

Anderson County Board of Commissioners
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Monday
June 9, 2025
6:00 p.m. Room 312

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Appearance of Citizens**
 - **Presentation** – by Barry Thacker, PE, Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc. (CCWF)
- 5. ASAP Quarterly Update** – by Shayla Wilson, Executive Director
- 6. Mayor** – No report
- 7. Law Director's Report**
 - A. Contract Approvals
 - B. Zoning Violations
 - C. Bankruptcies
 - D. Other
 - E. Litigation Updates
- 8. Animal Shelter Updates** – requested by Commissioner Wandell
 - Operational Audit
 - New Entrance and Parking at current shelter.
 - Website and Facebook page
 - New Software
- 9. Flashing Signs for Carroll Hollow Road and Hwy 116** – requested by Commissioner Isbel
- 10. ACWA Minutes** – April 15, 2025
- 11. Strategic Planning Update**

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjourn

Presentation to County Commission

by Barry Thacker, PE, Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc. (CCWF)

Do you know that slavery didn't end in Tennessee with the Civil War, it ended with the Coal Creek War? That's because the 13th amendment to the Constitution outlawed slavery, except as punishment for crime. Tennessee used that loophole to force its convicts, primarily African-Americans, to work as slaves in coal mines until Coal Creek Miners literally went to war with the Tennessee National Guard to oppose the practice.

If you went to school now, you would know that history because the Coal Creek Labor Saga is part of Tennessee's Social Studies Standards. I teach that history as a volunteer to TN teachers through the organization Tennessee History for Kids. I also teach it to students and lead field trips to historic sites in Coal Creek, which include 4 sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

So why am I here? A few weeks ago, I taught that class at the Coal Creek Miners Museum, which Josh Anderson attended.

After the presentation, Josh asked if there was anything County Commission could do for us and I said yes. We have donated over \$1M to projects in Coal Creek over the past 25 years, so why are we still paying property tax on historic sites we developed in partnership with Anderson County officials to promote tourism in the County?

Josh later asked me to give a short overview to County Commission of the Militia Hill Property where the Tennessee National Guard had its base of operation during the Coal Creek War, how it was acquired, and how much it cost the foundation.

I can't provide 160 years of history in a short overview, but I have been invited to present it at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Lenoir Museum at Norris Dam State Park on July 10th for any that are interested. To date, the foundation has spent \$129,000 on Militia Hill and the adjacent Convict Miners Cemetery.

How we acquired it started 25 years ago when CCWF developed the Coal Creek Motor Discovery Trail Guide to promote tourism. As part of that effort, we organized a tour and memorial service to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Fraterville Mine Explosion. The rest is history as will be explained using the following documents.

[Venues](#)[Relocation Info](#)[Blog](#)[Search](#)[HOME](#)[THINGS TO DO](#)[STAY](#)[EAT](#)[EVENTS](#)[TRIP PLANNER](#)

COAL CREEK MOTOR DISCOVERY

Many of the miners who survived the Coal Creek War died in mine disasters at the Fraterville Mine in 1902 and the Cross Mountain Mine in 1911. These disasters, which killed 300 men and boys in Coal Creek, helped raise public awareness of the dangers of mining. Relive coal mining history and explore the scenic mountains and streams of Coal Creek by traveling the Motor Discovery Trail. The trail is a **self-guided driving tour** and is dedicated to those miners who lived and died in Coal Creek to improve the quality of life today. [Click here for a map.](#)



Contact Information:

Phone: 865.457.4542

Website: <http://www.coalcreekaml.com/history.htm>

Location:

Highway 116

Rocky Top, Tennessee

Motor Discovery Trail

Oh God for one more breath
Remember me as long as you live

The History of Coal Creek Tennessee



865-457-4542
www.adventureanderson.com

For more information about
the Coal Creek Area, contact



www.coalcreekminersmuseum.com

B: Coal Creek Miners Museum. The museum is the starting point of the trail because it tells the story of the Coal Creek War, the Frater Mine Disaster, the Cross Mountain Mine Disaster and the social and cultural effects that mining coal had on East Tennessee.

F: Fraterville Miners' Circle in Leach Cemetery. Eighty-nine of the 216 miners who perished in the Frater Mine Disaster of 1902 are buried in concentric circles around an obelisk in view of Owen Mountain to the west. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. Dozens of other Fraterville miners are buried in Longfield Cemetery and Wilson Cemetery.

S: Shoot-Out at Coal Creek Train Depot. After a strike by miners in Fraterville, mine owners recruited replacement workers from St. Louis and other locations to move to Coal Creek. Firecrackers set off by a group of boys started a shoot-out that ended with nine men wounded and four dead in 1904.

W: The Wye. Named after the River Wye in Wales by Welsh miners, Coal Creek flows through this gap in Walden Ridge. Walden Ridge marks the eastern extent of coal-bearing formations in the Coal Creek watershed. Coal has been mined on a continuous basis from the watershed for about 150 years.

F: Fort Anderson on Militia Hill. Free miners started the Coal Creek War in 1891 to abolish the convict labor system. The state militia was sent in to build Fort Anderson on Militia Hill to restore order. After numerous battles where convicts, guards, and militia were captured and released, Governor Buck Buchanan sent sufficient militia with heavy artillery and Gatling guns to end the conflict in 1892. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

M: Mountain View Church. Overlook of Rainbow Bluff Hollow and Fraterville.

F: Frater Mine Disaster of 1902. The Frater Mine opened in 1870. On May 19, 1902, an explosion killed 216 men and boys working in the mine. The Frater Mine Disaster remains the seventh-worst in the history of mining in the United States and the worst in the South. Powell Harmon left a farewell message telling his sons Henry and Condy never to work in the coal mines. Nine years later, Condy Harmon died in the Cross Mountain Mine disaster.

T: Thistle Switch. During the Coal Creek War, six hundred free miners met with Governor Buck Buchanan to negotiate a settlement. Nothing was decided and the Governor sent in additional militia. Colonel Granville Sevier, a distant relative of Tennessee's first Governor, and his men were captured by two thousand miners and put on a train back to Knoxville.

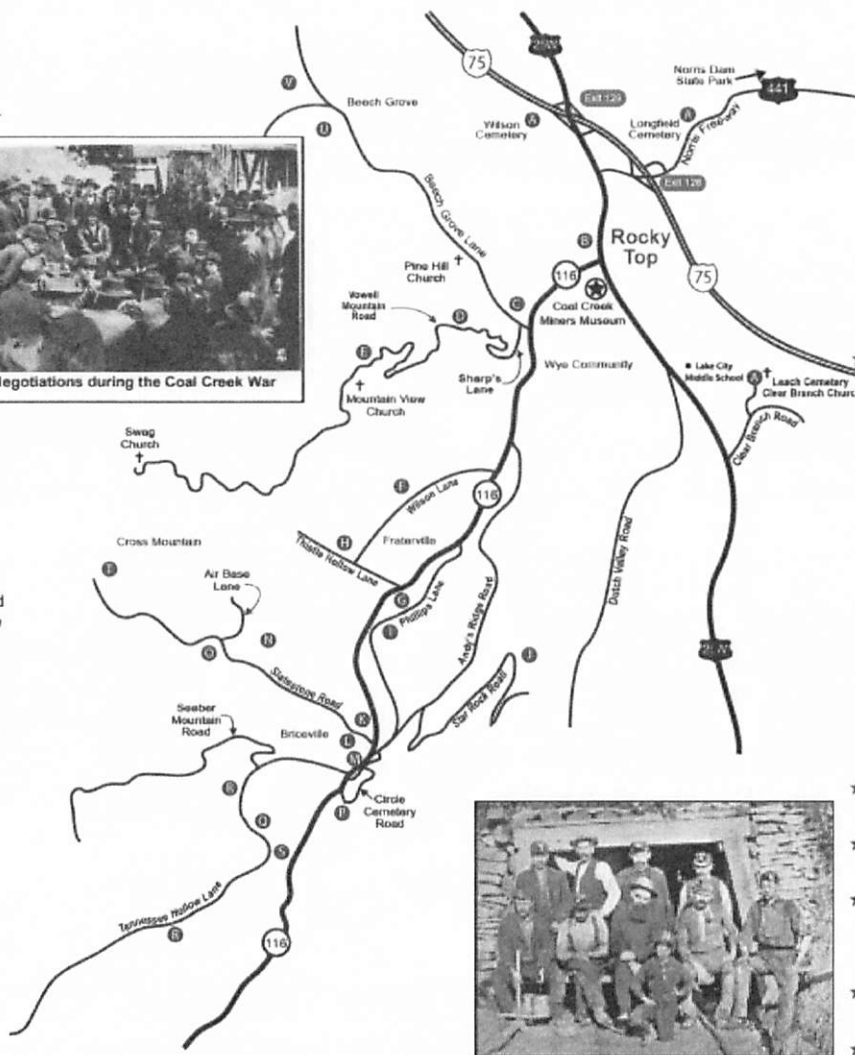
T: Thistle Mine. The first fatal mine explosion in Tennessee occurred here in January 1891. After the 1911 Cross Mountain line explosion, the direction of the Thistle ventilation fan was reversed to remove afterdamp from the Cross Mountain Mine and allow five miners to be rescued.

G: Ghost of Drummond Bridge. In August 1893, during the aftermath of the Coal Creek War, a young miner named Dick Drummond was lynched by the militia from a railroad bridge named "Drummond Bridge". Some report that the ghost of Dick Drummond still haunts the Coal Creek watershed.

B: Battle of Fatal Rock. During the Coal Creek War in 1892, Colonel Kellar Anderson, the commander of Fort Anderson, was captured by miners. Major Daniel "Old War Horse" Carpenter organized volunteers from Knoxville to relieve the beleaguered Fort



Negotiations during the Coal Creek War



★ Denotes locations with restricted or limited access which is only available with guided group tours.

Anderson. The army from Knoxville stumbled into what they thought was an army of miners who shouted "surround them, boys". Actually it was only a half dozen sentries. During the confusion, two volunteers were killed and the rest retreated back to Knoxville. "Old War Horse" became exhausted during the retreat and had to be hauled back in a wagon.

K: Briceville United Methodist (Community) Church. Built in 1888 by Welsh Coal Miners, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. Coal Creek Mining and Manufacturing Company and Rev. John Thomas Moore donated land for construction of the church and cemetery. Its location on a hill and architecture make it one of the most beautiful churches in East Tennessee.

M: Briceville Opera House. Opened in the early 1890's, the two-story Briceville Opera House, with its elaborate clock tower, challenged the Clinton courthouse for prestige in Anderson County before it burned around 1918.

L: Briceville Elementary School won a Title I Distinguished School Award in 1999, one of only 88 schools nationwide to win such an award.

★ N: Cross Mountain Mine Disaster of 1911. On December 9, 1911, an explosion and the resulting afterdamp (noxious gases formed from the explosion) caused the death of 84 men and boys. Five men were rescued in one of the first successful rescues by the U.S. Bureau of Mines. Mouth-breathing, self-rescuer equipment, demonstrated at Cross Mountain, became standard equipment for miner rescue crews and is still in use today.

O: Air Force Radar Base Station. In the late 1940's, the Federal government decided that an early warning station was needed in case of enemy attack on Oak Ridge. A radar station was built on top of Cross Mountain. U.S. Air Force barracks were built at the base of Cross Mountain. A 10,000-foot long tramway was built to move men from the barracks to the radar station.

P: Circle Cemetery. Thirty-one of the miners killed in the Cross Mountain Mine Disaster are buried in Circle Cemetery in Briceville. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

Q: Blue Hole of Coal Creek. A deep pool has formed at the confluence of Nunn Hollow and Coal Creek. Blue Hole has been a local gathering spot for generations. Many have been baptized in the cold water of Blue Hole.

★ R: Minersville and Tennessee Mine Camps. Tennessee Hollow was the site of mine camps that expanded from Briceville during the late 1800's and are now ghost towns.

★ S: Native Americans. Arrowheads found at the base of cliffs in Tennessee Hollow show that this was a popular spot for early Native Americans.

★ T: Cross Mountain Summit. After the radar station opened in 1951, the area suffered a drought and some folks blamed it on the new radar station. Military cutbacks closed the radar station because it was found to be too high in elevation (3500 feet) to detect low flying aircraft.

★ U: Beech Grove Falls. Prior to the advent of cars, many families spent Sunday afternoon walking up the railroad tracks for a picnic at Beech Grove Falls.

★ V: Beech Grove Mine Camp. Many of the homes in this community were built during the height of coal mining in the early 1900's.

In the cold, choking blackness of the Fraterville Mine, death whispered their names one by one.

'Oh God, for one more breath'



Louise Nelson's grandfather, David Dezem, was one of 164 men and boys killed in the Fraterville Mine explosion on May 19, 1902. She paused at his grave at Leach Cemetery in Lake City, where a memorial to the victims stands in the background.

Nearly a century has passed since perdition visited the East Tennessee community of Coal Creek. The coal mine that was the cultural and economic heart of the area exploded in a hellish fury, claiming the lives of almost every able-bodied man in the town. Some died instantly; others slowly slipped away as breathable air inside Vowell Mountain forsook them. The disaster will be remembered and its victims memorialized next weekend by descendants and others on the 100th anniversary of the cataclysm.

Stories by Fred Brown • NEWS-SENTINEL SENIOR WRITER

MFRATERVILLE Monday, May 19, 1902. At 7:30 a.m. in Coal Creek, another spring day is unfolding. Whiteblossoms dot the hillsides and mountains of Anderson County. Their bright blooms peek through the leafy green grass. They paint a peaceful scene in a place where, a dozen years before, bullets whined through these same mountains during the coal wars between miners, state militias and courts.

But the coal mine convict lease system at the end of the 19th century had finally been suspended. Coal mining had become a slightly safer in America's emerging Industrial Revolution, and Coal Creek and Briceville are the epitome of the state's transformation.

Although Coal Creek is quiet on this soft spring morning, it is not destined to remain so. Coal Creek, Tennessee, the Southwest and every single person in Briceville and Coal Creek are about to experience a catastrophic day, eleven biblical in its

wrath, which will become a tale to be told down through the generations. In those early-morning moments of May 19, most of the men and boys of Coal Creek have left home to make the long walk to the Fraterville Mine. They labor three miles back in the mountains five days a week, 10 hours a day, 60-plus hours a week for 17 cents per ton of coal removed.

The walk to Fraterville — about four miles along the Southern Railway tracks — starts before daylight as the men will arrive at the mine in time to catch a ride on the mamprie, a coal can-like vehicle pulled by a horse, sticky muds level specifically for rugged mine work. If they miss the mamprie ride, the men have to walk in heat over beneath a coal seam that is 4 feet from ceiling to floor in most places, low in others. And walking three miles bent over with all your back and lungs full is not the ideal way to begin a day's toil. Your back is already



Louise Nelson's grandfather and grandmother, David and Lela Harris Dezem, are seen in this photo. David and his four brothers were among those killed in the explosion.

Please see NINE, page A8

Mining families come full-circle to find peace, past in century

LAKE CITY — Louise Nelson, 84, rubbed her hand over her grandfather's freshly cleaned headstone. The sun was setting over the ridge behind her as the day finished itself in a pale pink and blue.

She had been thinking about the grandfather she never knew, or even met. All she has are stories of a young man and his family who lived in Coal Creek. The brothers and men just like them were constructed of cold steel nerves and cool determination who went into the Earth's core and worked with picks and shovels in a time when deep coal mining was as dangerous as any job on the globe.

Please see FAMILIES, page A8

"I imagine he felt he had to go because he had seven children to feed and clothe."

— Sandra Sipe Carpenter, a great-granddaughter of miner William Murray, whose wife had a premonition and begged Murray not to go to the Fraterville coal mine the day he and 215 others died in an explosion



News-Sentinel photos by Paul Elford

Journalist and historian Charles "Boomer" Winfrey of LaFollette reads excerpts from farewell letters that some of the doomed miners who were not killed in the initial blast were able to write to their loved ones before they died from a lack of air. A memorial service for the victims was held Sunday at Briceville Community Church on the 100th anniversary of the underground explosion that killed 216 men and boys.



evened
ed
za
ones
ensive

ut off its offensive
n the Gaza Strip and
on Saturday, leaving
a of Israel's troops for

Inside
After slaps,
stayed at Chicago
of the factory
Page A6
Friedman
being called in
news, based on
Archie's page 10
Page A6

trying to bring the
story of State Coll
probably be here this
officials said an exact

> 1 million Palestinian

see MIDEAST, page A4

V will
bucks
sens

nom are finding much
richer's most powerful

search company that
deb on TV will offer

"That's a
challenge to
anybody's
budget."

— Jeffrey Lee,
WBUR-TV
general
manager

ges
critics, Lee said, and
readings will show
a decline, which only

800 560 TV, page A13

INDEX
L. 50, 51
D. 50, 51
D. 50, 51

We contacted the landowner at the Fraterville Mine to get permission for a tour on the 100th anniversary of the explosion. She told us the land was originally owned by her great-great-grandfather, Major Eldad Cicero Camp. Her great-grandfather, George Camp, sold most of the land for homesteads after mining ended. She inherited what was left, which included the old Fraterville Mine and Militia Hill.



Land donation secures piece of mine history

Engineer dreams of saving, restoring Coal Creek's past atop Vowell Mountain

LAKE CITY — Spiraling around the curves, heading to the summit of Vowell Mountain in Anderson County, the landscape, even in late fall, early winter, pulls at the imagination.

The forest on both sides of the narrow mountain road is thick and heavy. The crags and rocks look as if their heft will just tumble down the side. The cold of the bright morning and the mountain mix to tell a story that is as good as anything you'll ever encounter on television, a movie screen or in a book.

And as of this morning with this announcement, that story will be preserved

in a singular way that also opens the door to help a community and at the same time display the area's history.

Heirs to the family who owned most of the

ON KNOXNEWS.COM

■ A series on the 100th anniversary of the Fraterville Mine explosion

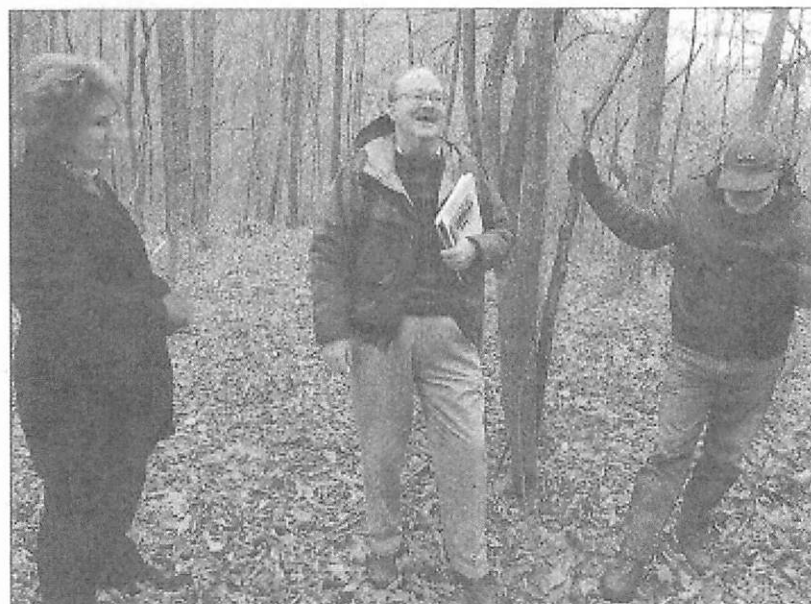
■ Coal Creek Watershed so far

mountain since the Civil War have donated 86 acres to the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation of Knoxville. The foundation is headed by Barry Thacker, principal geoenvironmental engineer and president of the engineering firm GEOEnvironmental Associates and founder of the watershed foundation.

Thacker, who looks more like a bookkeeper than a rugged engineer, runs a 19-member engineering firm in Knoxville. About five years ago, the firm and office manager Carol Moore identified a community in need of not only engineering help, but also just plain strong backs to clean up Coal Creek, which flooded constantly.

During the past half decade, the foundation has not only restored the creek, stabilizing its banks with riprap, moving out debris and clutter, helping to build a community park, but it also has adopted Briceville School

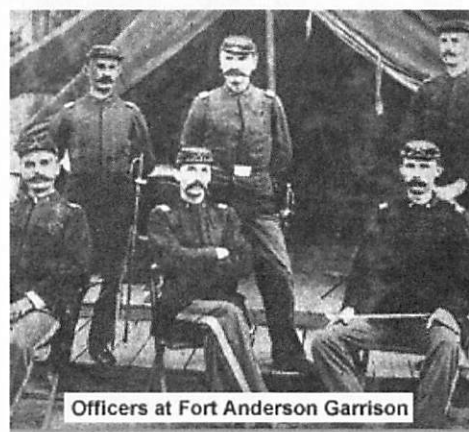
See **JOURNAL** on B5



JOE HOWELL/NEWS SENTINEL

Barry Thacker, center, president of GeoEnvironmental Associates, and the founder of Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, enjoys a conversation with Cheral Henderson, executive director of the East Tennessee Historical Society, and Dr. Charles Faulkner, right, former professor of archaeology at the University of Tennessee, about preserving Vowell Mountain, where the Coal Creek Coal Mine War took place in the late 1890s.

In 2005, she offered to donate the land to CCWF. We accepted because it fit into plans Lake City Mayor Buck Wilson had for converting the abandoned Southern Railroad line to a Rails-to-Trails.



Officers at Fort Anderson Garrison



**Note: Nine
Historical Markers
on Militia Hill**



**Two Historical
Markers**

**Fort Anderson
on Militia Hill**

26.8 Ac

**Abandoned RR
(Proposed Rails
to Trails)**

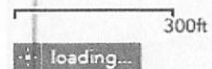
KICC Convict Mine

**Convict Miner
Cemetery**

**Site of KICC
Convict Stockade**

Northern Properties

15 Ac





Central Properties

7.2 Ac

2.2 Ac

Abandoned RR
(Proposed Rails
to Trails)

Three Historical Markers

Andy's Ridge Rd





Southern Property

Three Historical Markers

N

37.85 Ac

Abandoned Fraterville Mine Portals

Concrete Pad Steam Engine Foundation

Abandoned RR
(Proposed Rails
to Trails)

Fraterville

300ft

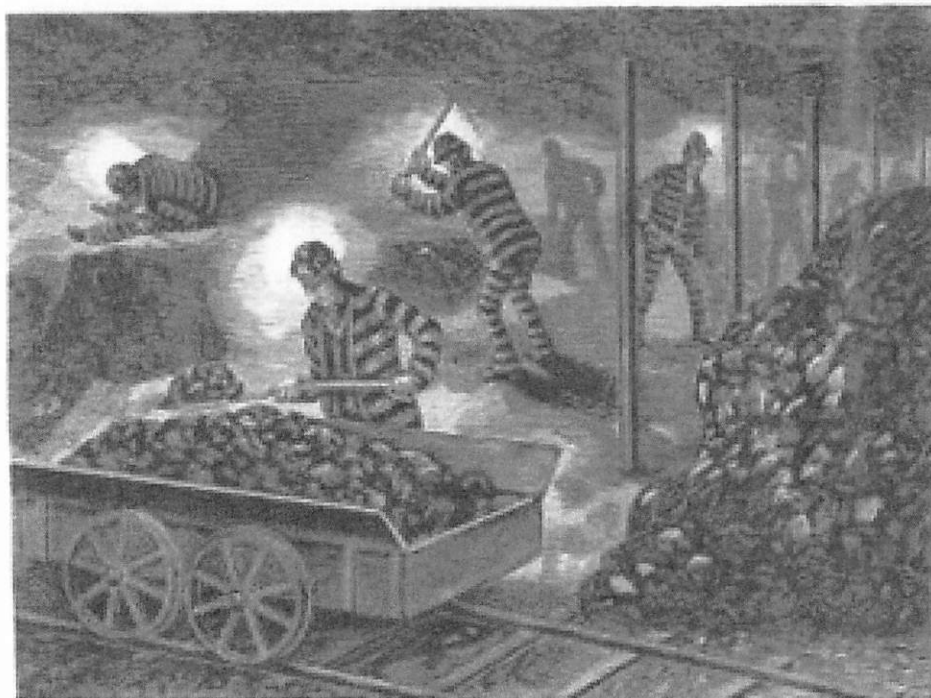
loading...

Community Maps Contributors, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, TomTom...



TENNESSEE'S SHAME!

Convicts in the Coal Creek Mines.



CONVICTS AT WORK



ONE OF THE RESULTS-STARVATION

The father and husband has gone to a distant State for work.

Vote for **TURNEY** for Governor and **WELCKER** for Congress, if you wish this to continue.

Vote for **WINSTEAD** for Governor and **HOUK** for Congress, if you wish to abolish this great crime, which has so long been committed in order to raise Democratic campaign funds from the lessees



PHOTO COURTESY CAROL MOORE

ictured from the left are Anderson County High School students and siblings Cassie, Jennifer and Jacob Phillips. The Phillips are standing in front of the remnants of a structure that was built more than 100 years ago. The structure is probably the wall support of a foreman house that was constructed at the old Knoxville Iron and Coal Company Mine in Lake City.

A dark history lesson

Y JOHANNE JEAN-JACQUES
jja@hmcetownclinton.com

The base of Vowell fountain in Lake City is allowed ground. The flood of men who died at the Knoxville Iron and Coal Company Mine more than a hundred years ago is mingled with the earth.

Henry Clyburn died of dropsy. George Brown died of typhoid fever. And Sam Morris was killed trying to escape from the mine. The list of the dead is far more numerous.

Their remnants lay in marked and unmarked graves that dot a hillside, which overlooks the abandoned mine.

Anderson County High School students Jacob, Jennifer and Cassie Phillips could tell you a thing or two about these men.

After spending four hours at the Lawson-McGhee Library in Knoxville pouring over Tennessee state Prison archives, these siblings have learned something about a dark period in Anderson county's history.

They would tell you these men worked at KICC under the

convict leasing system — a southern labor practice that was on par with slavery. After the Civil War ended, the Southern states leased prisoners to private industry for forced labor.

The Phillips siblings thought their research could help give recognition to these fallen convict miners.

"Even though they were convicts, they were still people," said Jennifer.

The convicts worked at the mines

of Coal Creek, now Lake City, from 1877 to 1893. But state prison records are available only from 1881 to 1892. Records show that 131 convict miners died during that time period.

The Phillips agreed that how these men died and the poor working conditions they worked under made their sacrifices notable.

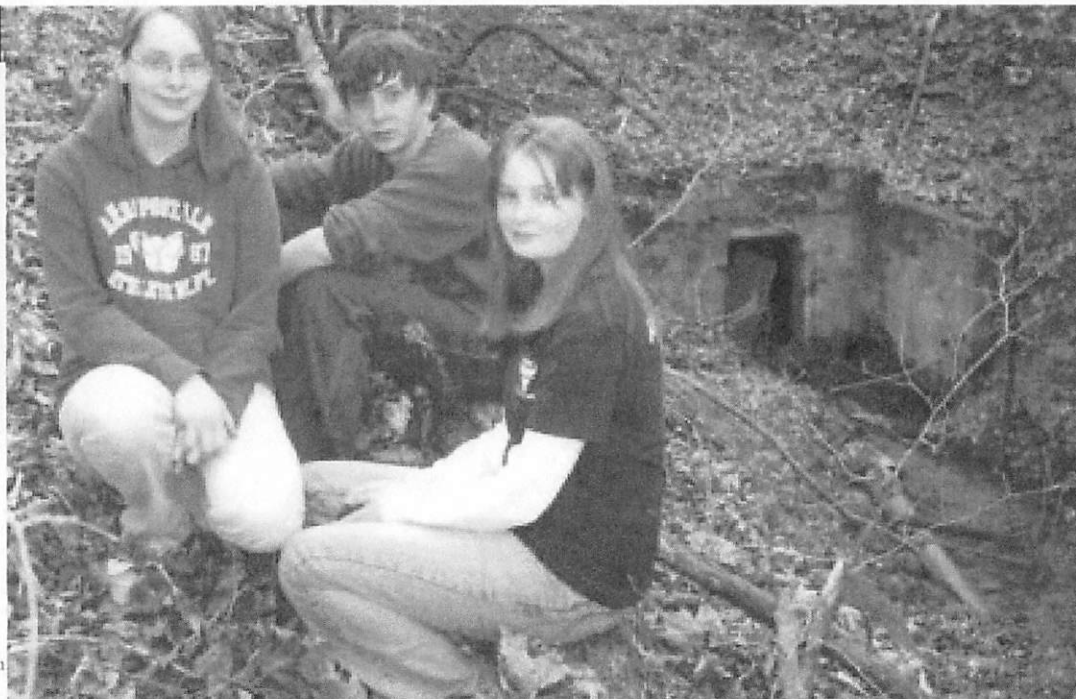
The majority of the convicts were

• **DARK to 5**



JOHANNE JEAN-JACQUES

The Phillips and Coal Creek Watershed volunteer Barry Thacker climb a hillside located at the base of Vowell Mountain. The hillside contains marked and unmarked graves of convict miners who died under deplorable working conditions at the KICC Mine.



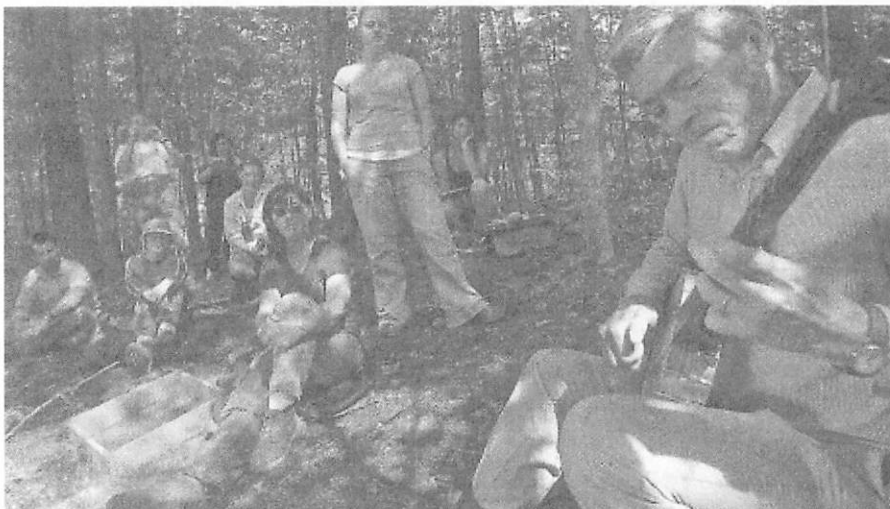
Most of the African-American convicts forced to work as slave labor in the mines were arrested in Nashville and Memphis...

According to Tennessee Prison Records, there were 130 recorded fatalities in the Knoxville Iron and Coal Company convict mine from 1881 until 1892. Thanks to research by Coal Creek Scholars, we now know their names.

Loal Creek Convict Miners - Killed

F NAME	L NAME	RACE	DATE DIED	CAUSE
1 Japer	Buller	Wm	7/23/1884	Consumption
2 Oscar	York	Wm	8/1/1884	Cholera
3 Paul	Lane	Wm	8/15/1884	Pneumonia Fever
4 John	Engelmann	Wm	8/15/1884	Malaria Fever
5 George	Ranko	Wm	8/15/1884	Falling Sibs
6 Jim	Shades	Wm	8/15/1884	Chills and malarial fever
7 Sam	Tudor	Wm	8/17/1884	Chills and malarial fever
8 Ed	Vance	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
9 Wilson	Wilburn	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
10 W.H.	Spauld	Wm	8/23/1884	Killed by falling sibs
11 Daniel	Spauld	Wm	8/13/1884	Pneumonia Fever
12 Henry	Smith	Wm	8/23/1884	Typhoid Fever
13 Richard	Spauld	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
14 George	Lane	Wm	8/23/1884	Fever
15 Charles	David	Wm	8/23/1884	Pneumonia Fever
16 George	McFarlane	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
17 William	Eden	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
18 Rosa	Gentry	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
19 Lewis	Carlson	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
20 Anderson	Leonard	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
21 Andrew	Williams	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
22 Haywood	Byert	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
23 Martin	Carer	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
24 George	Harris	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
25 Robert	Pile	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
26 Robert	Jackson	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
27 Carl	Keller	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
28 Jack	Williams	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
29 E.W.	Taylor	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
30 Bob	Williams	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
31 Jerry	Lewis	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
32 Nelson	Sharp	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
33 Robert	Marshall	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
34 Thomas	Howard	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
35 Frank	Richardson	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
36 Jack	Betts	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
37 Will	Grimm	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
38 Felt	Taylor	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
39 Hook	Morris	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
40 George	Felt	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
41 John	Scott	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
42 Buford	Wright	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
43 Mayd	Monroe	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
44 Wilson	Foster	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
45 Wade	Hampton	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
46 George	Campbell	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
47 Will	Winston	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
48 Ed	Smith	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
49 Dave	Hood	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
50 Henry	Christian	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
51 Robert	Harlan	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
52 Thom	Young	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
53 Benbowe	Ewing	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
54 Glen	Nash	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
55 John	Scrogg	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
56 Tom	Blacklock	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
57 Hede	Anderson	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
58 Jerry	Phillips	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
59 Joe	Moore	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
60 Allen	Wiles	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
61 James	Mason alias Eason	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
62 Sam	Block	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
63 James	James	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
64 Fayette	Rayles	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption
65 Tom	Newman	Wm	8/23/1884	Consumption

F NAME	L NAME	RACE	DATE DIED	CAUSE
1 Henry	Chubb	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
2 P.2	Guth	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
3 Owers	Owers	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
4 Cooper	Cooper	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
5 Hurt	Hurt	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
6 Frank	Frank	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
7 Braden	Braden	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
8 James	James	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
9 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
10 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
11 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
12 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
13 John	John	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
14 Harle	Harle	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
15 Sam	Sam	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
16 Sol	Sol	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
17 Tom	Tom	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
18 Jim	Jim	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
19 Sam	Sam	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
20 Ed	Ed	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
21 Andrew	Andrew	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
22 Geo F	Geo F	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
23 Ernd	Ernd	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
24 Alex	Alex	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
25 Wm	Wm	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
26 Joseph	Joseph	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
27 John	John	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
28 James	James	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
29 Frank	Frank	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
30 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
31 Max	Max	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
32 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
33 Fred	Fred	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
34 Peter	Peter	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
35 Miles	Miles	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
36 Henry	Henry	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
37 John	John	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
38 Joe	Joe	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
39 Allen	Allen	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
40 Henry	Henry	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
41 W	W	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
42 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
43 Mike	Mike	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
44 John	John	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
45 W. W.	W. W.	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
46 Charles	Charles	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
47 Andrew	Andrew	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
48 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
49 Nash	Nash	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
50 Henry	Henry	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
51 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
52 Alex	Alex	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
53 James	James	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
54 Paul	Paul	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
55 John	John	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
56 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
57 Robert	Robert	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
58 George	George	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
59 Wm	Wm	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
60 Warren	Warren	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
61 A.J.	A.J.	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
62 Jerry	Jerry	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
63 Filmore	Filmore	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
64 Peter	Peter	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy
65 William	William	Wm	8/23/1884	Dropsy



PHOTOS BY PAUL EFRID/NEWS SENTINEL

Bob Fulcher, park manager of the Cumberland Trail State Park and founder and longtime director of the Tennessee State Parks Folklife Project, plays "Coal Creek March" for archaeologists taking part in the Militia Hill dig in Anderson County. Listening to the tune are, from left in background, Charlie Susano, Russell Fulcher, 11, Jennifer Kirkmeyer, Carol Moore, Denise Ketteringham, Elizabeth Kellar DeCorse, Stephanie White and Veronica Watson.

BATTLE FOR preservation

Teachers, volunteers help coax
Militia Hill to tell story of its war

DAVE CITY — War had arrived in Anderson County. The year was 1861, a scant three decades since the Civil War. This time, clean-cheeked soldiers tramped up a dusty Vowell Mountain road and camped on ground they named Fort Anderson on top of Militia Hill.

Although many of the crisply clad soldiers were young, many were armed with the weapons of their fathers and grandfathers, vintage Civil War equipment. They were against a ragged, but tough, enemy: Coal miners of Coal Creek, who were as hungry as wolves and as a stirred nest of hornets.

The miners wore no uniforms but tied red bandanas around their necks and carried vintage weapons as well. They had no cannons, no Gatlin guns and no bold maneuvers up their sleeves. Their strategy was in owning the ridges around Vowell Mountain. The soldiers were surrounded.

That war, which ended in 1892, brought to a dramatic conclusion Tennessee's hated convict lease system in coal mines as well as in other endeavors. Tennessee's politicians and governor had allowed coal mine operators to use convicts to work in the mines for virtually nothing and watered-down meals.

Prisoners, many of them former slaves and the poorest of the poor, were forced into the mines, where the saying was "Kill a man, get another; kill a mule, buy another." Mules were more important than



Middle school teachers Rhonda Swallows, front, and Alison Hardison work on a one-meter-square excavation unit at Fort Anderson.

ON KNOXNEWS.COM

Audio: Bob Fulcher plays "Coal Creek March" on his banjo and explains the song's historical significance to the area.



See **COAL** on B7

Peace treaty' signed to end Coal Creek War

By Bob Fowler

Tuesday, May 18, 2013

LAKE CITY — The hostilities, at long last, are over.

A peace treaty formally ending the famous Coal Creek War of 1892 was signed Friday on tree-shrouded Militia Hill, a knoll of remote Vowell Mountain overlooking Lake City.



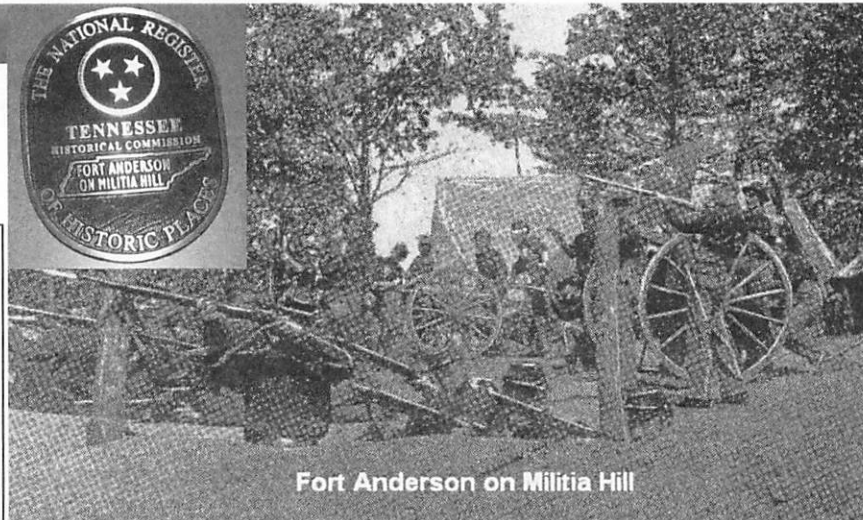
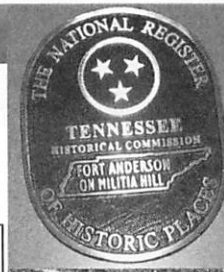
Barry Thacker, president of Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, explains the history of the Coal Creek War during a ceremony Friday at the site of Fort Anderson on Militia Hill. (BOB FOWLER/KNOX NEWS SENTINEL)

The ceremony also recognized the site as the location of Fort Anderson, where Tennessee National Guardsmen fought a pitched battle with striking coal miners posited that the state had brought in convicts to work in their mines.

Trenches dug by guardsmen as battlements and protections from attacking coal miners are the only visible remnants of the fort.

The location, featuring nine markers describing that bloody chapter of Anderson County's past, has been named to the National Register of Historic Places, said Barry Thacker, president of Coal Creek Watershed Foundation.

The nonprofit organization for 13 years has been working to improve the environment, living conditions and the education of residents of the isolated mountainous area, pockmarked by abandoned coal mines.



Fort Anderson on Militia Hill



CHRIS SALCOX

Several state and local dignitaries joined Barry Thacker and Carol Moore, of the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, on Friday morning, May 17, for a ceremony "officially" ending hostilities of the Coal Creek War with the signing of a Peace Treaty some 125 years after the conflict subsided. Fourth- and fifth-grade students at Briceville Elementary School participated in the event by respectively signing the treaty and assisting in mounting a plaque declaring the site among the National Register of Historic Places. Pictured with the students include: (far left) Richard Burroughs, the Chief of Staff for Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank; (second from left) Carol Moore, Coal Creek Watershed Foundation volunteer and board member; (fifth from left wearing black sweater) Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank; (left center with treaty) Dist. 33 State Representative John Regan; (back center) Dist. 4 Anderson County Commissioner Tim Isbel; (front right) Coal Creek Watershed President Barry Thacker.



TREATY OF PEACE
[CYTUNDEB HEDDWCH]
BETWEEN
COAL CREEK MINERS AND THE
TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD



Whereas, after organizing in 1774 to face a threat from Shawnee Indians, the Tennessee Militia led by John Sevier and Isaac Shelby joined other colonial militiamen to attack Maj. Patrick Ferguson's Corps, which was protecting the left flank of Lord Cornwallis' army during the American Revolution. That 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain was the turning point against Britain's southern campaign during our Nation's fight for freedom; and

Whereas, Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson, commander of the Tennessee Militia, who eventually became the seventh U.S. president, penned these words to Pvt. David Crockett, Lt. Sam Houston and 5,000 other militiamen as they mobilized for the War of 1812: *With little notice, these citizen-soldiers left their jobs and families, laying the cornerstone for Tennessee's "volunteer" tradition; and*

Whereas, Jackson's troops defeated a veteran British Army at the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812; and

Whereas, many Tennessee militiamen, including Crockett and his band of Tennessee Mounted Volunteers, died defending the Alamo in 1836 in Texas' fight for independence; and

Whereas, Tennesseans served on both sides during the Civil War, with the Provisional Army of Tennessee serving as the core of the Confederate Army in the western theater and roughly 31,000 Tennesseans—primarily from eastern Tennessee—providing more soldiers to the Union cause than all other Confederate states combined; and

Whereas, community leaders in East Tennessee saw development of the area's coal, iron, zinc, and copper reserves as the way to rebuild from the Civil War, but lacked the skill to do so. Welsh [Cymry] miners and industrial workers provided that expertise, teaching native Tennesseans those skills; and

Whereas, Tennessee's 45th General Assembly in 1887 established the Tennessee National Guard, as it is known today, thus making the Coal Creek War of 1891 to 1892 its first engagement. From the Guard's base of operations at Fort Anderson on Militia Hill, it finally subdued the Coal Creek miners, but no peace treaty was signed. According to the Tennessee Blue Book, a History of Tennessee, *Violence in the coal fields peaked during the summer of 1892, when state militia fought pitched battles with armed miners, arrested over 500 of them, and killed 27. The miner uprisings prodded the General Assembly to end convict leasing, making Tennessee one of the first Southern states to get rid of the system; and*

Whereas, Colonel Keller Anderson and Colonel J. Perry Fyffe, veterans of the Coal Creek War, led two of Tennessee's four regiments during the Spanish-American War of 1898; and

Whereas, other veterans of the Coal Creek War died in mine explosions at Fraterville in 1902 and Briceville (Cross Mountain) in 1911. Education was important to the Welsh, so most in those communities were literate. Poignant farewell letters they wrote before suffocating in the mines raised public awareness about the dangers of early 20th coal mining, leading to advances in mine safety. Fittingly, one of the first successful mine rescues occurred at Cross Mountain; and

Whereas, as part of the 30th Division in World War I, Tennessee units earned fame as the first to break the Hindenburg Line, hastening the end of the war, for which five Tennessee Guardsmen earned Congressional Medals of Honor, more than any other division in the theater; and

Whereas, during World War II, the 117th Infantry Regiment, primarily Tennessee Guardsmen, defended against Adolf Hitler's 1st SS Panzer Division, preventing the Germans from splitting the 1st and 3rd Allied Armies. It also made a stand during the Battle of the Bulge, once again defeating Hitler's 1st SS Panzer Division. The 117th received five presidential unit citations by the end of the war, making it one of the most decorated Army infantry regiments; and

Whereas, coal miners have continued to provide the fuel that keeps our lights on; and

Whereas, members of the Tennessee National Guard have continued to serve with distinction and honor in Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf, with nearly 20,000 Tennesseans having been deployed since 2001 for the global war on terror.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Coal Creek miners achieved their mission of ending the convict lease system in Tennessee while fueling the industrial revolution. Furthermore, the Tennessee National Guard continues to achieve its historic dual mission, providing the state with units trained and equipped to protect life and property, while providing the Nation with units ready to defend the United States and its interests around the world.

In recognition of the above, this treaty of peace is hereby signed on this 17th day of May, 2013, thus ending the Coal Creek War.
[Ar gydnabod yr uchod, llofnodir y cytundeb heddwch hwn ar yr 17eg o Fai 2013, gan ddod â therfyn i Ryfel Nantglo.]

Signed on behalf of: The State of Tennessee *John D. Ragan*
Coal Creek Miners *John D. Ragan*
Randy McCall
Jim Off. Dahl
John C. Lewis
Paul W. Lee
Mylena Dawn Funch
Emelia Hylman
Stephanie Wells
Martha Olshett Bridges
Paul W. Lee
Thyn



TREATY OF PEACE
[CYTUNDEB HEDDWCH]
BETWEEN
COAL CREEK MINERS AND THE
TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD

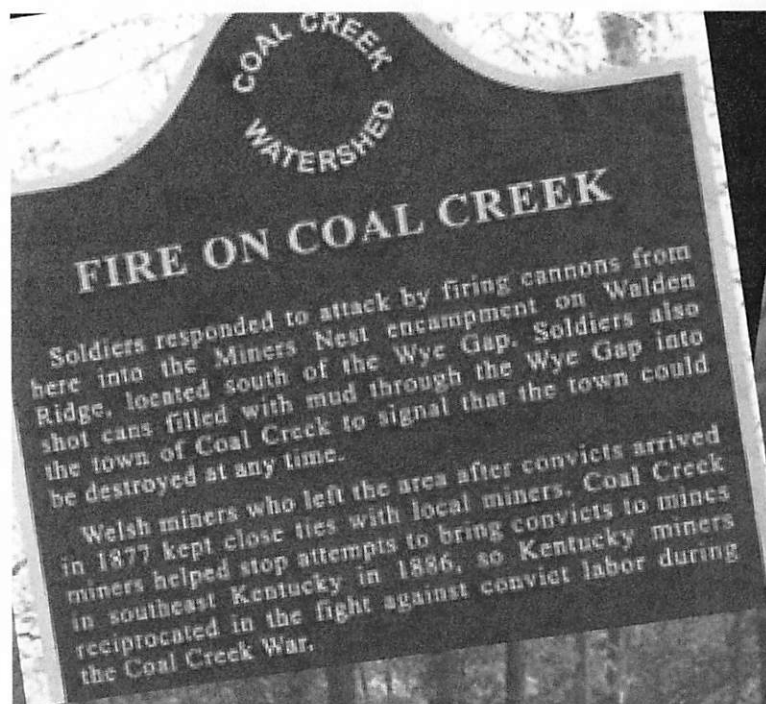


Witness to this Treaty of Peace on 17 May 2013 at Fort Anderson on Militia Hill

Signed on behalf of Briceville School 4th and 5th graders and other citizens representing Coal Creek

James Freeman Milens
John D. Ragan
Edie Campbell
John D. Ragan
Bob Fowler
Ally Seiber
Brian Phillips
Austin Hutmaker
Bradley Phillips
William M. Phillips
Kayden Jenkins
Jonah Wilson
David Edell
Joel Grooms
Chad Williams
Steven Eason
Samuel Grooms
Myra Besterson
Abbey Braden
Rebecca Byrne
Janie Campbell
Grouse Felder
Kayla Phillips
Walter Brice
Oliver Randolph
Nathaniel Kunkle
Oliver Brice
Edie Sommerfeldt
Brandon Schirmer

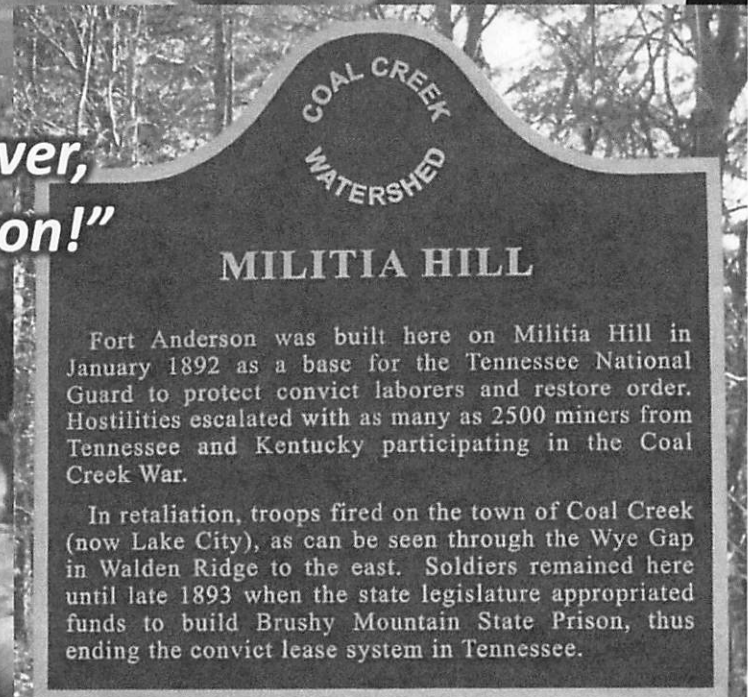
Jack Brown
Jacob Sharp
Samuel Sommerfeldt
Devin Green
Harter Knipe
Bennet Chapman
Christy Carroll
Nathan Brown
Madison Byrd
Sonya Rodan
Autumn Barber
Isaac Dierker
Madison L. Lyle
Jake Hawkins
Jacob Mares
Alexis Brown
Sydney Felt
Brian Thacker
Carol Moore
Thom D. Cabell



Miners wore bandanas as uniforms during the Coal Creek War



Students say, "This is the best field trip ever, especially when we get to shoot the cannon!"



Four sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places

COAL CREEK WATERSHED FOUNDATION, INC. MONETARY DONATIONS

1. Scholarships to help 75 Briceville Elementary School graduates attend college. Coal Creek Scholars are now doctors, lawyers, engineers, scientists, nurses, teachers, small business owners, business managers, therapists, iron/construction workers, cosmetologists, auto mechanics, and more. (\$650,000)
2. Restoration of Briceville Church with new metal roof, gutters, painting (twice), exterior sealing of basement walls and drains to control basement seepage, repaired hole in ceiling, interior carpet removal/restoration of original hardwood floors, two historical markers, and preparation of application to get the church and its cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (\$60,000).
3. Renovation of the first floor of the Coal Creek Miners Museum so it could open. Funding included concrete floor finishing, HVAC, electric, plumbing, posters, and cash donation. (\$53,000)
4. Restoration of Fort Anderson on Militia Hill including removal of trash and junk from the former "Lake City Dump," surveying to facilitate land swap with the Coal Creek Company, cannon and concrete pad, 11 historical markers, parking area grading/stone, and archaeological study to justify inclusion of the site on the National Register of Historic Places (\$129,000 –itemized list shown on next page)
5. Annual Field Trips to teach the Coal Creek Labor Saga in accordance with Tennessee Social Studies standards. Expenditures for 26 trips include cost of school bus, red bandanas, Coal Creek tee-shirts, and lunch at Cracker Barrel (\$26,000)
6. Seven field trips to restore the American chestnut on reclaimed mine land by planting blight-resistant hybrids including transportation, American chestnut hybrids, lunch, and planting supplies. (\$10,000)
7. Engineering Better Readers Program at Briceville School to motivate students to read including purchase of prizes (\$40,000)
8. Cash donations for infrastructure improvements at Briceville School, Briceville Library, and Briceville Clinic. (\$20,000)
9. Surveying of Coal Creek required for permitting 5 bank stabilization projects along Coal Creek required to justify funding for Anderson County's FEMA grant. (\$10,000)
10. OSM Clean Streams Initiative required water quality sampling and aquatic studies in Coal Creek and funding of Ameri-Corps VISTA staff to qualify for a Brownsfield Grant awarded to Anderson County (\$30,000)
11. Archaeological Study and Ground Penetrating Radar Study to explore historic sites with Briceville students (\$10,000)

ITEMIZED LIST OF MILITIA HILL/CONVICT MINERS CEMETERY EXPENDITURES

1. \$4,000 for Trash and junk hauling to cleanup the former “Lake City Dump”
2. \$23,000 for surveying and deed work in the land swap with the Coal Creek Company to provide a parking area for Militia Hill
3. \$25,000 for parking area grading and stone
4. \$22,000 for 11 historical markers
5. \$25,000 for cannon and concrete pad
6. \$20,000 for property tax and liability insurance
7. \$10,000 for archaeology study to justify including site on the National Register of Historic Places

Total Cost to Date = \$129,000

2025 PROPERTY VALUES FOR TAX APPRAISAL ASSESSMENTS

1. Militia Hill - \$104,600 (Previously \$66,300)
2. Convict Cemetery - \$62,700 (Previously \$31,700)
3. Coal Creek Strip - \$32,300 (Previously \$22,000)
4. Central Hollow Along Railroad - \$22,400 (Previously \$16,100)
5. Fraterville Mine - \$113,600 – (Previously \$71,900)

Total \$335,600 (Previously \$208,900), which is an increase of 61%

VOLUNTEER TIME

Carol Moore and Barry Thacker, PE, have each volunteered thousands of hours organizing and managing the previously described projects, along with the following ones:

1. Developed the Coal Creek Motor Discovery Trail
2. Helped Tennessee History for Kids organization get the Coal Creek Labor Saga included in the Tennessee Social Studies Standards
3. Annual Health Day events at Briceville School
4. Annual Coal Creek Scholars Day at Briceville School where Scholars serve as role models to inspire Briceville 4th and 5th graders to pursue college or technical school training
5. College tours for Briceville students while at Anderson County High school
6. Highway trash and dump cleanup events
7. Deadwood and debris removal at bridges across Coal Creek and Beech Grove Fork
8. Restoration of Briceville Ball Park and construction of a pavilion using funds from a grant from the Thompson Foundation
9. Lake City Mayor Buck Wilson's effort to convert the existing abandoned railroad to a Rails-to-Trails.
10. Carol Moore served on the Tourism Board for 16 years
11. Research prison records to identify the 130 convicts, primarily African-Americans, buried in the Convict Miners Cemetery on the hillside below Militia Hill
12. Research with Coal Creek Scholars to assist Dr. Eirug Davies of Harvard University in writing his book, "The Welsh of Tennessee"
13. Research with Coal Creek Scholars to justify including the Coal Creek Labor Saga in the Tennessee State Social Studies Standards
14. Research with Coal Creek Scholars to justify including Fraterville Miners Circle and Cross Mountain Miners Circle on the National Register of Historic Places. Also, helped with Eagle Scout Projects at historic cemeteries.
15. Tours and memorial services with descendants and history buffs on anniversaries of the 1902 Fraterville Mine Explosion and 1911 Cross Mountain Mine Explosion and Rescue

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY LAW DIRECTOR
ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

101 South Main Street, Suite 310
CLINTON, TENNESSEE 37716

TELEPHONE: (865) 457-6290
FACSIMILE: (865) 457-3775

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Annette Prewitt
CC: Operations
FROM: Law Director's Office
DATE: June 4, 2025
RE: Law Director's Report –June 9, 2025 – Operations

Please add the following to the Operations Agenda under the Law Director's Report.

A. Contract Approvals:

1. Merit Construction- Claxton Elem. School
2. BABAA amendment to AIA Contract- Animal Shelter
3. State of TN- Amendment #4 (#77833-11)
4. State of TN- VSSG Grant for Family Justice Center
5. Medibag- Health Dept.
6. Roadway Solutions- Highway Dept.
7. Trigreen- Highway Dept.
8. Rogers Group (Renewal)- Cold Mix –Highway Dept.
9. Rogers Group (Renewal)- Asphalt –Highway Dept.
10. North Knox Medical Center- CHS
11. Moore & Foust (Renewal) – Highway Dept.
12. Signis- Ankle Monitoring Services
13. TN Business Enterprises- Detention Facility
14. Canon- Human Resources
15. CMI Equipment- Highway Dept.
16. Huette Roberson- Frost Bottom Convenience Center Lease
17. US Able
18. Canon- IT
19. Canon- Archives

B. Anderson County Zoning Violations:

Newly Opened:

1. 354 Longmire Road

Closed:

1. 684 Oliver Springs Highway
2. 236 Rock House Lane

Newly Filed:

1. 774 Hillvale Road- Filed on March 7, 2025. Served on March 21, 2025. Chancellor granted 30-day extension for Defendants and their attorney. Defendants' attorney filed an Answer to Complaint on May 28, 2025. Will be scheduling for trial date.
2. 104 Massey Jones Lane- Filed April 16, 2025. Service on Defendants on April 24, 2025. Have 30 days from date of service.
3. 1036 Byram Forks Road- Filed April 16, 2025. Defendants served April 22, 2025. Have 30 days from date of service.

Motion for Default Judgment:

1. 3708 Lake City Highway- Hearing postponed. Defendants' attorney filed an Answer to Complaint before deadline.
2. 236 Rock House Lane- Hearing canceled. Defendant brought the property into compliance and the case is now closed.

Motion for Trial Date:

1. 301 Old Lake City Highway- Trial date to be scheduled for 90 days out.
2. 359 Old Lake City Highway- Trial date to be scheduled for 90 days out.

Liens:

1. 222 Old Tacora Hills Road- daily fine of \$100 beginning May 24, 2024.
2. 151 Moccasin Hollow Lane- daily fine of \$100 beginning July 8, 2024.
3. 230 Haney Hollow Road- daily fine of \$100 beginning August 26, 2024.
4. 177 Scott Brogan Lane- daily fine of \$50 beginning December 9, 2024.
5. 208 Old Lake City Highway- Release of Lien will be recorded in following days. \$5,000 lien amount received from new owner.
6. 184 Buffalo Road- final lien recorded on May 7, 2025 for a total amount of \$2,000. Case is now complaint and closed in our office.

Pending Quotes for Cleanup:

1. 230 Haney Hollow Road- no quote, Zoning office advises that clean-up is cost prohibitive.
2. 222 Old Tacora Hills Road- no quote, Zoning office advises that clean-up is cost prohibitive.
3. 151 Moccasin Hollow Lane
4. 177 Scott Brogan Lane

C. Bankruptcies:

1. DuBois- Filed Chapter 13 Claim
2. Sewell- Motion to Modify
3. Roy- Notice of Chapter 7
4. Baker- Order Dismissing Chapter 13
5. Brooks- Notice of Amended Schedule
6. Langford- Order Confirming Chapter 13

D. Other:

1. Colt Jennings- Records Request
2. TVA Letter- Kids Palace
3. Ogle v. Jones- Copy of Signed Release
4. 2024 Court Security Survey
5. Assisted ACDF and DAG with inmate medical care issue.

E. Litigation Updates:

1. Pro-Vision- Filed Amended Complaint on 4/9/25. Hearing set for 7/11/25.
2. Rick Schubert v. Terry Frank- Filed a Motion to Dismiss on 5/15/25. Motion to Dismiss is pending. Respondent filed Response to Motion for Dismiss.
3. Zayo v. AC Commission, ACS, & AC Purchasing- Filed complaint on 5/30/25. Participated in conference call to discuss the Writ of Certiorari and Supersedias (injunction).
4. Samuel Marra v. ACSO et. al- Deposition of Samuel Marra is scheduled for 6/27/25.

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY LAW DIRECTOR
ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

101 South Main Street, Suite 310
Clinton, Tennessee 37716

James Brooks, Jr.
Law Director

TELEPHONE: (865) 457-6290
FACSIMILE: (866) 457-3775
EMAIL: jbrooks@andersoncountyttn.gov

June 16, 2025

VIA REGULAR MAIL

Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402
ATTN: Aaron B. Nix, Senior Manager of
Realty Services

Re: Anderson County, Tennessee Recreational Easement, Bull Run Reservation
TVA tract number XBR SP-6 RE, S.1X

Dear Mr. Nix,

I am writing to you at the request of the Anderson County Commission, who want to express their gratitude to TVA on behalf of the Claxton Community for partnering with Anderson County and the Claxton community by providing a portion of the Bull Run Reservation's land use as the Claxton Kids Palace Recreation Area for over twenty years.

The recreational easement, which permitted the county to use the site as a playground, will expire December 1, 2025 as you know. However, we have not yet obtained a new site or funding for relocating the playground equipment.

Anderson County is asking TVA to please refrain from closing the facility to the public prior to November 1, 2025 or the playground equipment is relocated to a new site, whichever occurs first. I am asking for your help because it is not clear whether the playground will be closed to the public prior to November 1, 2025 in order for TVA to dismantle and/or remove the playground equipment from the easement.

We are working diligently to find a new site and secure funding to relocate the playground which is a vital part of the social fabric of the community and we would like to have a smooth transition to the new location.

Thanking you in advance for the consideration you have shown our county and the Claxton community, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

James W. Brooks, Jr.
Anderson County Law Director

RELEASE AND COMPROMISE OF CLAIM

The undersigned, **AMY OGLE n/k/a AMY BETH CARR** (the “**PLAINTIFF**”), for and in consideration of the sum of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars and no/100 (\$1,600,000.00), to be paid in cash or equivalent upon the execution and in exchange for the delivery of this Release and Compromise of Claim (the “**Release**”), the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, does hereby release and forever discharge **ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, INSURERS, ATTORNEYS, PREDECESSORS, HEIRS, SUCCESSORS, AND ASSIGNS** (hereinafter, the “**RELEASED PARTIES**”) from any and all claims, causes of action, damages or costs, known or unknown, now existing or which may hereafter accrue, including but not limited to, all matters relating to the allegations asserted in that suit initiated by the **PLAINTIFF** in the United States District Court for the Eastern of Tennessee at Knoxville presently styled *Amy Ogle v. William T. Jones, individually and in his official capacity, and Anderson County, Tennessee* bearing Case No. 3:20-cv-293 (the “**Suit**”) and the appeal in the United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit styled *Amy Ogle v. William T. Jones, et al* bearing Case No. 24-6127 (the “**Appeal**”). This document does not and is not intended to release William T. Jones from liability. Mr. Jones was an elected official and not an employee or agent of Anderson County, Tennessee.

It is specifically agreed that any and all attorneys’ fee liens and all other liens whatsoever, regardless of validity or prior notice of such liens, and all subrogation claims relating to payments for medical services, as well as any and all unpaid charges from medical services, including but not limited to Medicare, Medicaid, TennCare, and/or any private insurance carriers, shall be satisfied from the proceeds of the sums tendered to the **PLAINTIFF** in consideration of this Release. It is further agreed that the satisfaction of such liens, and/or subrogation claims and the

payment of any unpaid medical expenses of the **PLAINTIFF** shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the **PLAINTIFF**.

It is further agreed that the **PLAINTIFF** shall be responsible for all federal, state, and local taxes that may be owed by his virtue of his receipt of any portion of the monetary payment provided upon the execution and in exchange for the delivery of this Release. The **PLAINTIFF** specifically agrees to indemnify and hold the **RELEASED PARTIES** harmless from any and all liability, including, without limitation, all penalties, interest, and other costs that may be imposed by the IRS or other governmental agencies regarding her share of any tax obligations that may arise from the monetary consideration made to the **PLAINTIFF** upon the execution and in exchange for the delivery of this Release.

The **PLAINTIFF** (the "Releasor") acknowledges that this constitutes a full and final settlement, release, discharge, and extinguishment of any and all claims against the **RELEASED PARTIES**. Further, that this instrument has been executed by the Releasor only after apprising himself of the relevant information sufficient to allow him to intelligently exercise independent judgment in determining its contents, terms, force and effect. Releasor further acknowledges that she fully knows and understands the contents and terms of this instrument, that she has had reasonable opportunity to discuss its contents and to otherwise consult with her counsel as she deems appropriate and that the execution of the instrument is voluntary, of her own free will, and not predicated or influenced by an declaration, representation, or promise by anyone, whether or not identified above, except as expressly stated in this Release. Finally, Releasor acknowledges that this Release may be pleaded as a complete and absolute defense in bar and abatement of any action of any kind whatsoever brought, instituted, or taken by her or any person purporting to act

on her behalf or with respect to any rights derived from them, so long as related in a way to the matters described in this Release, including all claims relating to the Suit.

It is further understood that the payment of the above sum has been tendered and received in the compromise and settlement of claims advanced by the Releasor in the Suit, but that such tender and receipt are not to be construed as an admission of any liability by the **RELEASED PARTIES**, such liability having been expressly denied by the **RELEASED PARTIES**.

Releasor acknowledges that this constitutes a full and final settlement, release, discharge and extinguishment of all claims against the **RELEASED PARTIES** and hereby authorizes and directs the dismissal of the Suit and hereby covenants and agrees with the **RELEASED PARTIES** that it is the intention of the parties to settle, release and to discharge any and all claims asserted, or intended to be asserted in the Suit and further waives any right to recovery discretionary costs or attorneys' fees from such Suit.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Release has been executed by the undersigned on this 10th day of March, 2025.

PLAINTIFF/RELEASOR:

 03 / 10 / 2025

AMY OGLE n/k/a AMY BETH CARR

2024

COUNTY COURTROOM SECURITY REPORT

To comply with Tennessee Code Annotated section 16-2-505(d)(3), this survey must be completed annually. Completion of this survey may require input from multiple local sources to ensure accurate reporting, but only one report can be submitted. If you need additional space to adequately answer any question, please note that you are attaching additional information in response to the question within the survey.

COURTHOUSE(S) AND COURTROOMS

1. How many courthouses are in your county, including criminal justice centers with courtrooms or jails with courtrooms?	3
<p>a. What is the address for each courthouse and what types of court are held in each courthouse (state circuit court, state criminal court, chancery court, general sessions, juvenile).</p> <p>Primary Courthouse is located at 100 N. Main Street, Clinton TN 37716, which houses General Sessions I, Family Court, State Criminal Court and Chancery Court.</p> <p>Juvenile Court is located in the Jolley Building at 101 S. Main Street, Clinton TN 37716.</p> <p>General Sessions II Court is located at 728 Emory Valley Road, Oak Ridge TN 37830.</p>	
2. Number of courtrooms used for state Circuit Court, state Criminal Court, Chancery Court, General Sessions and Juvenile Court proceedings. <i>Do not count ceremonial courtrooms that are not regularly in use or courtrooms used exclusively for municipal court.</i>	6
3. My county has <u>6</u> courtrooms (answer to #2) located across <u>3</u> courthouses/buildings (answer to #1).	



SILENT BENCH PANIC BUTTONS (MCSS #1)

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	6
2. Number of court clerk public transaction counter areas in all of your courthouses. Please include public transaction counters for Circuit, Criminal, Chancery, General Sessions and/or Juvenile Court clerks.	5
a. Number of court clerk public transaction counters equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	5

BULLET-PROOF BENCHES/WORK AREAS (MCSS # 2)

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a bullet-proof bench.	6
2. Number of courtrooms with bullet-proof court clerk work area.	6

COURT OFFICERS (MCSS #3 and #4)

1. Is an armed, uniformed guard in each courtroom during court?	Yes
a. If no, is a court officer available in the courthouse?	
2. Does your county have dedicated court officers or does it utilize on-duty law enforcement when there are court proceedings? (dedicated, mix, on-duty)	Dedicated
3. Do court proceedings impact your county's ability to respond to emergencies in other areas of your county?	No
4. Did your court officers attend court security training in 2024?	Yes
a. If no, how often do court officers in your county attend training?	
5. Have the judicial staff and courthouse personnel from your county attended a court security briefing in 2024?	Yes

HAND-HELD DETECTORS/MAGNETOMETERS (MCSS # 5)

1. Total number of hand-held detectors in your county courthouse(s).	7
2. Total number of stand-alone magnetometers in each county courthouse.	3
3. Does your county have sufficient security staff to operate magnetometers during regular business hours (not just when court is in session)?	Yes



BUILDING ACCESS & SIGNAGE (MCSS # 6)

1. Does each of the court buildings in your county have signage posted at each court access entrance stating that persons are subject to search by security personnel, that prohibited items are subject to seizure and forfeiture, and include a listing of the prohibited items?	Yes
2. How many of your courthouses require visitors to go through a security screening, including a magnetometer, before entering the building <u>at all times</u> (do not count buildings that only have a security screening when court is in session. This question is asking the number of courthouses that have a manned security station during all business hours).	3

HAND-HELD INSPECTION MIRRORS (MCSS # 7)

1. Do you have at least one hand-held inspection security mirror per county courthouse?	Yes
---	------------

COURT SECURITY COMMITTEE

1. Does your county have a court security committee?	Yes
a. If yes, did the committee meet this year to review security issues and make recommendations?	Yes

VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT & CONFERENCING

1. Does your county utilize video arraignment and conferencing?	Yes
a. If yes, how many courtrooms have video arraignment and conferencing capabilities?	3
b. What type of video arraignment system do you utilize (i.e. BIS, Zoom)?	Lifesize
c. Can your county consistently connect with TDOC facilities for virtual proceedings?	No
d. If you cannot consistently connect with TDOC facilities, would doing so decrease the amount of inmate transfers to your county?	Yes



Please list any security measures that you have taken to improve your facilities and/or to protect personnel between **December 1, 2023 and November 30, 2024.**

We were able to improve on door security and camera upgrades at our General Sessions II location. We also were able to install bullet-proof court clerk work areas in all courtrooms. All of the other buildings had no new building changes or changes to our protocol in the last year. The main Courthouse has the single entrance with the x-ray machine and walk-thru magnetometer. All other courts have the walk-thru magnetometer only.

Please describe any recent court security incidents in your county or unique court security issues facing your county.

Our only issue is still building designs. The main Courthouse remains concerning due to the sheer number of egress doors that cannot be monitored at all times. Both of the other buildings that house courts were never designed to house a courtroom and have been renovated to do so.

Please provide any statistics your county has related to incidents at or calls to the courthouse for additional law enforcement.

We have not had any incidents this past year that required any additional law enforcement response.

What are your highest priority needs related to improving court security in your county?

Space and building design remain the issues.



2024
COUNTY COURTROOM SECURITY REPORT

Please include the name of the PERSON preparing this report, the COUNTY that you represent, and your full contact information.

This report was prepared by: Capt. Steve Owens

Date: November 26, 2024

Please print title: Operations Supervisor

County: Anderson County

Telephone Number: (865) 457-6210

Email Address: sowens@tnacso.net

**Please return this survey form to the
Presiding Judge of your Judicial District**

For questions regarding the survey, please contact:

Rachel Harmon and Ceesha Lofton

Administrative Office of the Courts

Email – rachel.harmon@tncourts.gov

Email – ceesha.lofton@tncourts.gov

Phone – (615) 253-2887

Annette Prewitt

From: Commissioner Tracy Wandell
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 12:00 PM
To: Annette Prewitt; Commissioner Anthony Allen; Commissioner Denise Palmer; Commissioner Ebony Capshaw; Commissioner Jerry White; Commissioner Michael Foster; Commissioner Phil Yager; Commissioner Sabra Beauchamp; Commissioner Shelly Vandagriff; Commissioner Steve Verran; Commissioner Tyler Mayes; Joshua Anderson; jsvowell1@gmail.com; Robert Smallridge; robertmckamey@comcast.net; ufp_bob@comcast.net
Subject: RE: Operations

Dear Chairman Isbel,

I respectfully request to have the following items added to the Operations agenda.

- Animal Shelter updates regarding Operational audit, new entrance and parking at current shelter, website and facebook page and new software for current shelter.

Respectfully,

Tracy



Tracy Wandell
Anderson County Commissioner
District 1
865-388-0921 cell
twandell@andersoncountyttn.gov

From: Annette Prewitt <aprewitt@andersoncountyttn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 8:19 AM
To: Commissioner Anthony Allen <aallen@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Denise Palmer <dpalmer@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Ebony Capshaw <ecapshaw@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Jerry White <jwhite@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Michael Foster <mfoster@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Phil Yager <pyager@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Sabra Beauchamp <sbeauchamp@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Shelly Vandagriff <svandagriff@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Steve Verran <sverran@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Tracy Wandell <twandell@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Tyler Mayes <tmayes@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Joshua Anderson <joshandersondistrict3@gmail.com>; jsvowell1@gmail.com; Robert Smallridge <rjsmal@yahoo.com>; robertmckamey@comcast.net; ufp_bob@comcast.net
Subject: Operations

Today, Wednesday, at noon is the deadline to put items on the Operations Agenda. Just a reminder!

Annette R. Prewitt

Chief Deputy to Anderson County Commission
Certified Public Administrator
Ph: 865-463-6866

Annette Prewitt

From: Commissioner Tracy Wandell
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 12:02 PM
To: Annette Prewitt; Commissioner Anthony Allen; Commissioner Denise Palmer; Commissioner Ebony Capshaw; Commissioner Jerry White; Commissioner Michael Foster; Commissioner Phil Yager; Commissioner Sabra Beauchamp; Commissioner Shelly Vandagriff; Commissioner Steve Verran; Commissioner Tyler Mayes; Joshua Anderson; jsvowell1@gmail.com; Robert Smallridge; robertmckamey@comcast.net; ufp_bob@comcast.net
Subject: RE: Operations

Dear Chairman Isbel,

I also wanted to get the final update and letter for TVA regarding the support of the Claxton Kids Palace.

Respectfully,

Tracy



Tracy Wandell
Anderson County Commissioner
District 1
865-388-0921 cell
twandell@andersoncountyttn.gov

From: Commissioner Tracy Wandell
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 12:00 PM
To: Annette Prewitt <aprewitt@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Anthony Allen <aallen@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Denise Palmer <dpalmer@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Ebony Capshaw <ecapshaw@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Jerry White <jwhite@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Michael Foster <mfoster@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Phil Yager <pyager@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Sabra Beauchamp <sbeauchamp@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Shelly Vandagriff <svandagriff@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Steve Verran <sverran@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Commissioner Tyler Mayes <tmayes@andersoncountyttn.gov>; Joshua Anderson <joshandersondistrict3@gmail.com>; jsvowell1@gmail.com; Robert Smallridge <rjsmal@yahoo.com>; robertmckamey@comcast.net; ufp_bob@comcast.net
Subject: RE: Operations

Dear Chairman Isbel,

I respectfully request to have the following items added to the Operations agenda.

- Animal Shelter updates regarding Operational audit, new entrance and parking at current shelter, website and facebook page and new software for current shelter.

Respectfully,

Tracy



Anderson County Water Authority

MINUTES

APRIL 15, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT

GEORGE HORTON
JACK SHELTON
RICKEY ROSE
DUSTY IRWIN
ERNIE BOWLES

OTHERS PRESENT

JEFF ELROD
JOHN MITCHELL
JEREMIAH SWEAT
HOUSTON DAUGHERTY

On April 15, 2025, Chairman Horton called the ACWA Board Meeting to order at 5: 00 p.m.

- I. Motion by Commissioner Rose to approve March 18, 2025, Minutes
Seconded by Commissioner Bowles, 5 ayes, motion carried.
- II. Motion by Commissioner Bowles to approve March 2025 Invoice History Report, seconded
by Commissioner Shelton, 5 ayes, motion carried.
- III. Motion by Commissioner Irwin to approve March 2025 Expenditure Report, Seconded by
Commissioner Rose, 5 ayes, motion carried.
- IV. Motion by Commissioner Shelton to approve March 2025 Profit and Loss Report, Seconded
by Commissioner Bowles, 5 ayes, motion carried.
- V. Motion by Commissioner Bowles to approve April 15, 2025, Agenda,
Seconded by Commissioner Irwin, 5 ayes, motion carried.
- VI. Public comments-
- VII. Old Business- Chairman Horton stated he has discussed with Jeremiah doing a review on
vehicle maintenance and inventory status before the annual audit. Manager Elrod
discussed limiting the number of vendors and consolidating purchases for better pricing
and tracking.

VIII. New Business- adding line item #8, rate study discussion

A. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. **ACTION REPORT-** Manager Elrod reviewed the attached action report with the Board.
2. **BEECH GROVE-** Manager Elrod reported to the Board that Road Superintendent Gary Long identified inefficiencies and listed items for repair. Areas needing repair were marked with white paint before approval.
3. **HPUD TIE-IN-** Manager Elrod updated the board on the HPUD. There are some matters brought to ACWA by CCI regarding the need to gather more information before ensuring HPUD's ability to provide water per the agreement is successful. TDEC requires CCI to provide a hydraulic analysis, which requires a hydraulic model from HPUD. A meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday to discuss the issue and request written documentation stating that everything is going before spending any money on the ARP funds. After many discussions, it will continue next meeting.
4. **LEAK PROGRAM-** Future discussion on this topic.
5. **SEWER TAPS/METER TAPS-** Manager Elrod stated that the Profit this month was inflated because of the E1 sewer purchases (\$70,000). Manager Elrod recommended a motion to approve a purchase from Wascon, INC for 11 E1 pumps for \$42,612.13. These are going to Mary's Point and Brookstone Ridge. Commissioner Bowles made a motion to approve as recommended by the Manager, Second by Commissioner Irwin, 5 ayes, motion carried.

6. **ANDERSONVILLE HWY-** The Andersonville highway project is being planned, with John contributing significantly. A new 6" DI watermain will be constructed connecting the 6" main serving Andersonville Elementary to Arcadian Springs creating a dual feed to keep a larger area in water if a main breaks on Andersonville Hwy south of Lambdin Rd. An isolation valve exists, but its location relative to Lambdin Lane is uncertain. If the valve is on the wrong side of the tee, an inline valve will be needed before Lambdin Lane to maintain water service during repairs.
7. **ACWA FY 24/25 BUDGET-** Manager Elrod reviewed the attached proposed budget with the Board. After reviewing and discussing, Manager Elrod suggested scheduling a workshop session for two weeks. Commissioner Bowles made a motion to approve the recommendation of Manager Elrod to approve the attached budget as presented, for ACWA projected numbers for the end of the year. Second by Commissioner Shelton, 5 ayes, motion carried.
8. **RATE STUDY UPDATE—**A rate study is underway with Jackson Thornton. The first transit of information was received from the water authority in early January, with additional information in February. Once the bulk of information is received, Jackson Thornton has a six-month turnaround. A rough draft conference call is scheduled for the 15th. A final presentation to the board is expected, with a draft potentially available for budget decisions.

B. OTHER REPORTS

1. ENGINEERS REPORT

A. OFFICE MANAGERS REPORT

B. HR REPORT

C. ASSISTANT MANAGER REPORT (JEREMIAH)

D. ASSISTANT MANAGERS REPORT (JOHN)

A. **OVERTIME**- Assistant Manager John Mitchell briefly discussed March 2025

B. **WATER LOSS**- Assistant Manager John Mitchell reviewed the March 2025 water loss with the Board. He reported a water loss of 30.5 for March 2025,

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER SHELTON AT 6:18 PM.

Jack Shelton

Rickey Rose

George Horton

Dusty Irwin

Ernest Bowles



Anderson County Water Authority

AGENDA

MAY 20, 2025

- I. APPROVE APRIL 15, 2025, MINUTES**
- II. APPROVE MAY 20, 2025, AGENDA**
- III. APPROVE THE APRIL 2025 INVOICE HISTORY REPORT**
- IV. APPROVED APRIL 2025 EXPENDITURE REPORT**
- V. APPROVE THE APRIL 2025 PROFIT AND LOSS REPORT**
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VII. OLD BUSINESS**
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1. ACTION REPORT**
- 2. BEECH GROVE PROJECT**
- 3. HPUD TIE-IN PROJECT**
- 4. CLEAR BRANCH WATER TREATMENT PLANT**
- 5. TDOT PAVING QUOTE**
- 6. RATE STUDY UPDAATE**
- 7. LEAK INSURANCE REVIEW**
- 8. ACWA FY 24/25 BUDGET**

B. OTHER REPORTS

- 1. ENGINEERS REPORT**
- 2. OFFICE MANAGERS REPORT**
- 3. HR REPORT**
- 4. ASSISTANT MANAGERS REPORT (JEREMIAH)**
- 5. ASSISTANT MANAGERS REPORT (JOHN) WATERLOSS & OVERTIME**