MINUTES
OLD COURTHOUSE AD-HOC COMMITTEE
April 23, 2026

Present
Clay Haynes, Chairman
J. Wes Wynne, Commissioner
Ben Harris, Commissioner
David Klein, Commissioner
John Isbell, Mayor of Sumner County
Paige Brown, Mayor of Gallatin
Amy Nixon, Citizen
Absent
Reginald Mudd, Vice-Chairman

The Old Courthouse Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Haynes at approximately 5:30 p.m. in conference room 112.

Invocation
Commissioner Wynne provided the invocation.

Approval of Agenda
Motion made by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Wynne, to accept the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – February 26, 2026
Motion was made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Klein, to accept the minutes from February 26, 2026. Motion passed with Mayor Isbell abstaining from the vote.

Recognition of the Public
None

Old Business

a. Set Meeting Schedule and Rhythm

Chairman Haynes proposed the meeting date should continue on the 4th Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Motion was made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Klein, to continue meeting on the 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Scope of Committee

Chairman Haynes proposed the following as a mission statement. The Committee shall conduct a comprehensive study of the 1939 Sumner County Courthouse including an assessment of the existing building conditions, engagement with the community to understand the desired uses and priorities and production of a report with multiple viable options and recommendations to present to the General Operations Committee for decision. A motion was made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Klein, to adopt the mission statement. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business
Chairman Haynes opened discussions regarding the aspects of the existing structure and possibilities for the space. He also noted the committee would need community engagement to understand what the public would envision for this project.

Discussions then shifted to the budget for the beginning stages of the project. Mayor Isbell noted that this project would mainly focus on the interior of the building as well as the possibility of making part of it an office space. The committee discussed engaging a neutral, third-party facilitator to lead the community engagement process to ensure unbiased presentation of input. Ms. Nixon noted that an initial stakeholder survey she had circulated had already generated approximately 300 responses.

They also discussed obtaining the building plans for the Courthouse. Mayor Isbell stated that he would make an attempt to locate the plans, and if not found locally would extend the search to the State Archives. Mayor Brown also stated she would look into the plans through the City of Gallatin.

Discussions ensued regarding removing walls and carpets and when demo should begin. The committee reached consensus that no demolition or removal would occur until the professional assessment is complete and a plan is in place. Discussions shifted back to the budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Mayor Brown, to request $89,485 from the General Operations Committee to begin evaluations to determine the scope of work needed for this building. Further discussions ensued, including the process for reviewing RFQ responses. The committee agreed that the RFQ review panel shall be led by the Chairman with support from county staff, subject to confirmation by the County Attorney that outside professionals may serve in such a capacity. The motion was amended by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Klein, to increase the budget to request up to $100,000. The amended motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment
With no more discussions, Chairman Haynes called for adjournment. Motion made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Mayor Isbell, to adjourn at approximately 6:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.