximum interest rate of 3% per annum, to mature within twenty years. Provisions for a tax levy were included.
3. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 130, authorized the Coffee County Quarterly Court to issue interest bearing coupon bonds of up to \$250,000 for constructing, building, maintaining, and repairing primary and secondary roads and bridges, upon approval by a majority of the qualified voters. These bonds were exempted from taxation by the State or any County or municipality of this State. The interest was limited to 4% per annum and they must mature within 20 years of the date of issuance.
4. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 273, authorized a general obligation bond issue of up to \$50,000 for purchasing rights-of-way for State and County Highways in Coffee County. These bonds could mature either serially or all at once, as determined by the Quarterly County Court, and were to have a maximum interest rate of 4%, and a maturity limited to 30 years. Provision for a tax levy was included.

**Schools**

1. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 685, authorized Coffee County to issue bonds in an amount up to \$50,000 to retire past due school warrants and other past due school indebtedness of the County. The bonds had a maximum interest rate of 6% per annum and were to mature within 5 years from the date of issuance. Provisions for a tax levy were included.
2. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 730, authorized a bond issue of \$100,000 for constructing school buildings. These bonds were to be issued in denominations of \$1,000 each with the interest rate limited to 5% per annum and the maturity date limited to 20 years. The Court was empowered to borrow up to \$100,000 and then issue these bonds pledging the credit of the county. A tax levy was mandated.
3. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 274, authorized a general obligation bond issue of up to \$75,000 for the payment of floating indebtedness incurred in the operation of the schools. These bonds were to mature within thirty years with a maximum interest rate of 4%. Provision for a tax levy was included.

## Chapter IV - Boundaries

### Creation of the County

#### Private Acts of 1835-36 Chapter 36

**SECTION 1.** That a new county be and the same is hereby established, by the name of Coffee, in honor of the late General John Coffee, east of Bedford, west of Warren and north of Franklin, adjoining said counties, and composed of parts of the same: beginning at the store house of William Norton, in Hoover's gap, in the line between Rutherford and Bedford; thence south, eight degrees east, ten and a half miles, to a point twelve miles east of Shelbyville; thence south six and a half miles to a corner in Franklin county; thence east eight and a half miles, to a point twelve miles north of Winchester; thence south, eighty degrees east, four miles; thence north, forty-five degrees east, thirteen miles sixty-four poles; thence north three hundred and four poles; thence north, thirty degrees west, two miles and one hundred and fifty poles; thence north, sixty degrees west, one mile and one hundred and sixty poles; thence north, thirty degrees west, two miles; thence north, eighty-five degrees west, three miles and two hundred poles; thence north, twenty degrees west, six and a half miles; thence south, seventy-one degrees west, six miles and seventy poles, thence north, eleven degrees west, one thousand and thirty poles to the Bedford corner; thence south, forty-four degrees west, along the line between Rutherford and Bedford, one hundred and ninety-two poles; thence south, along said line, one hundred and twenty-eight poles; thence a continuation with said line and ridge, with its meanders, to the beginning.

**SECTION 2.** That for the due administration of justice, the different courts to be holden in said county of Coffee, shall be holden at the house of Thomas Powers, until the seat of justice for said county shall be located, but a suitable house erected for that purpose; the county court shall, in the intermediate time, have full power to adjourn the courts to such other place in the said county, as they may deem better suited for the holding of the same, and for the public convenience, and to adjourn to the seat of justice when in their judgment the necessary arrangements are made; and all writs and other process, returnable to either place, shall and may be returned to the place to which the said courts may have been removed, by the county court aforesaid; and the said courts to be holden in and for the said county of Coffee, shall be under the same regulations and restrictions, and shall have, hold, exercise and possess the same powers and jurisdiction as are possessed by said courts in other counties in this State.

**SECTION 3.** That all officers, civil and military in said county, shall continue to hold their offices, and exercise all the powers and functions thereof, until others be elected under the provisions of the amended constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof. And the said county of Coffee shall elect her officers, civil and military, under the amended constitution, at the same time and under the same rules and regulations, and in the same manner that may be provided by law for the elections of officers in other counties in this State. And the said county of Coffee shall be placed upon an equal footing, possess equal powers and privileges, in all respects, as other counties in this State; Provided, nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to deprive the counties of Bedford, Warren and Franklin, from having, holding and exercising jurisdiction over the territory composing said county of Coffee and the citizens thereof, in as full and ample a manner as they now have, until the election of county officers under the amended constitution, Provided, also, nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to prevent the counties of Bedford, Warren and Franklin from entering up judgments, or the sheriffs of said counties from selling, under such judgments, any lands within the bounds of said county of Coffee, for taxes, costs and charges, for the past or any proceeding year; nor to prevent the sheriffs of either of said counties of Bedford, Warren and Franklin from collecting from the citizens of said county of Coffee, any taxes due for the past or any proceeding year.

**SECTION 4.** That the citizens of the county of Coffee, in all elections for governor, for members of congress and for members of the general assembly, shall vote with the counties from which they may have been stricken off, until the next apportionment of members of the general assembly, agreeable to the provisions of the fifth section of the tenth article of the amended constitution.

**SECTION 5.** That William S. Norton, Hugh Davidson, Sen. Lecil Bobo, John Hickerson, Alexander Blakely, William Bradshaw and Thomas Powers be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, a majority of whom can act, who shall, on or before the first Monday in January next, proceed to fix on a place, as near the center of said county as an eligible site can be procured at least within four miles of the center of said county; at which site the said commissioners shall procure, by purchase or otherwise, at least fifty acres of land, for which they shall procure a deed or deeds, to be made to themselves and their successors in office, by general warranty; and the said commissioners shall report and return all their proceedings relative to and concerning said county, to the county court of said county; and it shall be the duty of the

clerk of said court to record the same.

**SECTION 6.** That it shall be the duty of the county court of said county, to appoint five commissioners, to whom the commissioners appointed by this act shall convey the land acquired for the use of said county; on which it shall be the duty of the commissioners appointed by the county court, to cause a town to be laid off, with as many streets and alleys, and of such width as they may deem necessary, reserving at least four acres for a public square, and a lot sufficient for building a jail; and the said town, when so laid off, shall be known by the name of Manchester.

**SECTION 7.** That the commissioners of said county shall sell the lots in said town on a credit at least of twelve months, first giving due notice thereof in one or more newspapers printed in this State; and shall take bond with sufficient security, from the purchasers of said lots, payable to themselves or their successors in office; and shall make titles, in fee simple, as commissioners, to the respective purchasers of said lots.

**SECTION 8.** That the proceeds of the sale of the lots aforesaid, shall be a fund in the hands of said commissioners, for defraying the expenses incurred in the purchase of the said tract of land on which the said county seat is located; and also for defraying the expenses of erecting public buildings.

**SECTION 9.** That the said commissioners shall superintend the building of the court house, jail and other necessary public buildings; and shall let out such buildings as the county court of said county shall order to be built, upon such terms and conditions as the said court shall direct; and shall take bond with sufficient securities, from the person or persons to whom the same is let, payable to themselves and their successors in office, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or their contracts.

**SECTION 10.** That the said commissioners, before they enter upon the duties of their office assigned them by this act, shall take an oath or affirmation that they will truly and faithfully execute and perform the different duties by this act enjoined on them, according to the best of their judgment; and moreover, shall enter into bond with approved securities, payable to the chairman of the county court of Coffee county, and his successors in office, in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned for the due and faithful performance of the duties enjoined upon them by this act; which bond shall be deposited in the clerk's office in said county, and shall not be so construed as to make one of the commissioners security for the other.

**SECTION 11.** That the said commissioners shall keep a fair and regular statement of all moneys by them received and expended; which statement, when required, shall, from time to time, be laid before the county court; but said commissioners shall not be called on oftener than once a year; and when all the necessary public buildings are completed, the said commissioners shall, by order of the county court, pay over all surplus money to the county trustee, for county purposes; and they shall be allowed, by the county court, a reasonable compensation for their services.

**SECTION 12.** That the first seven commissioners mentioned in this act, shall each be entitled to receive, as compensation for their services, the sum of three dollars per day, for each day they may be absent from home, and necessarily employed in performing the duties required of them by this act, to be paid by the said county of Coffee, out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

**SECTION 13.** That the commissioners that may be appointed to lay off the town, shall also reserve as many lots as they may deem necessary, to be given to the different religious denominations, on which to erect houses of public worship; and also a lot for a public burying ground; and that the said commissioners shall also reserve a lot for each, a male and female academy, of such size as they may deem necessary; Provided, that that portion of the counties of Warren and Franklin included within the bounds of Coffee county, shall still be liable to pay to the respective counties from which they may be taken off, their rateable proportion of the county debt; and Provided, further, that the citizens of the county of Coffee shall be entitled to receive their rateable proportion from the several counties from which they are taken, of the school fund, internal improvement fund, or other public moneys, which are now due or may fall due prior to this act going into effect.

**SECTION 14.** That the portion of Rutherford county lying in Hoover's gap, shall be attached to and become a part of the county of Coffee, upon the following conditions, to wit: that the county of Rutherford shall not thereby be reduced below her constitutional number of square miles; and that a majority of the qualified voters, residing within the boundaries, as hereinafter described, shall, on or before the 15th day of February next, notify the governor of the State, by written communication, signed by such majority, of their wish, to be attached to said county of Coffee. A direct line shall be run, crossing Hoover's gap at right angles, as near as may be, so as to intersect with the Bedford county line, on the ridge, on each side of said gap, leaving Christopher Hoover and Jacob Hoover on the north side of said line, and crossing the gap as near Jacob Hoover's mill as practicable, to leave those persons on the north

side of said line; and the territory lying on the south of the line to be so run, shall, on the conditions aforesaid, be attached to and become a part of the county of Coffee.

Passed: January 8th, 1836.

## Establish County Seat

### Acts of 1837-38 Chapter 30

**SECTION 1.** That the sixth section of an act, passed the ninth day of February, 1836, entitled "an act," supplemental to an act to establish the county of Cannon, be and the same is hereby repealed; and that the town of Manchester, as laid off by the commissioners, on the south side of the two forks of Duck river, in said county, shall continue to be seat of justice for said county of Coffee.

Passed: October 21, 1837.

## Change County Lines

### Private Acts of 1835-36 Chapter 41

**SECTION 1.** That the portion of Rutherford county lying in Hoover's Gap, shall be, and the same is hereby attached to the county of Coffee, by a direct line, to be run across said Gap at right angles, as near as may be, so as to intersect with the Bedford county line as the same existed before the said county of Coffee was established, on the ridge on each side of said Gap, leaving Christopher Hoover and Jacob Hoover in the county of Rutherford, and crossing the Gap as near Jacob Hoover's mill as practicable, to leave those persons on the north side of said line, and the territory lying south of the line to be run as aforesaid, shall become a part of the said county of Coffee.

**SECTION 2.** That the citizens residing in the territory described in the first section of this act shall be placed on an equal footing, possess equal powers and privileges in all respects with the other citizens of said county of Coffee; and that Solomon Beesly be appointed to run and mark the line as herein provided for, for which he shall be allowed three dollars for every day he may be necessarily employed in running and marking said line, to be paid by the said county of Coffee.

**SECTION 6.** That the first line of Coffee county, instead of south eight east from the beginning ten and a half miles to the twelve mile point east of Shelbyville, shall be so run southwardly ten and a half miles as to strike the twelve mile point east of Shelbyville.

Passed: February 4, 1836.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** Sections 3, 4 and 5 concerned circuit courts of several counties and are not printed in this section.

### Private Acts of 1845-46 Chapter 134

That so much of the county of Coffee as is hereinafter designated, be and the same is hereby attached to the county of Grundy, viz: Beginning on the top of the Cumberland mountain, on the Grundy county line; thence west down the old bush Gap-ridge to the old Coffee county line; thence with the old Coffee line to Street's old place; thence to the mouth of Bradley's Creek; thence up Elk river to a stake on the south side of said river; thence to the Grundy county line, so as to include the territory taken off the county of Franklin, in the year 1837, and annexed to the county of Coffee, and the line that divided Franklin county and Coffee county now be the dividing line between Coffee county and Grundy county, and that all officers both military and civil, hold their offices until others are elected.

Passed: January 30, 1846.

### Private Acts of 1851-52 Chapter 327

**SECTION 1.** That the line between the counties of Coffee and Franklin, be changed as follows, to wit: Beginning on the south boundary line of Coffee County, at the point where the east boundary line of the town site of Tullahoma, as surveyed according to the original plan of said town, intersects the south boundary line of said county, the said point being opposite to section seventy-two, of the Nashville and

Chattanooga railroad, and one hundred and sixty poles east of that point; thence running with the courses of the lines which bound the southern portion of said town site to the point where the west boundary thereof intersects the said south boundary line of Coffee county, and the citizens included within these lines and the intercepted point of the Coffee county line, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of other citizens of Coffee county, and also shall be subject to all the liabilities of the citizens of Coffee county.

**SECTION 2.** That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Passed: February 25, 1852.

## Public Acts of 1870-71 Chapter 18

**SECTION 1.** That the line between the counties of Coffee and Franklin, be so changed as to detach from Franklin and attach to Coffee the following boundaries, viz: Beginning at or near the three water holes on the line of Franklin and Coffee; thence south 48° west to the old Shelbyville and Winchester road, by the Flat Creek; thence north-west with said road to the Bedford County line; thence with the Bedford County line to the line of Coffee County; Provided, That the parties so detached from Franklin and attached to Coffee County shall pay their taxes for 1870 to the tax collector for Franklin County.

**SECTION 2.** That the said citizens detached from Franklin County be attached to the 13th civil district of Coffee County.

**SECTION 3.** That the line between the counties of Coffee and Cannon be so changed as to include the lands of Newton Jarnagin in Coffee County, commencing in said Jarnagin's south boundary line where crosses the line between the counties of Coffee and Cannon; thence east to his south-east corner; thence north with his line to his north-west corner; thence west to said county line.

Passed: December 15, 1870.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** The remaining portions of this Act concerned other county boundaries.

## Public Acts of 1879 Chapter 178

**SECTION 1.** That the line between the Counties of Coffee and Franklin, be to changed as to detach from Franklin and attach to Coffee, the territory included in the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning at a stone, with pointers in the west boundary line of a 1,200-acre tract granted in name of R. Sharp (now owned by Kirkpatrick, and leaving Kirkpatrick in Franklin county), just north of the three water holes (about 15 poles); thence south with the line of said grant 311 poles to the Lanier line; thence west with said line 23 poles; thence north 50 poles; thence west 216 poles to the east boundary line of the Joab Short 500-acre grant; thence north with the east boundary line of said grant (about 120 poles) to the southerly boundary line of the old 695 acre Kocsis survey; thence with the southerly boundary of said Kocsis' survey (about 500 poles) to the right of way of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway at a point (about 52 poles) south of the Anderson (now Dundas) tract; thence across said railroad; thence to the southeast corner of the Travis lands; thence running with the Travis east, north and west lines (leaving Travis in Franklin county) and on to the southeast corner of the Martin lands; thence with Martin's south boundary line and on to the southeast corner of the David Hart lands (now M. Wilson); thence with the south boundary of the Hart lands to the road; thence with the road to Hastings' southeast corner (about 35 poles); thence to the southeast corner of the Crane Oak View tract and the old Thomas line to the Moore county line; thence with the Moore county line and Bedford county line to the line of Coffee county. Provided, That so much of the Hasting, Crane and Thomas tracts as are assessed in Franklin shall pay taxes to the trustee of Franklin county for the year 1899.

As amended by: Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 245

**SECTION 2.** That the said citizens so detached from Franklin County, be attached to the 13th Civil District of Coffee County.

**SECTION 3.** That all laws and parts of laws, in conflict with this Act, be and the same is hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 24, 1879.

## Public Acts of 1879 Chapter 235

**SECTION 1.** That the lines between the Counties of Franklin, Coffee and Grundy, at their intersection on



Elk River, be changed as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a stake in the line between Coffee and Grundy, 20 yards north of Elk River, and running thence west to the north end of the bridge crossing Elk River; thence with the center of said bridge to the south end of said bridge; thence to a stake in the old line, 15 yards south of said river, so as to place the said bridge on the lines between said Counties of Coffee, Franklin and Grundy.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 28, 1879.

## Private Acts of 1917 Chapter 202

**SECTION 1.** That the county line between the Counties of Bedford and Coffee be so changed, that the lands lying east of the Garrison Creek be detached from Bedford County and added to Coffee County, by beginning in the county line of the southeast corner of Dr. Jim Mason's farm and running south with the center of Garrison Creek to the mouth of McBride's Branch.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 13, 1917.

## Private Acts of 1923 Chapter 339

**SECTION 1.** That the line between the counties of Bedford and Coffee be and the same is hereby changed so as to include in Coffee County the following described strip or parcel of land: Beginning at a point in the line between the Counties of Bedford and Coffee forty feet west of the center of the public road leading from Beech Grove to Murfreesboro, and running thence in a northerly direction parallel with the center of said road a uniform distance of forty feet from the center thereof to the line between the Counties of Rutherford and Coffee.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 21, 1923.

## Private Acts of 1933 Chapter 342

**SECTION 1.** That the line between the counties of Moore and Coffee be changed by detaching from Coffee county and adding to Moore county the lands situated south and west of the following described line, to wit:

Beginning at a point in the fence inclosing the lands of Lem Motlow, on the north side of the Lynchburg and Tullahoma road known as the "Cobb road," where said road crosses the Moore-Coffee county line, and running from thence in a northwesterly direction with said fence, along said road, to the southeast corner of Lem Motlow's "Paty tract;" thence with the east boundary line of said Paty tract to the northeast corner of said Motlow's "Harton tract;" thence with the north boundary line of said Harton tract to a point in the line of said Motlow's "Briney tract;" thence with the line of said Briney land to the line of said Motlow's "Jenkins tract;" thence with the line of the Jenkins tract to the north side of the Dixie Highway; thence easterly with the north side of said Highway to the corner of the lands of Harve Moore; thence with Moore's line in a northerly direction to Lem Motlow's "Robinson tract;" thence with the line of said Robinson tract back to the point where the boundary line of that tract crosses Moore county line.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 5, 1933.

## Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 351

**SECTION 1.** That the line between Coffee and Moore Counties in this State be and the same is hereby changed by detaching from the County of Coffee and adding to the County of Moore all the territory embraced within the following description:

Beginning at the NW corner of a 225 acre tract of land formerly owned by Jno. W. Harton and wife, and conveyed to C. A. Osborne and wife by deed of record in Deed Book 66, page 93, Register's Office, Coffee County, Tennessee; running thence S, E and N with the lines of said 225 acre tract to the SE corner of a

tract of land now owned by Carlton L. Way and wife, Mary Louise Way; thence with the southerly line of said Way land, in a westerly direction 600 feet; thence in a northerly direction with the W line of said Way land 400 feet to the southerly margin of State Highway 55; thence crossing said highway to the north margin of said State Highway 55 to a point where such line strikes the present county line of Moore County and specifically embracing within Moore County all of State Highway 55 lying S and W of said last mentioned lines, it being the intention of this Act to embrace within Moore County all of the farm of C. A. Osborne and wife described in the deed above referred to EXCEPT that portion heretofore conveyed to Carlton L. Way and wife by deed of record in Deed Book 69, page 69, Register's Office, Coffee County, Tennessee, and to embrace within the boundaries of Moore County Highway No. 55 up to the NW corner of the land of Carlton L. Way, heretofore described.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 2, 1951.

## Private Acts of 1955 Chapter 343

**SECTION 1.** That the county line between Coffee and Franklin Counties be and the same is hereby changed so as to be in part as follows:

Beginning at a point designated as Station 13 on the official map of the common boundary line of Coffee and Franklin County, Tennessee, said map being prepared on September 18, 1953, pursuant to a resolution duly passed by the Quarterly Courts of the respective counties; thence in an easterly direction across the Old Winchester Road to a point in the southwesterly corner of lot number 70, in the Oak Park Addition to the City of Tullahoma, Tennessee, according to a map or plat thereof of record in Trust Deed Book 69, page 391, Register's Office, Coffee County, Tennessee, and also of record in Deed Book 84, page 197, Register's Office, Franklin County, Tennessee, thence in a northerly direction along the easterly margin of the Old Winchester Road 645.6 feet to a point in the northwesterly corner of lot number 37 in said subdivision; thence in an easterly direction along the southerly margin of Oak Park Drive in the City of Tullahoma, Tennessee, 265 feet to a point in the northwesterly corner of lot 40 and the northeasterly corner of lot 39 in said Oak Park Sub-Division; thence 395.2 feet in a southerly direction along the common boundary lines between lots 39 and 40 and lots 53 and 54 to a point on the northerly side of Oak Park Drive; thence in an easterly direction along the northerly edge of Oak Park Drive and along the southerly edge of lots 54, 55 and 56, 240 feet to a point in the southwesterly corner of lot 57; thence in a northerly direction along the common boundary line between lots 56 and 57, 199.7 feet to a point in the northwesterly corner of said lot number 57; thence in an easterly direction 320 feet along the common rear lot line between lots 43 and 57, 44 and 58, 45 and 59, and lots 46 and 60, to a point in the southwest corner of lot 47; thence in a northerly direction along the common boundary line between lots 46 and 47, 202.4 feet to a point in the northwesterly corner of lot number 47; thence along the southerly margin of Oak Park Drive and the northerly margin of lots 47, 48, 49, 50, and a portion of lot 69, 430 feet to a point in the northerly corner of lot 69; thence 442.5 feet in a southerly direction along the westerly margin of Oak Park Drive, and along the easterly margin of lots 69, 68, 67 and 66, to a point in the southeasterly corner of lot 66; thence in a southerly direction along a straight line to the southwesterly corner of lot 24; thence 80 feet in a southerly direction along the easterly side of Park Circle and the westerly margin of lot 25 to a point in the southeasterly corner of said lot 25; thence in a northeasterly direction along the common boundary between lots 25 and 26, 264.8 feet and thence in the same direction and along the same line if extended, approximately 360 feet to a point on the west bank of Rock Creek, said point being South 11 degrees 48 minutes West 210.5 feet; South 29 degrees 43 minutes West 198.5 feet; South 36 degrees 28 minutes West 237.7 feet from the point designated as Station 16 on the official map referred to above; so as to include in the 13th Civil District of Coffee County Tennessee, lots 1 through 25, 40 through 46, and 54 through 56, as shown on the recorded plats of the said Oak Park Sub-Division and so as to include the remainder of the lots of said sub-division in the 7th Civil District of Franklin County, Tennessee.

**SECTION 2.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 15, 1955.

## Public Acts of 1970 Chapter 569

**SECTION 1.** The line between the counties of Cannon and Coffee be, and the same is, hereby changed by detaching from the County of Cannon and attaching to the County of Coffee all of the hereinafter described territory:

A tract or parcel of land now lying in the 13th civil district of Cannon, adjacent to, and just north of the line between the counties of Cannon and Coffee containing 40.81 acres, more or less, and more particularly described as follows:

"Beginning at the corner of a fence located at the northward margin of the Hilly Spring Road, the said point of beginning being known as Kenners southwest corner, also considered as being located in the south line of Cannon County and the north line of Coffee County; thence running with a fence this being Kenners west line N 3° 15' E 1500 ft. to the corner of the fence; thence running with a staked line along the top of a ravine, this being Dr. Adams south-ward line N 89° 45' W 407.7 ft., N 77° W 166 ft., N 62° 30' W 156 ft., N 52° 30' W 272 ft., N 84° 15' W 242 ft., to a large fence post; thence running with a fence this being Parkers lastward line S 23° 50' W 952 ft., S 24° 15' W 153 ft., to the corner of the fence; thence running with the northward margin of the Holly Spring Road, considered as the north line of Coffee County, and the south line of Cannon County, S 60° 45' E 668 Ft., S 64° 15' E 1008 ft., to the beginning and containing 40.81 acres as surveyed by William C. Ingram, Coffee County Surveyor, on the 27th day of January, 1970."

**SECTION 2.** This Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 19, 1970.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This is a special public act and does not appear in Tennessee Code Annotated.

## Private Acts of 1971 Chapter 181

**SECTION 1.** The line between the counties of Coffee and Moore be, and the same is hereby changed so that the county line between the counties of Coffee and Moore will be located in the following manner:

Beginning at the northwest corner of a certain one hundred (100) acre tract described in a deed to George Vibbert, recorded in Deed Book 20, page 554, Register's office in Moore County; thence east along the north line of the Vibbert tract, to the northeast corner of the original one hundred (100) acre tract, in the west line of a tract owned by the L&N Railroad, now the northeast corner of property owned by R. C. Riddle, Deed Book 29, page 8, Register's office, Moore County; thence south along the east line of the Riddle tract and the west line of the L&N Railroad property, to the north margin of the Tullahoma- Normandy Road; thence in a westerly direction with the north line of the road and the south line of the R. C. Riddle property, J. W. Vibbert property, Edwin Gary property, Glenn Robinette property, and George Vibbert, Jr. property to a point in the south line of U. S. Highway 41-A; thence southeast with the south margin of U. S. 41-A, 765' to a fence; thence west with said fence 620' to a point; thence north 200' to a point; thence west 640' to a fence; thence further west about 590' to a northwest corner of the H. C. Stone property, thence south with the H. C. Stone west line and the Shirley Stone east line about 2390' to the northeast corner of the James T. Rutledge property, thence west with the James Rutledge north line and the Shirley Stone south line about 1995' to a point supposed to be the Coffee-Moore County line. So as to include in Moore County all of the property presently owned by George Vibbert, Edwin Gray, R. C. Riddle, Glenn Robinette, J. W. Vibbert, George Vibbert, Jr., James Farrell, and Shirley Stone, and to place in Coffee County all the property of I. W. Davis, consisting of 3.5 acres more or less lying between the old Tullahoma Road and the present Highway 41-A.

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 17, 1971.

## Public Acts of 1975 Chapter 214

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This is a special public act and is not printed in Tennessee Code Annotated.

**SECTION 1.** John N. Steioff and wife, Marie S. Steioff own the hereinafter described tract of land located and situated mainly in the 25th Civil District of Bedford County, Tennessee with a portion of said tract located and situated in the 5th Civil District of Coffee County, Tennessee and a portion of said tract located and situated in the 10th Civil District of Moore County, Tennessee and these portions of such tract of land are removed from Coffee County and Moore County into the 25th Civil District of Bedford County and the county line between Bedford County and Coffee County and Moore County at this place shall hereinafter run with the boundaries of said tract so as to exclude the said lands from Coffee and Moore

Counties and include the same in the 25th Civil District of Bedford County such that the entire tract of land hereunder described shall be located and situated in the 25th Civil District of Bedford County. That tract of land is generally bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a pipe near an old railroad brake shoe protruding from the ground at a decayed dogwood stump near the west edge of an old road extending from the Tullahoma-Normandy Road near a gravel pit; thence North 04 Deg. East, 1,647 feet along the west boundary line of the Mitchell property to a pipe; thence North 75 Deg. 20 Min. West 2000.6 feet along the south boundary line of the Mitchell property to a pipe; thence North 15 deg. West 950 feet more or less, along the west boundary line of the Mitchell property to a pipe; thence North 89 deg. West, 445 feet, more or less, along the south boundary of what is known as the Taylor property to a pipe; thence South 02 deg. 17 min. West, 700 feet, more or less, along the East boundary of the Carr property to a pipe; thence South 02 deg. 17 min. West 3,077.7 feet, along the east boundaries of the Carr and Short properties to a pipe; thence South 85 deg. 30 min. East 657.3 feet along the north boundary of the Short property to a pipe; thence South 07 deg. 40 min. West, 990 feet, along the east boundary of said Short property to a pipe; thence North 51 deg. 58 min. East 2,816.4 feet along the northwest boundary of the Weaver place to the point of beginning, and containing 183 acres, more or less, being the same property conveyed to John N. Steioff and wife, Marie S. Steioff, by deed of Guy W. Leming and wife, Martha Leming, dated January 23, 1960.

**SECTION 2.** This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 13, 1975.

## Public Acts of 1993 Chapter 161

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This act is a special act of local application and is not found in Tennessee Code Annotated.

**SECTION 1.** A property transfer between Franklin and Coffee Counties in the 8th Civil District shall be made so that the boundary line between such counties in the 8th Civil District is as follows:

BEGINNING at a point located in the existing line between Franklin and Coffee Counties, said point being located North 08 deg. 44 min. 45 sec. East 2,959.26 feet from AEDC marker #351. Running thence North 08 deg. 44 min. 45 sec. East 210 feet to AEDC marker #352. Running thence South 85 deg. 27 min. 19 sec. East and crossing AEDC access road and Tennessee Highway 127 and running through AEDC marker #353 2,900.27 feet to a point located in the easterly margin of Tennessee Highway 127. Running thence with the easterly margin of Highway 127 South 35 deg. 26 min. 32 sec. West 1,908.76 feet to a point; thence South 28 deg. 26 min. West 878 feet to a point; South 27 deg. 27 min. West 949 feet to a point located at the intersection of Tennessee Highway 127 with New Brick Church Road. Running thence with and along the northerly margin of New Brick Church Road South 82 deg. 54 min. East 2,140 feet to a point. Thence South 86 deg. 21 min. East 782 feet to a point located in the existing line between Franklin and Coffee Counties, Tennessee.

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 25, 1993.

## Boundaries - Historical Notes

The following is a summary of acts which authorized boundary changes for Coffee County.

1. Private Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 42, Section 3, gave the commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice for the new county of Coffee until March 10, 1836, to find a suitable location.
2. Private Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 47, Section 6, provided that the seat of justice in Coffee County, the town of Manchester, would be laid off by the commissioners between the two forks of Duck river, above the Stone Fort, on the 100 acres of land obtained from Andrew Hynes for that purpose. This Act was repealed by Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 30.
3. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 67, Section 2, placed certain portions of Franklin County in Coffee County but these lands were returned to Franklin County by Private Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 134.

4. Private Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 62, Section 30, authorized the county surveyor of Coffee County to survey and mark the dividing line between Coffee and Cannon Counties, with payment therefor to be made by Coffee County.
5. Private Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 79, Section 2, altered the boundary line between Coffee and Grundy Counties so as to include the lands of William C. Williamson in Coffee County.
6. Private Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 262, Section 3, changed the line between Coffee and Grundy Counties so as to include the lands of William H. Coulson in Coffee County.
7. Private Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 262, Section 8, altered the line between Coffee and Grundy Counties so as to include within Coffee County the lands of William H. Willis, Mary E. Nevell, Pollyana Nevell, and A. E. Patton.
8. Private Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 248, Section 5, altered the boundary line to remove the lands of Mary E. Nevill and Poleyney Nevill from Grundy County and place them in Coffee County.
9. Private Acts of 1859-60, Chapter 211, Section 8, placed the lands of John Brown and S. H. Ford in Coffee County, thus changing the boundary between Coffee County and Cannon County.
10. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 73, changed the boundary line between Coffee County and Grundy County to detach from Grundy the lands of Henry Meadows, J. C. Garritson, T. J. Garritson, William Garritson, James Parks, E. Rives, T. E. Rives, T. E. Mabery, G. Brawley, T. G. England, James Rhea, John Rhea, James Hoover, Andrew Stalls, A. Anthony, William H. Garritson, W. H. H. Meadows, E. H. Rives, James Parks, J. W. Walker, J. B. Thaxton, Jos. Brawley, and M. Hoover's Martin tract of land, and place them in Coffee County.
11. Public Acts of 1877, Chapter 131, changed the line between Coffee and Grundy Counties so as to include the lands of Ewell Smith in Coffee County.
12. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 207, removed the land of Mrs. Sarah Syers and that of W. B. Smith from Coffee County and placed it in Bedford County.
13. Public Acts of 1893, Chapter 58, changed the line between Coffee and Cannon Counties so as to include the "Hill Farm" belonging to A. J. Hill and the lands of John Whittamore within the boundaries of Coffee County.
14. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 8, placed the lands of Johnson Warren in Coffee County, out of Bedford County.
15. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 16, changed the boundary between Coffee and Rutherford Counties so as to include all the lands of Doc. Tribbell in Coffee County.
16. Private Acts of 1897, Chapter 256, removed the land of J. C. Brixey from Coffee County and placed it in Bedford County.
17. Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 374, altered the boundary line between Coffee County and Grundy County so as to include in Coffee the farms of Thomas E. Mabry and Mrs. Mary Pointer.
18. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 146, changed the boundary between Coffee and Franklin Counties to include the farms of Burch Hutson and J. P. Parker, the lands of Dr. J. A. Mitchell and J. M. Travis and the "Johnstown Settlement" in the 13th Civil District of Coffee County.
19. Private acts of 1915, Chapter 478, removed the lands of J. R. Hinton and Brothers from the 10th Civil District of Coffee County and placed them in the 10th Civil District of Warren County.
20. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 660, altered the boundary between Cannon and Coffee Counties to include all of the land of C. F. Holt in Cannon County.
21. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 804, removed the land of Lem Motlow known as the Dowdall lands from Coffee County and placed it in the 10th Civil District of Moore County.
22. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 168, detached the land of R. M. Gordon from the 3rd Civil District of Coffee County and placed it in the 1st District of Bedford County.
23. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 762, changed the boundary between Coffee and Franklin Counties to place certain lands in the 13th Civil District of Coffee County. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 55, which returned those lands to Franklin County with the provision that the land belonging to the Vocational School owned by the State of Tennessee remain in Coffee County.
24. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 337, included in Warren County all of the land of H. L. Elam, part of which had been in the 10th Civil District of Coffee County.
25. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 579, changed the boundary line between Coffee County and Warren County to include the lands of J. R. Hinton and brothers, C. C. Snipes and Horace Rogers in the

10th Civil District of Warren County.

26. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 750, changed the north boundary line of Coffee County to include the farm of H. E. Ramsey in Coffee.
27. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 740, altered the boundary line between Coffee and Bedford Counties so as to include all of the farm of R. W. McMichael in the 1st Civil District of Bedford County.
28. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 141, altered the boundary between Coffee and Bedford Counties so as to include in Bedford County certain lands of H. H. Good.
29. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 271, placed the farm of T. J. Banks, known as the "Brewer farm," in Cannon County, removing it from Coffee County.
30. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 456, removed from the 2nd Civil District of Coffee County the land of J. W. Shelton and placed it in Rutherford County.
31. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 556, transferred from Coffee County to Bedford County the farms belonging to W. O. McMilliam and Wilbur Finn, with the provision that such land be used for a lake or it would return to Coffee County.
32. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 694, detached the land of James A. Bryant from the 2nd Civil District of Coffee County and attached it to Rutherford County.
33. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 562, transferred lands owned by F. E. Bradshaw and J. P. Whitlock from Coffee County to the 10th Civil District of Warren County.
34. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 180, changed the boundary line between Coffee and Warren Counties by detaching the lands of L. D. Burks and wife and the lands of Coy Dennis from Coffee County and attaching them to Warren County.

## Chapter V - Court System

### Circuit Court

#### Public Acts of 1974 Chapter 596

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This is a special public act and does not appear in [Tennessee Code Annotated](#).

**SECTION 1.** The Judge of Part 2, Seventh Judicial Circuit, shall be authorized the sum of eighteen hundred dollars (\$1,800.00) per annum for the expense of maintaining an office, which expense shall include office rent, stationery, telephone service and kindred expense and which expense shall be paid by the state of Tennessee in the same manner as paid to the several judges by virtue of Section 8-2502 [8-26-105], Tennessee Code Annotated.

**SECTION 2.** This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 19, 1974.

### General Sessions Court

#### Private Acts of 1998 Chapter 102

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 376 of the Private Acts of 1953 and Chapter 32 of the Private Acts of 1983 and all acts amendatory thereto, are hereby repealed effective September 1, 1998.

**SECTION 2.** Beginning on September 1, 1998, there shall be two (2) full-time judges for the General Sessions Court of Coffee County. Each judge shall have the same jurisdiction, consisting of all civil and criminal jurisdiction prescribed by general law for judges of general sessions courts, and jurisdiction over juvenile and domestic relations proceedings, including divorce jurisdiction. Each judge shall be elected in the regular August elections in 1998, and every eight (8) years thereafter. Each judge's qualifications, compensation, and all other matters shall be governed by general law.

**SECTION 3.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Coffee County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer

of the county legislative body of Coffee County and certified to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 4.** For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 3.

Passed: January 26, 1998.

## Court System - Historical Notes

### **Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors**

The following acts once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Coffee County, but are no longer operative.

1. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 605, created a three member Board of Jury Commissioners for Coffee County, who would be appointed to a term of one year by the Circuit Judge. The Clerk of the Circuit Court would serve as Clerk to the Board. The Board would select jurors from the tax books and other sources, a list of between 300 and 750 potential jurors. The list would be entered into a book and placed on slips of paper and placed in the jury box to serve as the jury list for the next two years. At least 10 days before the start of the term of the court, the Board would cause the box to be opened, and a child under the age of ten would draw 37 names, or as many as ordered by the Circuit Judge, to constitute the jurors for that term. If additional jurors were needed, the names would be drawn from the box in open court. The Jury Commissioners would receive \$3 per day for each day spent in making up jury lists.
2. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 109, provided that in Coffee County all jurors would receive \$4.00 per day each as compensation for their services.

### **Chancery Court**

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Coffee County, although they no longer have the force of law since they have either been superseded by general law, repealed, or failed to receive local ratification.

1. Private Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 40, Section 2, directed that until a courthouse for Coffee County was ready, the courts for the County would be held at the Stone Fort or some house near that place.
2. Private Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 66, Section 2, provided that the citizens of Coffee County could file their bills in chancery in the Chancery Courts at Shelbyville, Winchester or McMinnville.
3. Private Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 44, established a Chancery Court to be held in Manchester in Coffee County and to be attached to the Fourth Chancery Division. Court would be held on the third Mondays in February and August. The Chancellor was required to appoint a Clerk and Master for said court as soon as practicable.
4. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, divided the State into six Chancery Divisions. Coffee County was made a part of the 4th Division with the court held on the third Monday of February and August at Manchester.
5. Public Acts of 1866-67, Chapter 33, established the 12th Chancery Division, composed of the Counties of White, Van Buren, Grundy, Franklin, Coffee, Putnam, Smith, DeKalb, Cannon and Warren. Court would be held at Manchester for Coffee County on the second Monday in February and August.
6. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 32, divided Tennessee into twelve Chancery Districts. Coffee county was part of the Fourth District along with the Counties of Franklin, Lincoln, Bedford, Rutherford, Cannon, Warren and Grundy.
7. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 47, set the time for holding Chancery Courts across the State. In Coffee County, court would be held on the second Monday of February and August.
8. Public Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided the State into eleven Chancery Divisions. Coffee County was part of the Third Chancery Division along with Bradley, Polk, Rhea, Marion, McMinn, Hamilton, James, Monroe, Meigs, Bledsoe, Sequatchie, Van Buren and Grundy. Court would be held in Coffee County on the Second Monday in February and August.
9. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 13, Section 10, reset the times of holding court in the Third Chancery Division. Coffee County's court would meet on the second Monday in January and June.
10. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 201, amended Public Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, by detaching Coffee County from the Third Chancery Division and attaching it to the Fourth Chancery

Division. Court would be held on the second Monday of February and August.

11. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, divided the State into ten Chancery Divisions. Coffee County was part of the Third Chancery Division with Franklin, Rhea, Bradley, James, Marion, Bledsoe, Sequatchie, Grundy, McMinn, Moore, Warren, Monroe, Polk, Meigs and Hamilton Counties. Court would be held in Coffee County on the fourth Monday in May and November.
12. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 435, divided the Third Chancery Division and thereby created the Twelfth Chancery Division. Coffee County was in the new Twelfth Division, but the time of holding court remained unchanged. A new Chancellor would be popularly elected to serve an eight year term.
13. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 500, changed the time for holding Chancery Court in Coffee County to the third Monday in May and November.

#### **Chancery Court - Clerk and Master**

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Coffee County.

1. Private Acts of 1913 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, set the salary of the Coffee County Clerk and Master at \$750 per year. If the fees fail to equal the salary, then the County was required to make up the difference. Any fees in excess of the salary could be retained by the Clerk and Master.
2. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 17, set the compensation of the Coffee County Clerk and Master at \$1,200 per year. The provisions for a shortfall or excess of fees remained as in Private Acts of 1913 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20.
3. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 351, set the salary of the Clerk and Master of Coffee County at \$1,200 per year, with provisions similar to Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 17.
4. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 358, amended Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 351, so as to allow the Clerk and Master to receive his compensation in monthly rather than quarterly payments.
5. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 383, set the compensation of the Clerk and Master at \$1,200 per annum, payable in monthly installments. The County would cover any shortfall in fees up to the amount of the salary, and the Clerk and Master could retain any excess. Certain types of fees were excluded from the provisions of this Act.

#### **Circuit Court - Clerk**

The following acts have no current effect, but once applied to the Coffee County Circuit Court Clerk. They were repealed, superseded, or never received local approval. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 763, in establishing the Circuit Court at Tullahoma provided that the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Coffee County would also be Clerk of this Court. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 31.
2. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 719, provided that the compensation of the Circuit Court Clerk be set at \$1,200 per year, with any difference between this amount and the fees received by the Clerk to be paid out of the County Treasury. The Clerk could retain any excess fees.
3. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 352, set the compensation of the Circuit Court Clerk at \$1,200 per year, to be paid quarterly. The remaining provisions were similar to Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 719.
4. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 382, set the salary of the Circuit Court Clerk at \$1,200 per annum, to be paid in monthly installments.
5. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 396, attempted to provide for the employment of a clerical assistant to the Circuit Court Clerk, but the Quarterly County Court did not approve this Act so it never became operative. The assistant would have been paid \$1,200 per annum.

#### **District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators**

The following acts once affecting Coffee County are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1971, Chapter 271, Public Acts of 1975, Chapter 221, Public Acts of 1976, Chapter 510, and Public Acts of 1978, Chapter 768, created additional positions for assistant district attorneys general in the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Coffee County is now in the Fourteenth Judicial District, according to T.C.A. § 16-2-506, which also provides the number of judges, assistant district attorneys general and investigators for the district.

#### **Juvenile Court**

The following acts once affecting juvenile courts in Coffee County are included herein for reference purposes.



1. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 461, amended the general law, Public Acts of 1911, Chapter 58, to provide that in Coffee County the Recorder of any incorporated town having a population of not less than 3,000 nor more than 4,000 by the Federal Census of 1920 would be vested with all the rights and powers to try and dispose of any case arising within the corporate limits of said town involving juvenile delinquents or offenders. The Municipal government would pay all expenses of such juvenile court.
2. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 299, vested the Judge of the General Sessions Court with exclusive jurisdiction in juvenile matters. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never became effective.
3. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 15, created a Juvenile and Probate Court for Coffee County. The Judge of this Court would also serve as County Attorney. The Judge would be elected to an eight year term and would receive a salary of \$3,600 per annum. The County Court Clerk would serve as Clerk of this Court. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never became effective.
4. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 308, created a Juvenile Court for Coffee County which would have all the authority granted under the general law. The Judge would be elected to an eight year term and the Coffee County Clerk would serve as the Clerk of this Court. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never took effect.

## Chapter VI - Education/Schools

### Board of Education

#### Private Acts of 1971 Chapter 7

**SECTION 1.** That in counties of this State having a population of not less than 32,000, nor more than 33,000, by the Federal Census of 1970, or any subsequent Federal Census, there is hereby created a County Board of Education to be composed of seven (7) members who shall be elected by all of the qualified voters of the respective School Districts of said County hereinafter created in this Act. Beginning with the August election, 1972, and biennially thereafter as the terms of office of members of said Board of Education expire, one (1) member of said Board of Education shall be elected from each of the seven (7) School Districts of said County. Each member of the Board of Education so elected shall hold office for a period of six (6) years from September 1 next following his election and until his successor shall be elected and qualified.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 203

**SECTION 2.** The said County is hereby divided into seven (7) School Districts composed of the following Commission Districts of said County:

Commission Districts Numbers 1 and 2 shall constitute and compose School District Number 1.

Commission Districts Numbers 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 shall constitute and compose School District Number 2.

Commission District Number 3 shall constitute and compose School District Number 3.

Commission District Number 4 shall constitute and compose School District Number 4.

Commission District Number 5 shall constitute and compose School District Number 5.

Commission District Number 6 shall constitute and compose School District Number 6.

Commission District Number 12 shall constitute and compose School District Number 7.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 203

**SECTION 3.** That until their successors are elected as hereinafter provided, the following shall constitute and compose the Board of Education for said County:

Herman Daniel, whose term of office expired September 1, 1970; Maurice Jernigan, whose term of office expired September 1, 1970; Winston Wallace, whose term of office expired September 1, 1970; Wayne Roberts, who shall hold office until September 1, 1972; Herman Johnson, who shall hold office until September 1, 1972; Frank Bramblett, who shall hold office until September 1, 1974; and Irene Vick, who shall hold office until September 1, 1974.

A special election shall be held in said County no later than the first Thursday in August, 1971, for the purpose of electing a member of the County Board of Education from School Districts Numbers 1 and 3,

and for the purpose of electing a member of the County Board of Education at large from School Districts Numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6, all three of whom shall serve until September 1, 1976.

Members of said Board of Education shall not be elected for School Districts represented by the members named above until there is a vacancy in such School Districts.

**SECTION 4.** The members of said Board of Education shall be residents and voters of the school district in which they are elected. Members of said Board of Education shall be citizens of recognized integrity, intelligence, and ability to administer the duties of the office. No member of the County Commission or any other county official shall be eligible for election as a member of said Board. No person shall be eligible to serve on said Board unless such person be a bona fide resident of said county having a practical education. If any member of said board ceases to reside in the school district in which such member is elected, the office of such member shall become vacant.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 203

**SECTION 5.** That it shall be the duty of said County Board of Education as herein created to meet within ten (10) days after the effective date of this Act and to organize by selecting one of their number as Chairman. The Chairman shall serve for a term of one (1) year. The County Superintendent of said counties shall act as Secretary of the Board of Education without additional compensation, but in case of the absence of the County Superintendent for any cause whatsoever, said County Board of Education may designate one of its number to act as such Secretary.

In case for any reason whatsoever it shall be impracticable or impossible for said Board to meet within ten (10) days after the effective date of this Act and organize them, said Board shall meet and organize as herein directed at the earliest possible date. A majority of the membership of said Board shall constitute a quorum thereof for the transaction of all business. Special meetings thereof may be held at the call of the Chairman or whenever in the opinion of a majority of the membership thereof such special meetings shall be necessary. In case of special meetings in either of the above mentioned methods, all members thereof shall be given notice of such special meetings, at least three (3) days before the date set therefor.

**SECTION 6.** That said County Board of Education shall have all the rights, powers, liabilities and compensation as are provided for school boards under Title 49, Chapter 2, of the Tennessee Code Annotated, except where the same conflict with other express provisions of this Act, in which case the provisions of this Act shall prevail.

**SECTION 7.** That nothing in this Act shall be construed as having the effect of removing any incumbent from office or abridging the term of any official prior to the end of the term for which he was elected.

**SECTION 8.** That if any part of this Act shall be held or declared to be unconstitutional and void, it shall not affect the remaining parts of this Act, it being hereby declared to be the legislative intent to have passed the remainder of this Act, notwithstanding the invalidity of any other part thereof.

**SECTION 9.** That Chapter 563 of the Private Acts of 1935, and all Acts amendatory thereof, be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 10.** That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall have been approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Quarterly County Court of Coffee County at the next regular or special meeting of such Quarterly County Court occurring after this Act is approved by the Chief Executive of this State. The approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of such Quarterly County Court and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 11.** That for the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this Act, as provided in Section 10, it shall be effective upon becoming law. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 10.

Passed: March 11, 1971.

## Education/Schools - Historical Notes

### **Board of Education**

The following acts once affected the board of education in Coffee County but are no longer operative. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1909, Chapter 302, amended Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 25, which created a uniform system of public schools, to provide in Coffee County that the County Board of Education would be composed of one member elected biennially from each Civil District, the Judge or Chairman of the County Court, and the County Superintendent of Public Instruction who would be ex officio Chairman of said Board. The duties of the Chairman, the Secretary and the Board were enumerated. Board members would receive \$1.50 per day for attendance at Board meetings and

- \$1 per day for visiting schools of the District.
2. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 68, authorized the directors of the various public school districts in Coffee County to establish primary and secondary public schools which would teach the first ten grades of the public school curriculum.
  3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 50, required the teaching of the first ten grades of the Public School Curriculum in Coffee County.
  4. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 545, amended Public Acts of 1921, Chapter 120, which created a County Board of Education in each County, by providing that in Coffee County one member would be elected biennially from each of the six Civil Districts to the County Board of Education. The remainder of the general law was unaffected. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 564, Page 1437.
  5. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 749, amended Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 545, by directing the Quarterly County of Coffee County to divide the County into six school districts. Members of the County Board of Education would be elected from the six School Districts. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 564.
  6. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 91, amended Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 749, by dividing Coffee County into six School Districts. The County Court would elect a member to the County Board of Education from each district. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 555.
  7. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 302, amended Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 91, by deleting the provision that required the County Court to elect the six members of the County Board of Education. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 555.
  8. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 563, created a County Board of Education composed of seven members elected to two year terms. The County Superintendent would act as Secretary to the Board without additional compensation. The Board would have the duties and authority conferred by the general law. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 7, Page 15.
  9. Private Acts of 1935 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 57, amended Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 563, to provide that the members of the County Board of Education would be elected by the voters of the respective school district. The Act also divided the County into seven School Districts. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 7, Page 15.
  10. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 150, created a seven member County Board of Education with one member coming from each of the seven school districts described in the Act. Members would be elected by the Quarterly Court to seven year terms. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never took effect.
  11. Private Acts of 1970, Chapter 285, created a seven member County Board of Education which would be elected by the voters of the six school districts enumerated in the Act to two year terms. One member of the Board would be elected at large from school districts numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never took effect.

### **Superintendent or Director of Schools**

The acts referenced below once affected the office of superintendent of education in Coffee County, but are no longer operative. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 95, as amended by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 367, Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 297, and Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 657, created the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction for counties with certain population classes to be elected for a term of two years and whose term would begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in August 1924.
2. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 655, abolished the office of Attendance Officer in Coffee County and transferred the responsibility for enforcing the compulsory school attendance law to the County Superintendent of Public Instruction. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 711, Page 2600.
3. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 763, required the Sheriff, deputy Sheriffs, and constables in Coffee County to execute warrants under the compulsory school attendance law at the instance of the County Superintendent.
4. Private Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 107, provided that the notice requirement in the compulsory school law (Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 115) could be met in Coffee County by the County Superintendent serving notice upon the parent or guardian, either in person or by mail, of the child.

**General Reference**

The following acts constitute part of the administrative and political heritage of the educational structure of Coffee County but are no longer operative since they have either been superseded, repealed, or failed to receive local approval.

1. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 232, divided School District No. 19, as described in the Act, so as to create a new school district in Coffee County on the north side of the Duck River.
2. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 109, created an additional school district for Coffee County and designated it as No. 59. Three Directors would be elected for this District.
3. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 371, created the Sixty-second Public School District of Coffee County, to be known as the Bushy Branch School District.
4. Private Acts of 1905, Chapter 495, created "The Viola Taxing District" out of portions of Warren, Grundy and Coffee Counties for the purpose of maintaining and operating a high school or schools. A three member Board of Directors would be elected to two year terms and would perform the duties enumerated in the Act. A tax of 25 cents per \$100 of taxable property plus a poll tax of 25 cents on all males between the ages of 21 and 45 was authorized. A referendum was required to approve the establishment of the District.
5. Private Acts of 1907, Chapter 292, set the boundaries for the Twenty-second Public School District of Coffee County and designated it as the Hillsboro School District.
6. Private Acts of 1913 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 106, established the Thompson Chapel Taxing District in Coffee County to be governed by an elected, three member Board of Directors. A tax of 15 cents per \$100 of taxable property was to be levied to maintain the schools of the District.
7. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 560, established an independent school district to be known as Ramsey's School District No. 66 in part of Warren County and part of Coffee County.
8. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 535, created a special school district to include the property of the Knights of Pythias Widows and Orphans Home, known as "Ovaca". The district would be governed by a three member Board of Trustees who would hold their office ex officio as officers of the Knights of Pythias.

## Chapter VII - Elections

### Districts - Reapportionment

#### Private Acts of 1965 Chapter 193

**SECTION 1.** That the sixteen Civil Districts of Coffee County established by Chapter 180 of the Private Acts of 1925 of Tennessee and now existing are hereby abolished and nine Civil Districts, as hereinafter described, are substituted and established in lieu thereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the boundaries of said nine new Civil Districts shall be as follows:

1. The First Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Sixth Civil District.
2. The Second Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the First and Fifteenth Civil Districts.
3. The Third Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Second and Third Civil Districts.
4. The Fourth Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Fourth and Sixteenth Civil Districts.
5. The Fifth Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Fifth and Fourteenth Civil Districts.
6. The Sixth Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Ninth and Tenth Civil Districts.
7. The Seventh Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Seventh and Eighth Civil Districts.

8. The Eighth Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Eleventh and Twelfth Civil Districts.
9. The Ninth Civil District shall be composed of and include the territory now constituting the Thirteenth Civil District.

**SECTION 3.** That the voting precincts in said County shall remain as at present until changed as provided by law.

**SECTION 4.** That there shall be elected two Justices of the Peace and one Constable in each of the above described and defined Civil Districts by the qualified voters, and in addition thereto, the Town of Manchester located in District No. 1 shall elect two additional Justices of the Peace as allowed such town by virtue of its being a municipality and the county town for such county, and the City of Tullahoma shall elect four additional Justices of the Peace which shall include the two now allowed such city by general law or otherwise provided therefor. The additional Justices of the Peace provided herein for the Town of Manchester and the City of Tullahoma shall have all the powers, duties and receive the compensation allowed other Justices of the Peace from such Town and City and shall be regular members of the Quarterly County Court for such county.

**SECTION 5.** That said Justices of the Peace, Constables, and other officers shall be elected in the manner and for the terms as now provided by law, said election to be held on the first Thursday of August 1966 and each six years thereafter. Such officers so elected for the Civil Districts established by this Act to take office on September 1, following election of such officers. The officers elected for the Civil Districts created and established by Chapter 180 of the Private Acts of 1925 or otherwise provided, shall continue in office until said time.

**SECTION 6.** That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall be approved by a majority of the voters voting in an election to be held for such purpose. Within six months after the approval of this Act by the Governor, it shall be the duty of the County Board of Election Commissioners of the county to which this Act applies to call an election for the county to be held not less than 45 nor more than 60 days from the date of such call for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the provisions of this Act. The ballots used in such election shall have printed thereon the title of this Act and the voters shall vote for or against its adoption. The votes cast at such election shall be canvassed by the County Board of Election Commissioners upon the first Monday occurring 5 or more days next after the date of such election and the results shall be proclaimed by such board and certified to the Secretary of State. The qualification of voters shall be that provided by law for participation in general elections and all laws applicable to general elections shall apply to an election held hereunder.

**SECTION 7.** That all Acts or portions of Acts in conflict herewith, be and the same are repealed.

Passed: March 19, 1965.

## Referendum Provisions

### Private Acts of 1931 Chapter 140

**SECTION 1.** That in counties having a population of not less than 16,789 nor more than 16,809 according to the Federal Census of 1930 or any subsequent Federal Census, the County Commissioners of election are authorized and directed, when requested in writing by two hundred legal voters of the county, at any general election to be held in said county, to submit to the voters of the county on the official ballot, for their approval or disapproval, any question of proposed legislation affecting the citizens and residents of said county, and shall certify the result of said referendum vote to the County Court Clerk to be filed by him in his office. Provided, that all names on the petition shall be in ink signed by the individuals whose names appear thereon, or by their duly appointed representatives and that any person signing the name of another without his knowledge or consent, shall be guilty of forgery.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 13

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: January 29, 1931.

## Elections - Historical Notes

### **Districts - Reapportionment**

The acts listed below have affected the civil districts in Coffee County, but are no longer operative regarding elections. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new

substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 340, created six Civil Districts in Coffee County in lieu of the sixteen then existing. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 179.
2. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 180, created sixteen Civil Districts in Coffee County with the same boundaries that existed prior to the passage of Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 340.
3. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 151, created five Civil Districts in Coffee County in lieu of the sixteen then existing. This Act was not approved at the local level and never became effective.

### **Elections**

The following is a listing of acts for Coffee County which affected the elective process, but which have been superseded or repealed. They are listed here for historical and reference purposes. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 2, Section 7, provided that the Sheriff of Bedford County would hold the first election in Coffee County for Justices of the Peace.
2. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 68, Section 3, authorized the election of an additional justice of the peace for the town containing the county seat.
3. Private Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 138, Section 13, amended Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 68, so that all incorporated towns within Coffee County could elect an additional justice of the peace.
4. Public Acts of 1883, Chapter 61, authorized the 13th Civil District of Coffee County to elect an additional justice of the peace.
5. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 260, provided that no registration be required of Coffee County voters. Registration would not be a prerequisite to the right to vote.
6. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 602, amended Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 68, by exempting Coffee County from its provisions. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 181..
7. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 110, set the salary of election officials in Coffee County at \$4 per day.

## Chapter VIII - Health

### Health - Historical Notes

The following summaries are included herein for reference purposes.

1. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 433, authorized Dr. Will Banks of Noah, Tennessee to practice veterinary medicine and directed the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue him a license.
2. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 693, authorized John W. McMahan of Coffee County to practice veterinary medicine in Coffee County and directed that he be issued a license without an examination.
3. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 188, created the Coffee County General Hospital District. The District would be controlled by a Commission composed of a Chairman and five members. The County Judge would be ex-officio Chairman. Commission members would be paid the same per diem and mileage for attendance at regular meetings as were members of the Quarterly County Court and would receive \$5.00 for attendance at special meetings. Members would be elected by the Quarterly Court from the municipalities incorporated in Coffee County, with the remaining members elected at large. Terms of office were set at five years. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31.
4. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 283, amended Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 188, by removing the County Judge as ex officio Chairman and providing that the Chairman be elected annually by the Quarterly Court. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31.
5. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 218, amended Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 188, by modifying the procedure by which the Quarterly Court elected successor Commissioners. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31.
6. Private Acts of 1969, Chapter 170, amended Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 188, by modifying the procedure by which the Quarterly Court elected successor Commissioners. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31.

7. Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 248, created a Coffee County General Hospital District with provisions similar to earlier Acts. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never took effect.
8. Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31, as amended by Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 103, Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 26 and Private Acts of 1992, Chapter 168 created the Coffee Medical Center non-profit hospital district. Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 31, was repealed by Private Acts of 2005, Chapter 14.

## Chapter IX - Highways and Roads

### Highway Commission

#### Private Acts of 1971 Chapter 8

**SECTION 1.** Coffee County is divided into four (4) highway commission districts, as follows:

Highway Commission District 1. Highway Commission District 1 shall be composed of Rural County Commission District 3.

Highway Commission District 2. Highway Commission District 2 shall be composed of Rural County Commission District 4.

Highway Commission District 3. Highway Commission District 3 shall be composed of Rural County Commission District 5.

Highway Commission District 4. Highway Commission District 4 shall be composed of Rural County Commission District 6.

The rural county commission districts referred to in this section shall be those established by the Coffee County commission in a reapportionment plan adopted by the commission in 2021. The county commission is authorized to make subsequent redistrictings of the highway commission districts from time to time as necessary for the election of highway commission members from districts that are substantially equal in population. Such districts shall be so defined that they contain one (1) rural county commission district and that their boundaries shall conform to those of rural county commission districts. Following each subsequent reapportionment of the county commission districts after the effective date of this act, it shall not be necessary to amend this act or any other private act applicable to the Coffee County Highway Commission such that any change in the reapportionment of the county commission in Coffee County will automatically change and reapportion the Coffee County Highway Commission. There shall be the same number of highway commission members as there are rural county commission districts of the county commission and the district of each highway commission member shall be consistent with the commissioner's corresponding rural county commissioner.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1998, Chapter 105  
Private Acts of 2002, Chapter 78  
Private Acts of 2022, Chapter 37

**SECTION 2.** The members of the Highway Commission now in office shall serve in their respective positions until their successors are elected and qualified. At the August election in 2022 and every four (4) years thereafter, members of the Highway Commission shall be elected and take office on September 1 next following said election and serve a four-year term.

At the August 2022 general election for county officers, one (1) highway commission member shall be elected by the qualified voters of Highway Commission District 1, one (1) highway commission member by the qualified voters of Highway Commission District 2, one (1) highway commission member by the qualified voters of Highway Commission District 3, and one (1) highway commission member by the qualified voters of Highway Commission District 4.

The Highway Commission shall be composed of the highway commission members elected as provided above and shall elect a chairperson from among its members. The county executive shall be an ex officio member.

Highway Commission members living in new districts shall continue to serve out their elected terms. District seats without current Highway Commission members, or those seats for which the Highway Commission member's term ends, shall hold elections for the County Highway Commission in August 2022 and at appropriate intervals thereafter.

If any member ceases to reside in any of the rural county commission districts from which the member was elected, the member's office shall become vacant and the County Commission shall elect another resident within said districts to fill the unexpired term. However, a change in the corporate limits of the municipality resulting in a change in rural county commission district lines shall not constitute a vacancy and the member so affected shall serve out the remainder of the member's term. Thereafter, the portion of the rural county commission district taken into the corporate limits of the municipality shall not be treated as a part of the highway commission district herein created.

The Commission Districts in Coffee County are more fully described in the reapportionment resolutions adopted by Coffee County in regard to the County Commission at the Special Commission meeting held September 30, 2021, as on file in the office of the County Clerk and the County Election Commission.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 204  
Private Acts of 1998, Chapter 105  
Private Acts of 2002, Chapter 78  
Private Acts of 2022, Chapter 37

**SECTION 3.** Each member of the Highway Commission shall be a resident of Coffee County at least one (1) year prior to his election. The Highway Commission shall qualify by filing a joint bond with good and solvent sureties in the penalty of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) to honestly, faithfully and correctly account for and expend all funds coming into their hands as members of said commission. Each member of the Highway Commission shall take and subscribe to an oath administered by the County Court Clerk as a part of the records, to the effect that each member will honestly, faithfully and impartially discharge his official duties and correctly account for and pay over all moneys coming into his hands.

**SECTION 4.** The Highway Commission shall elect from its membership a Chairman and Secretary, each to serve for a term of one year. The Chairman shall not be eligible to succeed himself as Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Highway Commission. The Secretary shall keep and preserve the records of the Highway Commission which shall show the actions of the said commission in all regular or called meetings.

The Highway Commission shall hold a regular meeting at the courthouse on the first Wednesday of each month and such called meetings as the Chairman may call by written notice delivered to the other members of the Highway Commission; and if at least two (2) of the members request the Chairman to call a meeting for any purpose, he shall be required to do so.

Any three (3) members present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

The Highway Commission is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to govern their conduct as members of said commission in the discharge of their official duties.

Each member of the Highway Commission shall file a worksheet of his official activities at each regular meeting of said commission.

**SECTION 5.** The compensation of each member of the Highway Commission shall be determined by the Quarterly County Court, and such compensation shall not be less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month. The Chairman and Secretary may receive compensation for their services in an amount not less than One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) and not more than Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$225.00) per annum in addition to their compensation as a member as shall be determined by vote of the Commission. All compensation shall be payable out of the general road fund or warrant drawn on the trustee. All disbursements made by the Highway Commission for any purpose shall be by warrants signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the Secretary.

**SECTION 6.** The Highway Commission shall have jurisdiction over all of the roads, culverts, levees, rock quarries, gravel beds, drains, ingress and egress to and from such quarries, etc., exclusive of the roads located within the corporate limits of any municipality within the County, and shall have jurisdiction and control over all machinery, tools and equipment of every kind and character belonging to the county or which may hereafter be purchased for said purposes. The Highway Commission shall only have and exercise only such authority over bridges as may be delegated to it by the Quarterly County Court through the Bridge Commission.

The Highway Commission is vested with the power of condemnation under the general laws of the State for the purpose of condemning rights of way for roads, bridges, culverts, quarries, levees, gravel beds, drains, etc., and said Highway Commission is authorized within the appropriation for any given year to purchase tools, machines, and equipment necessary to maintain and keep the roads in repair, and they shall take good care of such machinery, equipment, tools, etc., and care for the same and keep the same in proper state of repair.

**SECTION 7.** The office of the County Road Superintendent is hereby created. The Superintendent shall



be experienced in purchasing and contracting rural road construction, maintenance and repair, including concrete and bridge work, and be familiar with the laws concerning real estate conveyancing and public and private property.

Candidates for the position of County Road Superintendent shall file satisfactory proof of such qualifications with the County Judge of said County, and to the Coffee County Election Commission along with his petition to place his name on the official ballot used in the General Election.

The County Road Superintendent shall be elected by the qualified voters of Coffee County at the Special Election provided for in Section 2, whose term of office shall begin September 1, 1971, and he shall hold office until September 1, 1972, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified. At the General Election in August of 1972, and every two years thereafter, the County Road Superintendent shall be elected in Coffee County by the qualified voters of the said County, whose term of office shall begin September 1 next thereafter, and he shall hold office for two years, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified. He shall be required to make a bond in the amount of \$5,000.00.

In case of death, resignation, removal, or vacancy for any cause in the Office of County Road Superintendent, the Coffee County Quarterly Court shall elect another qualified person to fill said vacancy, and he shall hold office for the remainder of said term, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

The salary of the Superintendent shall be determined by the Quarterly County Court, but shall not be less than Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) per year nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per year.

The Superintendent shall be a full-time employee, shall have full and complete charge, and shall superintend all road work carried on in the county and all work incident to the roads in Coffee County. The Superintendent shall act under the direction of the Commission.

The County Highway Superintendent shall attend all meetings of the Commission, and shall have the duty, right and power to cast the deciding vote on all matters coming before the commission when said County Highway Commission is equally divided.

**SECTION 8.** The Chairman, with approval of the Highway Commissioners, is vested with jurisdiction as the representative of Coffee County to cooperate and deal with the State Highway Department and the Commissioner thereof in connection with all matters pertaining to road work located within the County in which the State shall have any interest or as to which the State shall desire to cooperate under any existing law.

**SECTION 9.** The Superintendent may make any purchase of less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) without obtaining competitive bids. Purchase of Five Hundred (\$500.00) or more shall be made only after approval by the Commission and on a competitive bid basis.

The Highway Commission shall annually publish an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements by them. Such statement, so far as disbursements be concerned, shall contain the amount of each payment by them, the party to whom made and the subject matter of such purchase and such statement shall be published annually in some newspaper of general circulation in Coffee County, payment for such publication to be made from the highway funds of the County.

The Highway Commission shall keep permanent records of their actions as members of such commission, and make reports showing their actions and their receipts and disbursements to each quarterly term of the County Court, and a copy thereof shall be mailed to the State Commissioner of Highways at Nashville.

**SECTION 10.** The Highway Commission shall have power to let contracts for the construction, maintenance, and repair of any road coming under its jurisdiction within the amount of funds available for that year for such purposes, and said contracts shall be in writing and the Commission shall retain 20% of the contract price until the contract is completed and the work accepted and final estimated issued.

**SECTION 11.** No person, firm, or corporation shall tear up or dig ditches or drains for any purpose in any road coming under the jurisdiction of the Highway Commission without first obtaining the written permission of the Commission and filing bond with the Commission conditioned to restore the road to its former condition. Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each day of the offense.

**SECTION 12.** No funds shall be expended or obligations contracted for by the Highway Commission in any one (1) year in excess of the appropriations allotted by the State; or otherwise for said year, plus the unexpired balance carried over from any previous year.

At any time there are registered with the County Trustee outstanding and unpaid warrants issued by the Highway Commission, such Commission shall not expend or contract or incur obligations in any month in

excess of sixty per centum (60%) of the gasoline tax allotment made by the State of Tennessee and/or the expenditure by warrants in any one month by said Commission in excess of sixty per centum (60%) of the amount of the State's gasoline tax allotment to the Commission for said preceding month, while there are outstanding and unpaid obligations of the Commission, shall be a misdemeanor in office and punishable by a fine of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each such offense.

**SECTION 13.** The Highway Commission shall have authority to issue notes bearing interest at the rate of eight per centum (8%) per annum or less for capital equipment provided that no note shall be made to run for a period of more than three years. There shall at no time be more than Sixty Thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) of such notes outstanding. A certified list of such note or notes shall be filed with the County Judge at the time of issuance of said notes by the Commission. The Commission shall keep a register of all such notes together with notes issued from time to time, the notes outstanding at the present time to be a part of the Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) authorized. Such notes shall be signed by all members of the Commission and countersigned by the Superintendent and the County Judge.

**SECTION 14.** Prisoners committed to the workhouse of the County may be used by and be under the control and supervision of the Highway Commission in the construction, repair, and the maintenance of the roads of the County.

**SECTION 15.** All contracts let by the Highway Commission shall be advertised by the Commission in some newspaper published in the County for at least two weeks and sealed bids shall be received for such work and no contract shall be let to any of the members of the Highway Commission, or to any one related to any member of such commission within the third degree. All accounts shall be awarded by the Highway Commission and approved for payment in an open meeting of the Commission.

**SECTION 16.** In building and repairing County roads, the Highway Commissions shall be authorized to make such changes in location as are necessary to avoid heavy grades and cut out sharp turns or curves, and to properly provide for the drainage of said roads, by ditches, culverts, etc. In the construction of said roads, a system shall be adopted which shall tend to the promotion and carrying out a permanent system of county highways in accordance with the best standards of engineering experience. All funds expended by the Highway Commission for road construction and maintenance shall be spent as equally as possible in each of Magisterial Districts Three, Four, Five and Six.

The Highway Commission shall have jurisdiction and control of all the expenditures of all road funds (except the bridge fund) now in the hands of the County Trustee and of all funds which may come into his hands for such purpose, it being the intention of this Act to supplant and supersede all other road laws applicable to such County. The appropriation and expenditure of bridge funds shall be within the exclusive province of the County Court and its Bridge Commission. The County Highway Commission shall have no authority to commit or expend such bridge funds. Taxes assessed for bridge purposes shall be collected by the County Trustee and paid out on warrants of the Chairman, countersigned by the County Judge, after approval by the Quarterly County Court through the Bridge Commission.

The County Bridge Commission shall be composed of four (4) members, all of whom shall be members of the Quarterly County Court, and they shall be elected at the January Term by such Quarterly County Court and shall serve for a term of one year. One member of the Bridge Commission shall be elected from each of Magisterial Districts Three, Four, Five and Six, and such members must reside within the Magisterial District from which they are elected. The County Judge shall be an ex-officio member of the Bridge Commission and shall have the power to vote on any matters in case of a tie vote; and shall serve without compensation.

Taxes assessed for bridge purposes shall be assessed against property lying outside the corporate limits of the cities of Manchester and Tullahoma.

**SECTION 17.** The Coffee County Highway Commission or Superintendent shall not lend themselves, their office, nor any of their employees or any County owned equipment, material; nor shall they use the same, for the purpose of working upon, repairing, maintaining or constructing any road, roadway or driveway, or otherwise making any improvement, upon any privately owned property.

The Highway Commission and Superintendent shall be prohibited from using, or allowing any County owned equipment, material, employees or funds allocated to the Highway Commission to be used to construct, repair or maintain any street, road, roadway or driveway, or improving property within the corporate limits of any incorporated town located within the boundaries of said County, except County owned property.

**SECTION 18.** The provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable, and if any of its sections,

provisions, clauses, or parts be held unconstitutional or void, then the remainder of this Act shall continue in full force and effect, it being the legislative intent now hereby declared that this Act would have been adopted even is such unconstitutional or void matter had not been included therein.

**SECTION 19.** Chapter No. 307 of the Private Acts of 1967; Chapter No. 113 of the Private Acts of 1969, and all other laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed in their entirety.

**SECTION 20.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Quarterly County Court of Coffee County at or before the next regular meeting of the Court occurring after its approval by the Governor. Its approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Court and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 21.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 11, 1971.

## Highways and Roads - Historical Notes

The following is a listing of acts which once had some effect upon the county road system in Coffee County, but which are no longer operative. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 136, required the County Court at its January Term every two years to elect one Road Commissioner for each road district, which would be co-extensive with each civil district, who would have general supervision over all the public roads, bridges and overseers in his district. The Road Commissioner would receive \$1 per day for each day's service actually rendered, but limited to ten days per year. The County Court would assign road hands to designated sections of county roads and fix the number of days of labor between five and eight days in any one year. The County Court would levy an ad valorem tax of two cents on \$100 of taxable property for each day assessed to labor on the public roads. Two-thirds of this tax could be worked out on the public roads in the district in which the property was situated. The County Court would appoint a committee to consist of the County Judge and four other citizens to let out contracts for work on the public roads to the lowest responsible bidder. Members of this County Highway Commission would receive the same compensation as Justices of the Peace, except for the County Judge who would serve without compensation. The Court would levy a special ad valorem tax of up to 20 cents per \$100 to establish and maintain the county highways.
2. Private Acts of 1907, Chapter 321, divided Coffee County into three Divisions as enumerated in the Act. The County Court would elect one Commissioner of Roads from each of the road divisions. The Commissioners would supervise the expenditures of the proceeds of a bond issue, if approved in a referendum, in improving the public roads of the County. The Commissioners would each receive \$500 per year as compensation.
3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 298, provided that the Quarterly Court would, biennially in odd years, elect a three member Road Commission who would perform the duties enumerated in the Act. The County Court Clerk would be ex officio clerk of the Road Commission. The Road Commission would have full supervision of the public roads of the county and of their laying out, working, improvement, and maintenance, except for public bridges which were under the control of the Quarterly Court. The Court would levy annually a tax of up to ten cents on the hundred dollars worth of taxable property with one half going to the general road fund and the other half distributed equally to the various road districts.
4. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 777, provided that the Quarterly County Court would biennially elect a Road Supervisor to a two year term. In addition, the Court would elect a Road Commissioner for each Civil District to a two year term, who would have general supervision over the roads in his district, and whose duty it was to open, close, change and work the public roads of his district. The Road Commissioner would appoint Overseers for the different roads of his district. The County Court was empowered to levy a road tax sufficient to carry out the provisions of this Act.
5. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 154, authorized Coffee County, at the instance of its County Road Commissioners, to acquire land and material necessary for road construction and improvement by using the hereby conferred power of eminent domain.
6. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 633, amended Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 777, to provide that the owner of a team who is exempt from road duty could provide the team and driver and be compensated at the rate of \$1.50 per day.

7. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 403, amended Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 777, to lower the commutation fee from \$2.00 to \$1.50 per day. The Act also made it a misdemeanor to fail to report for road duty or pay the commutation fee.
8. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, provided for the popular election of a three member Highway Commission for Coffee County. A. A. Maysilles was named as Chairman and Jesse Jackson and Sam Cook as associate members initially. Commissioners would receive \$4.00 for each day's service, but not to exceed 50 days in a calendar year. The Commission would hold regular meetings at the court house on the first Monday of each month and would have jurisdiction over all the roads, bridges, culverts, levees, rock quarries, gravel beds, drains, and ingress and egress to and from such quarries. The Commission was authorized to employ an engineer for the purpose of opening, changing, grading or maintaining any road coming under its jurisdiction. The Civil Districts were divided into three Districts for the purpose of electing Commissioners. The Chairman of the commission would come from District #1.
9. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 15, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to lower the number of days of required road duty from five to three and to increase the commutation fee from 60 cents to \$3.00, which must be paid by May 1 of each year. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 271.
10. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 22, gave the County Highway Commission of Coffee County the power to condemn under the laws of eminent domain all lands necessary for public road purposes. Any judgment would be paid out of the general road funds.
11. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 205, authorized the Coffee County Highway Commission to elect one of its own members to a full time position to have charge of all road building and repair. The salary would be fixed by the Commission at an amount not to exceed \$100 per month. The Commission was given sole authority to exempt individuals from road duty.
12. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 367, contained similar terms to Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 205. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 20.
13. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 725, made the four mile road near Tullahoma leading to the Ovoca Pythian Home for Needy Orphans and Widows part of the State Highway System for repairs and maintenance.
14. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 10, amended Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 15, to provide that those members of families, partnerships or corporations owning their own teams that are exempt would continue to be exempt from road work.
15. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 265, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to relieve all citizens of Coffee County of the obligation of performing road work.
16. Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 22, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to reduce the term of members of the Highway Commission from six years to two years.
17. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 310, Page 1060, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to state that whenever the County Highway Commission has outstanding and unpaid warrants it can not expend or contract or incur obligations in any month in excess of 60% of the gasoline tax allotment made by the State to the Commission during the preceding month. The Commission was empowered to use notes bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum, to mature within 3 years, with the aggregate outstanding not exceeding \$10,000, to acquire capital equipment. The County Judge was made an ex officio member of the Highway Commission and would receive up to \$600 per year compensation. The County Judge and the Chairman of the Highway Commission would be joint purchasing agents for the Commission.
18. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 408, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, in the same manner as Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 310, except the County Judge's compensation was limited to \$400.
19. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 440, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, by re-aligning the Civil Districts that would compose the three Commissioner Districts.
20. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 19, authorized the employment, at the will of the Highway Commission, of a full-time supervisor of county roads and highways. The salary could not exceed \$200 per month. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 469.
21. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 402, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to set the compensation of the Highway Commissioners at \$300 per annum plus up to \$75 per quarter traveling expenses including \$3.00 per diem while traveling. The Act also required the Commission to annually publish an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements.

22. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 18, authorized the Coffee County Highway Commission and the County Judge to contract with the federal government for the purpose of certain proposed relocations and alterations to be made to certain roads and bridges within the Arnold Engineering Development Center.
23. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 468, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, to allow the Chairman of the Highway Commission to be elected from its membership.
24. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 470, authorized the Coffee County Highway Commission to elect one of its members to work full-time and have charge of and superintend all road building and repair in the County. If the Commission did not elect one of its number it could select some other person. The Quarterly County Court was required to approve the person selected and his compensation could not exceed \$300 per month.
25. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 114, attempted to repeal Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 470, but it was not approved by the Quarterly County Court and never became effective.
26. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 115, empowered the Coffee County Highway Commission to select someone to serve as a full time road superintendent at the will and pleasure of the Highway Commission, with approval of the selection by the County Court. The salary was limited to \$350 per month. This Act was rejected by the County Court and never became operative.
27. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 149, attempted to authorize the appointment of a County Road Superintendent by the Highway Commission with the approval of the County Court, but this act was not approved by the voters of Coffee County and never became operative.
28. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 331, amended Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 470, by raising the limit on the salary of the County Road Superintendent from \$300 to \$400.
29. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 235, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, by removing the compensation provisions for the County Judge while serving as a joint purchasing agent for the County Highway Commission. The Secretary was allowed to receive up to \$150 per annum compensation in addition to his compensation as a member.
30. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 263, attempted to repeal Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 470, but was rejected by the County Court and never became operative.
31. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 264, attempted to amend Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, by raising the salary of the three members of the Coffee County Highway Commission to \$100 per month. This Act was rejected by the Quarterly County Court and never took effect.
32. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 265, attempted to authorize the Highway Commission to appoint a qualified person as County Road Superintendent. The County Court did not approve this Act so its provisions were never operative.
33. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 266, attempted to amend Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 662, by increasing the salaries of members of the Highway Commission to between \$50 and \$100 per month. This Act was rejected by the County Court and never took effect.
34. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 80, amended Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 470, by increasing the limit on the salary of the County Road Superintendent to \$500 per month.
35. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 185, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 80, to make the salary increase retroactive to January 1, 1967.
36. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 232, created a County Board of Highway Commissioners for counties with a population of not less than 28,564, nor more than 28,664 according to the Federal Census of 1960. This Act was probably intended to apply only to Tipton County (pop. 28,564) but Coffee County (pop. 28,603) falls within its provisions. However, Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 307, created a Highway Commission for Coffee County; and being a later act, it was the controlling act.
37. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 261, attempted to create a Highway Commission of three members with the County Judge as an ex-officio member and to create the position of County Road Superintendent who would be appointed by the Highway Commission but would not be a member of that body and who must meet certain qualifications. This Act was rejected by the County Court and never became operative.
38. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 307, created a Highway Commission of five popularly elected members, with the County Judge to serve as an ex-officio member with equal power in fiscal matters. The Act created the position of County Road Superintendent to be appointed by the Commission, with approval by the County Court, who could not be a member of the Commission and must meet certain qualifications. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 8.

39. Private Acts of 1969, Chapter 113, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 307, to provide that the compensation of the members of the Commission would be determined by the Quarterly County Court at an amount between \$50 and \$100 per month. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 8.
40. Private Acts of 1970, Chapter 296, attempted to repeal Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 307, and create a Highway Commission of four members plus the County Judge with a County Road Superintendent appointed by the Highway Commission. The County Court rejected this act so its provisions never became operative.
41. Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 36, amended Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 8, but was rejected by the Coffee County Quarterly Court and therefore never took effect because of the Home Rule amendment to the State Constitution. The Act rewrote Section One to provide for a five member Highway Commission, four of whom would be elected and the other would be the County Judge who would also be Chairman. Section Two was changed to state the present Commissioners would remain in office until their terms expired, and then four members would be elected in August, 1976 to two year terms. Section 5 was altered so that present Commissioners would continue to be compensated at \$100 per month but after September 1, 1976, the Quarterly Court would fix the pay which could be no less than \$50 nor more than \$100 per month. The Chairman and bookkeeper would not be compensated and any member failing to attend a regular meeting would forfeit \$25 per meeting.
42. Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 137, seemed to be a duplication of Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 36. It was rejected by the Quarterly Court and failed to become operative.
43. Private Acts of 2000, Chapter 69, amended Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 8, adding a sentence to Section 6 authorizing the highway commission to acquire, erect and maintain all road name signs on the county road system, including, but not limited to, all county roads and county road intersections. This act failed to received local approval.
44. Private Acts of 2022, Chapter 37, amended Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 8, stated that the reapportionment set forth in the amendment in no way abridged the terms of office of existing highway commission members, and such members shall continue in office until the expiration of their present terms.

## Chapter X - Law Enforcement

### Law Enforcement - Historical Notes

#### **Sheriff**

The following acts have no current effect but are included here for reference purposes since they once applied to the Coffee County Sheriff's Office. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1841-42, Chapter 111, directed the State Treasurer to pay John Bell, the Sheriff of Coffee County, \$100, the amount paid out by him as a reward for the capture of an escaped prisoner.
2. Private Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 202, authorized the State Treasurer to pay Daniel McLean, the Sheriff of Coffee County, \$64 compensation for arresting M. D. Wilson and transporting his body to the Weakley County Jail.
3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 807, provided that the Sheriff should receive \$1,200 compensation per year with the County Court paying any difference between the fees collected by the Sheriff and the set salary. There was a provision that the fees received from boarding prisoners were not to be considered in determining compensation under this Act. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 397.

## Chapter XI - Taxation

### Assessor of Property

### Tax Assessor

# Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 819

**SECTION 1.** That in Counties of this State having a population of not less than 18,950, nor more than 18,970, by the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, there is hereby created the office of County Tax Assessor to be one Tax Assessor for the whole County who shall be elected by all the qualified voters of said County at the regular August election, 1948, and every four years thereafter, and said Tax Assessor shall hold his office for four years from the first day of September following. But no person so elected by the people for two full terms of four years shall be eligible to succeed himself in office and shall not be eligible to hold said office until a full term of office has expired since the expiration of his last term of office.

The various District Tax Assessors now serving said County shall continue in office until the expiration of their terms for which they were elected and at the expiration of which the County Tax Assessor provided for in this Act shall take office.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 273

**SECTION 2.** In case of vacancies, the County Court at its first session after the vacancy shall elect an Assessor, who shall hold office until the first of September following the next regular August election. The Assessor shall be elected by the qualified voters at the first regular August election coming after the vacancy, and he shall hold from the first day of the following September to the close of the term for which his predecessor was elected; provided, that if the vacancy occur between the October and April terms of the County Court, the County Judge or Chairman shall appoint.

**SECTION 3.** That the salary of the County Tax Assessor shall be Three Thousand Six Hundred (\$3600.00) Dollars, per annum, payable monthly out of the County Treasury upon the warrant of the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 189

**SECTION 4.** That the County Tax Assessor shall devote his full time and attention to the duties of the Office of County Tax Assessor, and shall keep his office in the Courthouse of the County, which shall be open for transaction of business connected with the office the same as other public offices. The County Tax Assessor may employ a Clerk to assist in such clerical work in the Assessor's office as may in the judgment of the Assessor be necessary to keep such record of the work of the office during the year as will materially aid in a just and equitable future assessment of real estate, personal property, privileges, and polls, and to act for the County Tax Assessor at such times as he is out in the County assessing property; but the total compensation of such clerical help acting as such Clerk in the Assessor's Office and in the Assessor's absence at the time of assessment of property shall not exceed Nine Hundred (\$900.00) Dollars per annum and shall be payable out of the County Treasury upon the warrant of the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court. Said County Tax Assessor shall obtain the consent of the County Judge or Chairman by an order entered of record in the County Court Clerk's office before employing such clerical help or Clerk. In addition thereto, the County Tax Assessor shall be allowed not to exceed the sum of Nine Hundred (\$900.00) Dollars per annum as travel expense incurred in the discharge of his official duties to be paid to him out of the treasury of said county. The Tax Assessor shall file monthly with the County Judge a report of his mileage upon which he shall be paid monthly traveling expenses at the rate of seven (7) cents per mile traveled.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 28  
Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 190

**SECTION 5.** That the County Tax Assessor shall make bond as provided in Sections 1340 and 1341 of the 1932 Code of Tennessee, and shall take the oath of office provided for in Sections 1343 and 1344 of the 1932 Code of Tennessee.

**SECTION 6.** That the County Tax Assessor in the Counties affected by this Act shall observe and comply with the requirements of basis, time, place and mode of assessment set forth in Sections 1348 and 1356, both inclusive, of the 1932 Code of Tennessee, and perform all duties required of Tax Assessors under the laws of the State of Tennessee, relating to the assessment of property generally.

**SECTION 7.** That it is the legislative intent that if any of the provisions of sections of this Act shall be deemed and held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining part of the Act shall be and remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 8.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby repealed, that this Act take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

**SECTION 9.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 13, 1947.

## Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 820

**SECTION 1.** That before any deed or other instrument which conveys or purports to convey the title in fee simple to any real estate shall be recorded it shall be the duty of the County Tax Assessor to examine the same and ascertain if the property described in said deed or instrument has been and is correctly assessed.

**SECTION 2.** That it shall be the duty of the County Tax Assessor to countersign every such deed or instrument after having recorded the transfer upon the assessment books of the property conveyed by said deed or instrument to be vested by such deed or instrument.

**SECTION 3.** That it shall be unlawful for any County Register or Deputy County Register to record or enter any deed or instrument coming within the provisions of Section 1 of this Act upon the records of the Register's Office or to receive such deed or instrument for the purpose of recording or entering the same upon the records, unless such deed or instrument shall have first been countersigned by the County Tax Assessor or his duly appointed deputy.

**SECTION 4.** That any County Register or Deputy Register who shall be convicted of violating the provisions of Section 3 of this Act shall be fined not less than Twenty-five nor more than Fifty Dollars.

**SECTION 5.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 6.** That this Act shall only apply to Counties having a population of not more than 18,970, and not less than 18,950, according to the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census.

**SECTION 7.** That this Act shall take effect September 1, 1948.

Passed: March 13, 1947.

## Hospital Tax

### Private Acts of 1953 Chapter 377

**SECTION 1.** That for the purpose of providing funds for the operation and maintenance of general hospitals in counties of this State having a population of not less than 23,040 nor more than 23,075, according to the Federal Census of 1950, or any subsequent Federal Census, the Quarterly County Court of the counties to which this Act is applicable are hereby authorized to levy and collect a tax for the operation and maintenance of general hospitals in said Counties.

**SECTION 2.** That said tax shall be fixed and determined by the Quarterly County Court of the counties to which this Act is applicable, and shall be a part of the tax levy of said counties and be collected as all other taxes are collected.

**SECTION 3.** That said tax shall be levied on all the taxable property in said counties for the purposes herein set forth, and the money so collected shall go into and become a part of a fund designated "Hospital Maintenance Fund".

**SECTION 4.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 6, 1953.

## Litigation Tax

### Private Acts of 1981 Chapter 5

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 305 of the Private Acts of 1967 is repealed in its entirety.

**SECTION 2.** A litigation tax in the amount of seventeen dollars and fifty cents (\$17.50) for criminal actions and five dollars and twenty-five cents (\$5.25) for civil actions shall be assessed as part of the cost of such actions filed in the general sessions court, circuit court or chancery court of Coffee County.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1984, Chapter 189

**SECTION 3.** The clerks of such courts shall collect the litigation tax and transmit it to the Coffee County General Fund. The revenue from such tax shall be appropriated for the construction, improvement, renovation, or maintenance of improved jail facilities in Coffee County. Such tax revenue may also be used for debt service on bonds for such jail facility. Any revenue from the litigation tax levied by this act



in excess of the amount needed for the jail facilities may be used for the purpose of maintenance, repair and construction of the Coffee County Court House and Court House Annex.

**SECTION 4.** Any revenue remaining in the Court House Maintenance, Repair and Construction Fund, created by Chapter 305 of the Private Acts of 1967 and repealed by this Act, upon the effective date of this Act shall be transferred to the Coffee County General Fund and appropriated for the improved jail facilities.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Coffee County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of such legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 6.** For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this Act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 5.

Passed: February 16, 1981.

## Taxation - Historical Notes

### **Assessor of Property**

The following acts were superseded, repealed or failed to win local ratification, but they are listed here as a reference to laws which once affected the Coffee County Assessor. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 353, abolished the office of County Tax Assessor in both Coffee and Moore Counties. The respective County Courts would elect a District Tax Assessor for each Civil District at the January, 1912 term. At the next regular August election, the District Tax Assessors would be elected by the people of the district to a two year term. This Act was repealed by amendment as to Coffee County in Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 818.
2. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 350, created the office of Delinquent Poll Tax Collector for Coffee County. The Collector would be elected by the County Court to a one year term. The Collector would have the same power and authority to collect delinquent poll tax as by statute was vested in the County Trustee. The County Trustee would prepare a list of delinquents.

### **Taxation**

The following is a listing of acts pertaining to taxation in Coffee County which are no longer effective. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1907, Chapter 182, created the Hickerson Taxing District for the establishment of a high school and also for the construction and repair of public highways. The District would be governed by a popularly elected, three member, Board of Directors who would serve two year terms. The Board was empowered to levy a tax annually between 50 cents and \$1.00 on every \$100 worth of taxable property plus a \$1.00 poll tax on all male inhabitants of the District to be used for school purposes. The Board could also levy a tax of not less than 25 cents or more than 75 cents on every \$100 worth of taxable property for road purposes. The Board could also issue bonds and levy a special tax to pay the interest and create a sinking fund. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 631.
2. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 445, amended Private Acts of 1907, to exclude the lands of J. I. Ingram and Dr. C. N. Newman from the Hickerson Taxing District.
3. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 305, established a litigation tax in Coffee County of \$2.00 in all civil and criminal actions in the General Sessions Court and \$3.00 in all civil and criminal actions in the Circuit Court and Chancery Court. The proceeds would be placed in a "Court House Maintenance, Repair and Construction Fund" to be used exclusively for the purpose of maintenance, repair and construction of the Court House and Court House Annex. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 5, Page 8.
4. Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 118, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 305, by providing for the litigation tax to be taxed as part of the costs in all civil and criminal actions in the General Sessional Court, the Circuit Court, and the Chancery Court of Coffee County. The Act also permitted the retirement of bonds which had been issued to finance the construction of a county courthouse and jail as a purpose for which these funds could be spent. This Act was not approved by the Quarterly Court and never took effect.
5. Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 81, authorized the legislative body of Coffee County to levy a

privilege tax upon the privilege of occupancy of any hotel in an amount not to exceed 5% of the consideration charged by the operator. The County Clerk would collect the tax and pay over the proceeds to the Trustee. The County Debt Service Fund would receive 80% of the tax proceeds and 20%, up to a maximum of \$40,000, would go to industrial development and tourism. This Act was not approved by the local authorities and never became operative.

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