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Chapter I - Administration

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

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.

Sincerely,

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Chapter I - Administration

Building Permits

Private Acts of 1976 Chapter 249

SECTION 1. Any owner or owners of real property in Obion County who builds, erects, constructs or remodels, or who causes or allows to be built, erected, constructed, or remodeled, any building or improvements upon their real property, where such construction or remodeling has a value of or costs one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more, shall apply for building permits from the Obion County Assessor of Property prior to the commencement of such construction or remodeling.

Such application shall be made in writing on a form or forms to be prescribed by the Assessor of Property and provided for him by the Quarterly County Court. There shall be no charge for the issuance of the permits.

SECTION 2. Failure to obtain such permit within thirty (30) days after the beginning of such construction or improvements is a misdemeanor and punishable upon conviction thereof by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

SECTION 3. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Quarterly County Court of Obion County before September 1, 1976. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Quarterly County Court and certified by him 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 upon being approved as provided in Section 3.

Passed: March 9, 1976.

County Agriculture Committee

Private Acts of 1941 Chapter 231

SECTION 1. That in all Counties having a population of not more than 30,980 no less than 30,950, according to the Federal Census of 1940, the County Agricultural Committee, authorized by Section 2545 of the 1932 Code of Tennessee, heretofore elected by the County Quarterly Court, and now acting, shall only hold office until the April Term of the County Quarterly Court, 1947, at which time and biennially thereafter the County Quarterly Court shall elect for a term of two (2) years a County Agriculture Committee composed of three (3) Magistrates from the Court and four (4) other competent men or women, all of whom shall be interested in the welfare of the agriculture of the County and all of whom shall reside in different magisterial districts in the County, which Committee shall act with the Agricultural Extension Service in employing agents, or removing agents for unsatisfactory service or other cause. As amended by:

Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 337

SECTION 2. [Repealed by Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 337]

SECTION 3. That should a vacancy occur on the County Agriculture Committee by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the County Quarterly Court, at its next regular session, shall elect a Committeeman or Committeewoman to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 337

SECTION 4. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are, hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 10, 1941.

County Legislative Body

Private Acts of 1965 Chapter 18

SECTION 1. That hereafter Justices of the Peace of counties of not less than 26,947 inhabitants and no

more than 26,967 inhabitants, according to the Federal Census of 1960, or any subsequent Federal Census, shall be entitled to and shall receive Sixty Dollars (\$60) per year payable in equal quarterly installments of Fifteen Dollars (\$15) each for attendance upon regular quarterly sessions of the County Court in such counties.

COMPILER'S NOTE: See T.C.A. § 5-5-107 for general law on compensation.

SECTION 2. That in addition to said compensation for the attendance upon the sessions of the Quarterly County Court in said counties, the Justices of the Peace shall be entitled to and receive mileage at the rate of ten (10) cents a mile for each mile traveled in going to and from their residences to the County Court House to attend each regular, special, or extra session of the County Court. Provided, that no Justice of the Peace who resides within one (1) mile of the court house shall receive any such mileage.

SECTION 3. That all Acts and parts of Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee that are in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall have been approved by two-thirds vote of the Quarterly County Court of any county to which it may apply on or before the next regular meeting of such Quarterly County Court occurring more than thirty days after its approval by the Chief Executive of this State. Its approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the body having jurisdiction to approve or the reverse, and shall be certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 5. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Passed: January 28, 1965.

County Register

Recordation of Deeds

Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 260

SECTION 1. That from and after the effective date of this Act, all deeds, deeds of trust, subdivision plats, tract maps and all other instruments vesting or divesting title to or in any real estate situated in Obion County, Tennessee, shall be noted in the office of the County Tax Assessor of Obion County prior to the time and before any of such instruments shall be filed for record in the office of the County Register of Obion County.

The Tax Assessor or his Deputy shall receive each of such instruments for notation, and shall make a permanent record of the same in his office, showing the date of the instrument, the consideration of the transfer, the name of the grantor, the name of the grantee, the location of the property, including the Civil District in which said property is situated, and a sufficient description of the property so that the same can be readily identified.

SECTION 2. That when any of such instruments have been noted by the Tax Assessor or his Deputy, he shall stamp on each such instrument an endorsement indicating that the instrument has been properly noted in his office and that the notation fee has been paid.

SECTION 3. That the County Tax Assessor of Obion County is hereby authorized and directed to collect a fee of One Dollar (\$1.00) for the notation in his office of each of such instruments hereinabove set forth, and all of such fees collected by the County Tax Assessor shall be paid over at the end of each month to the office of the County Judge of said County, together with a written report showing the person from whom each such fee was collected. Said funds collected and received shall be paid into the general fund of said County.

All of the necessary expenses incident to the carrying out of the provisions of this Act shall be paid out of the general fund of said County.

SECTION 4. That none of the instruments herein provided for shall be received for record or recorded in the office of the County Register until each such instrument has first been noted and stamped by the County Tax Assessor. None of the instruments herein provided for shall be received for notation or noted in the office of the County Tax Assessor unless such instrument contains a reference therein indicating the recording data of the instrument by which the grantor acquired title to the property sought to be conveyed.

Any Tax Assessor or Deputy Tax Assessor, and any County Register or Deputy County Register, who willfully or negligently fails to comply with the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 5. That the County Tax Assessor of Obion County is hereby authorized and empowered to

employ a Deputy Tax Assessor who shall devote his full time to the duties of the office, and whose compensation shall be fixed by the Quarterly County Court of Obion County to be paid from the general funds of the County, in equal monthly installments.

SECTION 6. That the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and if any of its sections, provisions, sentences, clauses, phrases or parts 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 passed even if such unconstitutional or void matter had not been included therein.

SECTION 7. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall be submitted to the Quarterly County Court of Obion County and approved by a two-thirds vote of said Quarterly County Court. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of said Quarterly County Court and shall be certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 8. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Passed: March 14, 1961.

Obion and Forked Deer River

Flood Control and Drainage Improvements Public Acts of 1959 Chapter 129

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

WHEREAS, Public Law 526, 79th Congress, Second Session, and Public Law 858, 80th Congress, Second Session, authorized the construction of flood control and drainage improvements of the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers and their tributaries in Obion, Weakley, Gibson, Dyer, Crockett, Lauderdale, Haywood, and Madison Counties, substantially in accordance with the reports of the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, House Document No. 757, 79th Congress, Second Session, and House Document No. 627, 80th Congress, Second Session; and

WHEREAS, The construction of such flood control and drainage improvements at federal expense cannot be undertaken by the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, until a responsible sponsoring agency furnished the United States of America written assurances that it will perform the local cooperation required by law:

SECTION 1. That, in consideration of the construction at federal expense by the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, of flood control and drainage improvements of the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers and their tributaries, in the Counties of Obion, Weakley, Gibson, Dyer, Crockett, Lauderdale, Haywood, and Madison, substantially in accordance with the reports of the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, House Document No. 757, 79th Congress, Second Session, and House Document No. 627, 80th Congress, Second Session, as authorized by Public Law 526, 79th Congress, Second Session, and Public Law 858, 80th Congress, Second Session, the State of Tennessee, through its Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority, be authorized and empowered to defray the cost of the alteration of existing highway bridges in Dyer and Lauderdale Counties required by such improvements, to acquire and furnish without cost to the United States of America all lands, easements, and rights of way required for construction of such improvements, and to maintain all such works after completion; and to execute and furnish to the United States of America written assurances that it will perform the aforesaid acts of local cooperation; and that the State of Tennessee, acting by and through the Governor and the Obion- Forked Deer River Basin Authority, be authorized and empowered to execute and furnish to the United States of America written assurances that it will hold and save the United States of America free from any damages that may result from any special construction, without cost to the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission, by way of continuous spoil banks, culverts, locks and/or other structures under contracts let by the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, along the improved channels of the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers and/or the tributaries thereof over, across or along the boundary of any tract of land owned by or leased to the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission designed to permit the control and/or regulation of the water level on said land in its use as a public hunting area and/or a game refuge or sanctuary.

As amended by: Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 149
Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

SECTION 2. That the State of Tennessee, through its Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority, acting through and in conjunction with the Counties in which such improvements are to be constructed, shall be authorized and empowered to acquire and furnish the lands, easements and rights of way required for

such work. To this end, the power of eminent domain is hereby conferred upon the state and the counties in which such improvements shall be constructed for the purpose of acquiring such lands, easements and rights of way as may be deemed necessary for the purposes of this Chapter. The general statutes relating to the acquisition of lands for works of internal improvement shall be applicable both as to the bringing of condemnation actions and the remedies of property owners. The counties in which such improvements are to be made shall be charged with the responsibility of acquiring the necessary lands, easements and rights of way either by gift, purchase or condemnation. The cost of any such lands, easements and rights of way through purchase or condemnation shall be paid by the State of Tennessee. All other expense incident to the cost of acquisition of such lands, easements and rights of way, including title or abstract work, appraisal fees, attorney fees and court costs, shall be borne by the county in which the required lands, easements and rights of way are located. In the event any County fails or refuses to acquire such necessary lands, easements and rights of way, the State, through the Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority, shall acquire the same, either by purchase, gift or condemnation, and such County shall be liable for and shall reimburse the State for all expenses incurred in the acquisition of such lands, easements and right of way, except the cost or purchase price of the lands, easements and rights of way themselves.

The state shall be primarily liable for the purchase price of such lands as may be needed for such improvements but suits by property owners for any taking without compensation shall be brought against the county, and the state's Obion-Forked Deer River Basin Authority shall reimburse the county for any final judgment rendered against it. In addition, it shall be the duty of the counties to defend such suits, but the commissioner may defend such suits if the counties fail or refuse to defend them, and the counties shall reimburse the Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority for all expenses, including attorney's fees, in defending such suits.

As amended by: Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

COMPILER'S NOTE: The 1974 amendment deleted references to the state department of highways, but the reference to the "commissioner" contained in the second paragraph of Section 2 remains, probably in error.

SECTION 3. That drainage and levee districts which presently own any property interests or rights of way required for such improvements are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to transfer and convey such property interests or rights of way to the State of Tennessee for the purposes of this Chapter upon the request of the Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority.

As amended by: Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

SECTION 4. That the State of Tennessee through its Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority be and it is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to maintain all such works upon completion, in which maintenance the Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority shall use prison labor wherever possible. The Commissioner of the Department of Corrections shall make available prison labor for such purposes and shall furnish such guards and transportation as may be necessary in connection with such maintenance work

As amended by: Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

SECTION 5. That the Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority and the counties affected be and they are hereby authorized to expend their funds for the acquisition of the necessary rights of way for such channel improvement and to properly maintain the completed improvements.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

SECTION 6. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 11, 1959.

Reelfoot Running Bayou Public Acts of 1955 Chapter 133

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

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has authorized the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, to dredge Reelfoot Running Bayou from its mouth at or near the Obion River to where State Highway 21 and 22 cross the same; and

WHEREAS, The maintenance of said work and the replacement of said bridges across said stream constitute an integral part of the consideration for such dredging;

SECTION 1. That in consideration of the United States Corps of Engineers dredging the stream above

mentioned as aforesaid, the State of Tennessee, through its Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority, shall maintain such dredging after the conclusion of the original performance thereof in as reasonably good condition as it exists at the completion of such original dredging operation, and shall likewise assume full responsibility for costs of repairing, maintaining, and relocating any or all bridges across such stream, replacement of which is occasioned by the work herein contemplated and such Obion-Forked Deer Basin Authority shall likewise save and hold harmless the United States Corps of Engineers from any and all damages occasioned by such dredging operation. In case the procurement of rights of way for such operation shall be required, such right of way shall be procured by the County in which the land taken shall lie and such County shall be vested with the power of eminent domain for such purpose. Any damage occasioned by the exercise of the power of eminent domain shall be a charge against the general fund of the County instituting such proceeding and shall be paid therefrom.

As amended by: Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 38
Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415

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

Passed: March 3, 1955

Northwest Tennessee Development Agency Public Acts of 1967 Chapter 345

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

SECTION 1. That it is hereby created and established the Northwest Tennessee Development Agency, being a public body corporate and politic, and for the purpose of this Act it will be hereinafter referred to as the "Agency". The Agency is created for the purpose of developing and effectuating plans and programs for comprehensive development, including the control and development of the water resources of the Big Sandy River, West Sandy Creek, Middle Fork of the Obion River, the combined Middle Fork and South Fork of the Obion River from that point of confluence to the point of confluence with the Rutherford Fork of the Obion River, the Middle Fork, South Fork, and Rutherford Fork of the Obion River from the points of their confluence to their subsequent confluence with the North Fork of the Obion River, and of the Obion River proper from such point of its confluence with the Mississippi River, located in Benton, Henry, Obion, and Dyer Counties, Tennessee, and for the purpose of planning, developing, and constructing a fresh water canal, with the necessary lakes, locks, and dams in the watershed of and along the waters of the aforesaid rivers and creeks, and for the purpose of intergrating plans, programs, and development activities with the overall development of the area described.

SECTION 2. That the organization of the Agency shall be as follows:

- 1. The Agency shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of eleven (11) members.
- 2. The Quarterly County Court of each of the above-named counties shall nominate by a majority vote two (2) candidates for each directorship from the county. Candidates shall include persons active in municipal, industrial, agricultural, commercial, and citizen organizations, such as the Northwest Tennessee Development Agency, active in promoting comprehensive unified development of the resources and economic growth of the watershed area of the aforesaid rivers, creeks, and tributaries. The presiding officer of the governing body of each county shall certify such nominations to the Governor, who shall appoint from the nominations from each county one from each group of the two (2) nominated for each directorship. From the above, the Governor shall appoint one for a term of two years, one for a term of four years, one for a term of six years, and one for a term of eight years. However, such terms shall continue in all event until successors are appointed. Successors shall be appointed for terms of eight years. In the event of a vacancy on the Board, the Governor shall appoint a successor for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- 3. The Governor shall appoint a resident of one of the aforesaid counties as the eleventh (11) Director, to serve as such Director during the Governor's term of office.
- 4. The County Judges of Benton, Henry, Weakley, Obion, and Dyer Counties shall be ex-officio members of such Board of Directors.
- 5. The situs and place of business of the body corporate and politic, or Agency, herein created, shall be at Dresden, in Weakley County, Tennessee.
- 6. Upon the completion of its membership, the appointees and those designated as ex-officio members shall meet and organize at Dresden, Tennessee, electing a Chairman, Vice-Chairman,

- and Secretary-Treasurer, and set a regular time and place for the meetings of the Board.
- 7. Directors shall serve without compensation, except reimbursement for actual traveling expenses and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, such expenses to be reimbursed from such funds as may be available to the Agency.

SECTION 3. That the powers, duties, and functions of the Agency shall be as follows:

- (1) General
 - (a) Perpetual succession in corporate name.
 - (b) Sue and be sued in corporate name.
 - (c) Adopt, use, and alter a corporate seal, which shall be judicially noticed.
 - (d) Enter into such contract and cooperative agreements with the Federal, State, and local governments, with agencies of such governments, with private individuals, corporations, associations, and any other organizations as the Board may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to carry out the purpose of the Act.
 - (e) Adopt, amend, and repeal by-laws.
 - (f) Appoint such managers, officers, employees, attorneys, and agents as the Board deems necessary for the transaction of its business, fix their compensation, define their duties, require bonds of such of them as the Board may determine. Salary of any such employee may be paid out of such funds as may be available to the Agency from any source.
- (2) Formulation and Execution of Development Plans

The Agency is authorized to:

- (a) Investigate the resources of the watershed areas of the Big Sandy River, West Sandy Creek, Middle Fork of the Obion River, the combined Middle Fork and South Fork of the Obion River from their point of confluence to the point of confluence with the Rutherford Fork of the Obion River, the Middle Fork, South Fork, and Rutherford Fork of the Obion River from the point of their confluence to their confluence with the North Fork of the Obion River, and of the Obion River proper from such point to the point of its confluence with the Mississippi River, and determine the requirements for their full development, and for the control and development of the watershed areas thereof, including, but not limited to, the building and constructing of a fresh water canal for the purpose of water transportation between the Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers, and for the further purpose of furnishing large quantities of water for manufacturing and industrial purposes, and for the better development of the economy of the general area.
- (b) Develop and carry out a unified comprehensive program of resource development for the economic growth of the area. These plans shall be consistent with the plans for state-wide economic development.
- (c) In making such investigations and in formulating development plans, to seek and utilize the assistance of appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies and of private citizens and citizen organizations interested in the conservation and development of the resources of the area.
- (d) Provide, develop, and help as appropriate the needed and feasible cooperative arrangements for the construction of water control structures, channel improvements, and facilities for navigation, drainage, irrigation, water conservation and supply, industrial development, recreation, and land improvement as a part of its comprehensive plans and, in aid of such activities, to accept loans and grants, or other assistance, from Federal, State, and local governments, or from the agencies of such governments.
- (e) Arrange with any city, county, municipality, or supplier of utilities for the abandonment, relocation, or other adjustment of roads, highways, bridges, and utility lines.
- (f) To particularly arrange and develop plans with the Corp of Engineers of the United States Army, Department of Defense, for the surveying, locating, and constructing of a navigable canal, on and along the aforesaid rivers and creeks, from the confluence of the Big Sandy River with the Tennessee River, over, through, and along the waters of the Big Sandy River, West Sandy Creek, Middle Fork of Obion River, and the combined waters of the Middle Fork, South Fork, Rutherford Fork of the Obion River to their confluence with the North Fork of the Obion River, and the Obion River proper to its confluence with the Mississippi River, so as to afford opportunity for the economic development of such areas.
- (g) To arrange, develop, and make all necessary contracts and agreements with the Middle Fork Obion River Watershed District, of Henry and Weakley Counties, Tennessee, and with any and all

other watershed districts within the aforesaid areas, or that may hereafter be created within such areas, or created on a tributary of any of the streams, herein above set out, which might be affected by the projects contemplated for this Agency.

(3) Land Acquisition:

(a) To acquire by purchase, lease, gift, or in any manner other than by condemnation, property of any kind, real, personal, or mixed, or any interest therein, which the Board deems necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers or functions, provided, that acquisition by condemnation shall be limited to land, rights in land, including leaseholds and easements, and water rights, in, on, and adjacent to the watershed areas of the above-named rivers, streams, and creeks, that the Board deems to be necessary to the control and optimum development of the aforesaid rivers, streams, and creeks, and their tributaries. The amount and character of interest in land, rights in land, water rights to be acquired within any of these boundaries shall be determined by the Board of Directors and its determination shall be conclusive. The Agency's power of eminent domain may be exercised under Sections 23-1401 through 23-1425, Tennessee Code Annotated and any amendments thereto, or pursuant to any other applicable statutory provisions, now in force or hereafter enacted, for the exercise of the power of eminent domain; provided, that where condemnation proceedings become necessary the Court in which any such proceedings are filed shall, upon application of the Agency, and upon posting of a bond with the Clerk of the Court in such amount as the Court may deem commensurate with the value of the property, order that writ of possession shall issue immediately or as soon, and upon such terms as the Court in its discretion may deem proper and just. The Agency is exclusively authorized to acquire by condemnation or otherwise and hold for resale to private or other industrial organizations waterfront land that it determines to be suitable for industrial or other appropriately planned uses, and such acquisition is hereby declared to be for the public purpose of the State's industrial development and for the increase of industrial development opportunities.

(4) Management and Operation:

- (a) Enter into contracts with municipalities, corporations, or other public agencies, or political subdivisions of any kind, or with others for the sale of water for municipal, domestic, agricultural, or industrial use of or any other services, facilities, or commodities that the Agency may be in a position to supply.
- (b) Develop reservoirs and shoreline lands for recreational use and provide for their operation for this purpose directly or by concessionaires, lessees, or vendees, or shoreline lands.
- (c) Sell or lease shoreline lands acquired in connection with the development of the watershed areas of the above-named rivers, streams, and creeks or the tributaries thereof, and included within the area suitable to be developed by the Agency, for uses consistent with the Agency's development plan and subject to such restrictions as the Agency deems necessary for reservoir protection and to such requirements as to: (1) character of improvements and activities, and (2) time within which such improvements or activities shall be undertaken as the Agency deems appropriate to its overall development plan.
- (d) Acquire or operate shoreline lands of reservoirs owned by the United States of America as the agent of the Federal agency having custody and control thereof under appropriate agreements with such agencies.
- (e) Acquire, construct, or operate such other facilities or works of improvement as are necessary to effectuate the plans for comprehensive development of the area.
- (f) To enter into contracts and agreements with The Tennessee Valley Authority, an agency of the United States Government, for the purpose of constructing facilities and works within the area embraced in this Act, including, but not limited to, the development of hydroelectric dams for the purpose of manufacturing electrical power.

SECTION 4. That the Agency shall be authorized and have the authority with respect to finances as follows:

(1) Financing

- (a) Issue its bonds from time to time in an amount not to exceed a total of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) for the purpose of paying in whole or in part the cost of the acquisition of necessary land or interests therein and the development of the resources of the above-named rivers, streams, and creeks, and expenses incidental thereto;
- (b) Secure such bonds by a pledge of all of any of the revenues which may now or hereafter come to the Agency from any source, by a mortgage or deed of trust of the Agency's land or any part

thereof, or by a combination of the two; and

(c) May make such contracts in the issuance of such bonds as may be necessary to assure the marketability thereof.

SECTION 5. That the various counties, towns, and incorporated municipalities within the five above-named counties sought to be improved by this Act:

- (1) To contribute to the work of the Agency any amount or amounts of money that their respective governing bodies, acting in their sole discretion, shall approve to be paid from the general fund of the respective county or city. Quarterly County Courts and governing bodies of such cities or towns shall be empowered to levy and collect ad valorem taxes for such purposes, which are hereby declared to be for municipal and county public purposes.
- (2) To issue their bonds as provided for counties in Sections 5-1101 through 5-1125, Tennessee Code Annotated, and for municipalities in Sections 6-1601 through 6-1632, Tennessee Code Annotated, to obtain funds for the financing of public works by the Agency, or secure advances made by Federal agencies for the construction of public works in the above-named rivers, streams, and creeks pursuant to cooperative agreements with the Agency. SECTION 6. That the Board of Directors of the Agency shall report annually to the Governor of the State of Tennessee and shall likewise report annually to the governing bodies of the various Counties, towns, and incorporated municipalities of the area. Such reports shall include statement of financial receipts and expenditures, and a summary of all activities and accomplishments for the period and proposed plans for the next year.

SECTION 7. That all agencies of the State of Tennessee are hereby authorized and directed to extend their cooperation and lend assistance to the Agency in the formulation and implementation of a development program.

SECTION 8. That for purpose of coordinating its activities with the needs and undertakings of other local organizations and groups, the Board of Directors may establish an advisory board consisting of the Chairman of the Agency Board (who shall be chairman of the Advisory Board), and of sufficient members to represent adequately so far as possible industry, commerce, agriculture, the general public, any official planning and developmental bodies in the locality, and organized citizen groups working for the development of the aforesaid rivers, streams, creeks, and tributaries.

SECTION 9. That there is hereby appropriated out of the Treasury of the State of Tennessee to the Agency created by this Act, the sum of Ten Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of aiding in the organization and development of the programs initiated and proposed by the Board of Directors of the Agency, and particularly to promote the building of a fresh water transportation canal, including lock and dams, as defined and set forth in this Act, by the Corp of Engineers, United States Army, Department of Defense, and of the building and construction of dams, reservoirs, and other necessary facilities for the production of hydroelectric power by the Corp of Engineers, The Tennessee Valley Authority, or any other agency of the Federal Government, or of the State of Tennessee, under the authority of the "State Rural Electrification Authority Law," the same being Sections 65-2301 through 65-2323, Tennessee Code Annotated, or the Tennessee Rural Electrification Authority, when and if organized by authority of Sections 65-2301 through 65-2323, Tennessee Code Annotated, provided, however, that the funds or portions thereof, so appropriated, shall be paid out only upon a voucher approved by the member of the Board of Directors appointed by the Governor under the terms of this Act and subject to the approval of the Governor.

SECTION 10. That if any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or any part of this Act shall be held or declared to be unconstitutional and void, it shall not affect the remaining part or parts of this Act, it being hereby declared to be the legislative intent to have passed the remainder of this Act notwithstanding the part held to be invalid, if any.

SECTION 11. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 25, 1967.

Repeal of Obsolete Acts

Private Acts of 1979 Chapter 81

SECTION 1. The following Private Acts applicable to and affecting Obion County solely and alone be, and the same are hereby repealed: Chapter 161, Private Acts of 1929, which set the compensation of the Board of Equalization; Chapter 824, Private Acts of 1929, relative to the offense of poultry stealing;

Chapter 779, Private Acts of 1933, which set the annual salary of the County Register; Chapter 780, Private Acts of 1933, which set the annual salary of the Sheriff; Chapter 781, Private Acts of 1933, which set the yearly compensation of the Circuit Court Clerk of Obion County; Chapter 782, Private Acts of 1933, regulating the annual salary of the Clerk and Master of Obion County; Chapter 783, Private Acts of 1933, regulating the salary of the County Trustee; Chapter 785, Private Acts of 1933, which fixed the salary of the County Court Clerk; Chapter 6, Private Acts of 1937 (Ex. Sess.) which amended the Budget System Act, Chapter 528, Private Acts of 1937, which established a Budget System Act.

SECTION 2. This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of County Commissioners of Obion County before September 1, 1979. Its approval or disapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Board of County Commissioners and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this Act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring same. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 2.

Passed: April 19, 1979.

Transfer of Armory

Public Acts of 1965 Chapter 46

COMPILER'S NOTE: This is a Public Act that does not appear in **Tennessee Code Annotated**.

WHEREAS, The old Armory of the State located on West Main Street in the Town of Union City, Obion County, Tennessee, is no longer needed and required for the purposes for which it was erected and has been superseded by a new and larger State Armory in said City and County; and

WHEREAS, The land upon which the old Armory is located was originally paid for by Obion County and the City of Union City and given to the State; and

WHEREAS, Obion County and Union City are willing and desirous of acquiring the same for public uses and the general benefit and welfare of the inhabitants thereof, including, among others, the conduct of a County Fair by and through a general Fair Association or otherwise; and

WHEREAS, The State will save the expense and cost of maintaining the old Armory by disposing of the same; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. That the State divest itself of the property heretofore and now known as the "Armory" on West Main Street in Union City, Tennessee, and convey the same to Obion County and the City of Union City as tenants in common.

SECTION 2. That the Governor of the State of Tennessee and the Attorney General of the State be and they are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver on behalf of the State to said County and City, in consideration of the premises and a nominal consideration of Five and no/100 Dollars (\$5.00) a deed of conveyance to said old Armory and the land upon which it is located presently described as follows, to wit: Being in three (3) tracts or lots bounded on the north by the property of the City of Union City; on the south by West Main Street; on the east by Sam Davis and Tennessee Gas Company; and on the west by the City of Union City and James W. Wilson and more particularly described as follows:

"Lot #1 - Beginning at a stake 50 feet west of the southwest corner of the Dr. O. B. Neely property where the said Neely conducts an animal clinic, an in the north line of West Main Street; runs thence west with the north boundary line of West Main Street 49 feet, more or less, to a stake in the east margin of a 20 foot alley; thence north with the east line said alley 112 feet, more or less, to a stake in the south boundary line of the baseball park known as Turner Field and owned by the town of Union City; thence east with the south margin of said Turner Field and the property of the Tennessee Gas Company 49 feet, more or less, to an iron stake; thence south with the west line of M. R. Powell property 112 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

"Lot #2 - Beginning at a stake in the north margin of West Main Street at a point where it intersects with the west line of a 20 foot alley, being 119 feet west of the southwest corner of the above mentioned O. B. Neely animal clinic property; runs thence west with the north margin of West Main Street 19 feet to a stake; thence north 112 feet, more or less, to the south line of Turner Field; thence east with the south line of Turner Field 19 feet to a stake in the west margin of said 20 foot alley; thence south 112 feet more or less, to the point of beginning.

Easement

Also an easement to light and air in, to and over a strip of land fronting five (5) feet on West Main Street and running back between parallel lines 112 feet, more or less, to the south line of Turner Field, and being a strip five (5) feet wide off of the west side of the original lot of which Lot #2 is a part. The purpose of this easement is to secure to the State of Tennessee an easement to light and air over said five foot strip of land and also to be kept open by us in order to afford us and our successors in title light and air, since it is the purpose of the State of Tennessee to construct an Armory upon the property herein conveyed, as well as upon other property to be acquired from the Corporation of Union City and the Tennessee Gas Company. Now, as a further consideration for this conveyance, in the construction of said Armory, the south wall thereof shall be not less than fifteen (15) feet from the north margin of the sidewalk as the same now exists, to the end that the line of said Armory building will be in line with the structures on the property which we now own, and lying adjacent to the property herein conveyed, and just west of the five foot strip of land above referred to. Should we or our successors in title hereafter alter the present structures, or build any structures on the property west of the property herein conveyed extending to the north margin of the street or side-walk line, then in that event the same right is hereby granted and given to the State of Tennessee and its successors in title. In other words, the State of Tennessee shall have the right to build as near to the side-walk line as we, or our successors in title, shall build.

"Lot #3 - Beginning in the most southern southeast corner of Turner Field at a rock fence in M. R. Powell's north line, running thence east with Powell's north line 36 feet to an iron stake, thence north 57.25 feet to a rock fence, the same being in the east line of Turner Field, thence in a southwesterly direction with said rock fence and along the east boundary line of Turner Field 67.63 feet to the point of beginning." Said Lots #1 and #2 being the same property conveyed to the State of Tennessee by Marshall R. Powell, et al. by deed of record in deed book 10-W, Page 195, Register's Office of Obion County and Lot #3 being the same property conveyed to the State of Tennessee by the Tennessee Gas Company by deed of record in deed book 10-W, page 286, Register's Office of Obion County, Tennessee.

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

Passed: February 16, 1965.

Administration - Historical Notes

Budget System

The following acts once created a budgeting system for Obion County, but they have been specifically repealed or superseded by current law. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- 1. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 372, created a County Finance and Budget Commission for Obion County, composed of three members with the County Judge or Chairman as the Chairman. The Act named Hugh Smith, Pres Shores and H. L. Hassel as the first Commission who were to serve until their successors were elected in August, 1930, for a four year term. County Court members were declared ineligible as were county residents of less than two years. The Commission would meet on the first Monday in April each year to investigate the financial needs of the County for the current year, to prepare a budget, and to compute the necessary tax levies. The Commission was obligated to investigate the indebtedness of the County and no evidence of county indebtedness would be valid unless it bore the signature of a majority of the Commission. They could employ an attorney to recover county funds but his compensation could not exceed 15% of the recovery. The County Court would consider the proposed budget and tax rate at its July Term. The tax rate must be fixed strictly in conformity with the recommendations of the Commission, subject to the listed exceptions. Commission members, except the Chairman, would receive compensation of \$7.50 per day for each day of service rendered, not exceeding 18 days in a year. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 228.
- 2. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 677, amended Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 372, by deleting Pres Shores and substituting therefore the name of J. C. McRee as a member of the first Finance and Budget Commission. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 228.
- 3. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 528, established a budget system for Obion County which set up a fiscal year for all divisions of the County government, making it the responsibility of each department head to file budget requests with the County Clerk setting out in detail the estimate for the ensuing fiscal year's expenditures and expected revenue, if any, which would be reviewed and modified, when necessary, by a five member Budget Commission selected by the County Legislative Body. The Act promulgates guidelines and procedures for the further consideration of the Budget leading to its adoption, and subsequent to its adoption the regulations under which the funds will be expended and records of such expenditure kept. This Act was repealed by Private Act

- of 1979, Chapter 81.
- 4. Private Act of 1937 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 6, amended Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 528, by removing the County Workhouse and Poorhouse Commission from being subject to the provisions of the County Budget System. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 81.
- 5. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 210, amended Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 528, to allow the investment of budget allotments under some specified circumstances in U.S. bonds by the Obion County Quarterly Court.
- 6. Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 80, which established a financial management system for Obion County, was found unconstitutional by the Chancery Court of Obion County, Civil Action 9121, Filed March 3, 1980.

County Attorney

The following act once affected the appointment, election, or office of the county attorney in Obion County. This act is included for historical reference only.

 Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 297, would have created the office of County Attorney for Obion County who would be appointed by the County Judge, take the oath prescribed in the Act, and discharge the duties enumerated in the statute, records of all of which would be entered upon the minutes of the Court. His regular salary would be not less than \$50 per month plus extra compensation for unusual work loads. This Act was never acted on by the local legislative authorities and therefore never became a law under the requirements of the Home Rule Amendment to the Tennessee Constitution.

County Clerk

The following acts once affected the office of county clerk in Obion County. They are included herein for historical purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- Acts of 1859-60, Chapter 111, Section 4, authorized the County Court Clerk of Obion County to appoint a Deputy Clerk who must reside west of Reelfoot Lake and who would have powers similar to the Clerk.
- 2. Private Act of 1931, Chapter 44, stated in the preamble that R. H. Bond was elected County Court Clerk of Obion County in 1918 and served until 1926, during which time public laws were passed which required the County Court Clerk to petition the Chancellor in the employment of clerical assistants. Due to a misunderstanding of the law, Bond failed to file the required petition and employed assistants on his own initiative. A suit was filed and prosecuted against him to a final judgment which Bond paid from his personal funds. This Act authorized the Quarterly County Court to refund to Bond any amount of the judgment which they might consider right and proper in the case to reimburse him.
- 3. Private Acts of 1931 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 3, was the authority for the County Court Clerk of Obion County to appoint a Deputy Clerk who must take an oath and execute a performance bond whereupon the Deputy Clerk would be empowered to do all things the Clerk could do. The Deputy's annual salary would be \$1500, payable out of the excess fees of the office but, should the fees be insufficient to pay him, the County must pay the difference out of the County general fund.
- 4. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 785, provided that the annual salary of the County Court Clerk could not exceed \$3500 in any one year of the term and would only be paid out of the fees of the office but this Act was not to be construed as modifying the special compensation due him as a Trustee or a Receiver. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 81.

County Mayor

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

1. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 253, created the office of County Judge for every county in the State. The County Judge must be learned in the law and would be elected for four year terms by popular vote. Quorum Courts were abolished in those counties where they existed and their duties were assigned to the County Judge, who would hold the regular sessions of the court on the first Monday in each month. The County Judge would preside over the Quarterly Court in place of its Chairman whose duties he would assume. The jurisdiction, powers, and authority of the Court and Judge were enumerated and the salary set at \$5 per day while the court was sitting either as a monthly, or quarterly, court. This Act was repealed by Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 5.

- 2. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 30, Section 15, created the office of County Judge for Obion County who would be paid \$500 annually. The County Judge would be financial agent for the County and was given all the powers and privileges held by the County Judges of Perry and Decatur counties. This Act was repealed, as to Obion County, by Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 24, Section 4.
- 3. Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, established the office of County Judge, specified a term of four years with a popular election and transferred jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Chairman of the County Court to the County Judge. This Act was superseded by Chapter 934 of the Public Acts of 1978 which abolished the office of county judge, transferred the judicial duties of the County Judge to other courts, and transferred the administrative duties of the County Judge to the new office of County Executive.
- 4. Acts of 1905, Chapter 290, amended Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, to give the County Judge the power and the authority to grant fiats, writs of attachment, injunctions, and all the other extraordinary writs which could then be issued by Circuit Court Judges and Chancellors.
- 5. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 381, also amended Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, to confer upon the County Judge of Obion County, concurrent jurisdiction with the Chancellor and Circuit Judge, to grant writs of attachment, injunction, certiorari and supersedeas, and all the other extraordinary writs and process, and concurrent jurisdiction with all the other Judges to hear petitions of habeas corpus, and to grant remedies pursuant thereto.
- 6. Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 234, amended Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, by making the County Judge the ex-officio Purchasing Agent for the County. He would receive additional compensation of \$1,300 per annum for these duties. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 82.
- 7. Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 235, amended Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, by making the County Judge the ex-officio Director of the Budget. For this additional responsibility, the County Judge would receive \$1,300 per annum as additional compensation. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 82.
- 8. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 312, amended Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 234, by increasing the annual compensation of the Obion County Judge from \$1,300 to \$2,000. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 82.
- 9. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 313, amended Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 235, by increasing the annual compensation paid to the County Judge for being the Director of the Budget from \$1,300 to \$2,000. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 82, Page 371.
- 10. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 108, amended Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 234, by adding a provision that the County Court could exclude any department of the Obion County government from the requirement of having to purchase items through the County Judge so that the Department could purchase its own supplies. The Act states, however, that it would not be presented to the Quarterly County Court for its consideration, and, that being the case, this Act never became effective in Obion County under the provisions of the Home Rule Amendment to the State Constitution.
- 11. Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 82, amended Private Acts of 1891, Chapter 136, as amended, to provide that the County Judge's compensation would be the same as those provided by the general law.

County Legislative Body

The following acts once applied to the quarterly court or the county legislative body of Obion 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 1823, Chapter 41, Section 3, specified that the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Obion County would meet on the third Monday in January, April, July, and October.
- Acts of 1824 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 53, stated that the Quarterly County Courts of Weakley, Obion, Dyer, and McNairy Counties were authorized to adjourn to other suitable places in their respective counties as would best suit their convenience, if a majority of the Justices were present and in agreement on the matter. They were also authorized to adjourn to their county towns when they were ready to receive them.
- 3. Acts of 1824 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 102, Section 2, directed that the Quarterly County Court of Obion County meet on the third Monday in January, April, July, and October.
- 4. Acts of 1825, Chapter 318, Section 3, rearranged the schedule of terms for the Obion County Quarterly Court so that they would hereafter convene on the first Monday in January, April, July, and October.

- 5. Acts of 1826, Chapter 179, legalized and confirmed all the official acts of William Tyrrell, a Justice of the Peace of Obion County, in the same manner as if he had lived in the said county.
- 6. Acts of 1829, Chapter 20, was the enabling legislation for the Quarterly Courts of the counties of Carroll, Gibson, Dyer, Knox, Anderson, Obion, and Henderson, a majority of the Justices being present and voting, at their first term of the year, to select three of their number to be a Quorum Court for a term of one year, at a per diem rate of pay of \$1.50 for which they could levy a tax of \$1 on each lawsuit filed in the county. If the litigation tax failed to produce enough money to pay the per diem, then a general tax could be levied to provide the funds.
- 7. Acts of 1829, Chapter 102, Section 3, re-scheduled the holding of the Quarterly Courts in Obion and Dyer Counties. In Obion County the Court would meet on the fourth Monday in June, September, and December.
- 8. Acts of 1831, Chapter 52, amended Acts of 1829, Chapter 102, by stipulating that the Quarterly Court of Obion County would meet on the first Monday in January, April, July, and October. All process to be made to conform to the change in dates.
- 9. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 6, set up a County Court in every County which would meet on the first Monday in every month and stay in session until the business of the Court was completed. Three Justices selected by the Court would hear cases on the probate of wills and related matters of the administration of estates but could conduct no jury trials. The Justices would elect a Chairman for a one year term to preside over the Court. The Justices, however, could select 25 jurors, one from each civil district, if that many, or could choose 37, if that were more convenient. A tax could be levied, if necessary, to meet the funding requirements of the County.
- 10. Acts of 1859-60, Chapter 111, authorized and required the Quarterly County Court of Obion County to appoint a committee of three citizens who lived west of Reelfoot Lake to draft the plans suitable for a court house and a jail which they could also enter into a contract to build on the previously selected and approved site.
- 11. Acts of 1905, Chapter 494, divided Obion County into nine divisions, composed of whole Civil Districts, from which one Justice of the Peace would be selected by the Quarterly Court for a term of six years. The Quarterly Court would handle all business which could not be lawfully done by the County Judge at its sessions held on the first Monday of January, April, July and October. This Act was repealed by Acts of 1907, Chapter 99.
- 12. Private Acts of 1920 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 76, provided that the Justices of the Peace shall be entitled to receive \$3 daily for their attendance at the meetings of the Quarterly County Court, plus the mileage allowed under the law.
- 13. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 338, stated that the Justices of the Peace in Obion County would be paid \$8 per day for attendance at the meetings of the Quarterly County Court and mileage at the rate of five cents per mile if they lived more than five miles from the court house. Mileage payments were limited to two days per term. This act was never presented to the Court for their approval or rejection and consequently never became effective under the Home Rule Amendment to the State Constitution.
- 14. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 18, authorized compensation of Justices of the Peace for Obion County of \$60 per year, payable in equal quarterly installments.

County Register

The following acts once affected the office of county register in Obion County, but are no longer operative. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- Acts of 1913, Chapter 3, authorized the County Register in Obion County to appoint two or more, Deputy Registers, and declared that unmarried females over 21 years of age were eligible for appointment to the positions while they were single with all the rights, duties, and privileges enjoyed by other Deputy Registers. If the female appointee should marry, she would forfeit her office immediately and be disqualified from performing any of her official duties.
- 2. Private Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 2, mentions Registrars in the text, but obviously intends the Act to relate to Registers. This Act allows the appointment of a Deputy Register who, upon making bond, would be authorized and empowered to do and perform all duties imposed upon the Register. The salary specified was \$900 annually, payable out of the excess fees of the Register's office, but, should the fees be insufficient to pay that amount, the County was charged to make up the difference in the pay.
- 3. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 779, declared that the Registers of Deeds in Obion County were not entitled to receive any more for their services than \$2500, during any one year of their term

which would be payable out of the fees of that office but this Act was not to be construed as modifying in any manner the terms of Section 10728 through 10747, Tennessee Code. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 81.

County Trustee

The following act once affected the office of county trustee in Obion County, but is no longer operative. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 783, stated that the Trustee of Obion County would not be entitled to receive more than \$3,500 annual compensation during any one year of his term; the same to be paid out of the fees of the office, and this act was not to be construed as modifying Sections 10728 to 10747 of the Tennessee Code, and was not to interfere with any compensation due the Trustee for special services such as Receiver or Trustee. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 81.

Obion and Forked Deer River - Flood Control and Drainage Improvements

The following acts, which were not codified, once affected flood control and drainage improvements in the Obion and Forked Deer River basin, and are included herein for historical purposes.

- 1. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 807, added a new section to Public Acts of 1959, Chapter 129, providing the department of agriculture with concurrent authority and responsibility for maintenance of completed channel improvements for the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers. This act was repealed twice, first by Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 38, and again when the 1973 act was repealed by Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415.
- Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 38, amended Public Acts of 1959, Chapter 129, and Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 149, to transfer the authority and responsibility for the flood control and drainage improvements for the Obion and Forked Deer Rivers from the department of highways and public works to the department of agriculture. This act was repealed by Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 415.

Flood Control - Drainage

The acts listed below have been an integral part of this subject in the past years as related to Obion County but all have been superseded or repealed, so that they are no longer in effect.

- Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 247, authorized the Trustees of Weakley and Obion Counties to
 withdraw from the Trenton branch of the Bank of Tennessee the unexpended balance of the fund
 appropriated for the improvement of the Obion rivers within the limits of said counties. The
 County Court could expend these monies on the improvement or construction of roads, bridges,
 causeways or public buildings.
- Acts of 1911, Chapter 528, granted the consent and permission of the State to any reclamation, drainage, or improvement district to make any changes and alterations in the channels of Obion River and its tributaries in Obion County for the purpose of reclaiming the lowlands and lands subject to flooding.

General Reference

The following private or local acts constitute part of the administrative and political history of Obion County but are today no longer operative because they have either been superseded, repealed, or failed to receive local approval. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- Acts of 1823, Chapter 206, appointed Abram Maury, William Hall, James Fentress, and Benjamin Reynolds as Commissioners to select a site for the permanent seat of Justice in the Counties of Weakley, Gibson, McNairy, Dyer, Hardeman, Obion, Tipton, and Haywood, the said seat of justice to be as near the center of the County as possible, and authorizing fifty acres to be bought and deeded to the Commissioners on which the County seat was to be developed.
- 2. Acts of 1824, Chapter 32, appointed Robert Jetton as a Commissioner to take the place of Abram Maury and William Hall, named in Acts of 1823, Chapter 206, who declined to serve as Commissioners to establish the permanent County seat for several counties in West Tennessee, including Obion. Jetton would have and could exercise the same powers as those granted to the original commissioners.
- 3. Acts of 1824, Chapter 132, Section 3, averred that the Commissioners appointed by the Quarterly County Courts of Gibson, Dyer, Hardeman, Tipton, Fayette, Weakley, Obion, and McNairy counties to lay off and sell the lots in the various county towns, should have and exercise all the powers given to those charged with laying out the county town of Brownsville in Haywood County. The

- County town in Obion County would be named Troy.
- 4. Acts of 1827, Chapter 12, set up a Treasury Department for the Western District which would include the Counties of Shelby, Fayette, Hardeman, McNairy, Hardin, Perry, Henderson, Carroll, Henry, Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Tipton, Madison, Haywood, and Gibson. The Treasurer for the Western District would be appointed by both Houses of the General Assembly and have an office in Jackson in Madison County to which the tax money collected in the above referenced Counties would be brought instead of being taken to Nashville.
- 5. Acts of 1832 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 14, authorized the Counties of Henry, Carroll, Gibson, Weakley, Obion, and Dyer at any meeting of their respective Quarterly Courts to appoint a Board of Commissioners of Internal Improvement for their Counties.
- 6. Acts of 1833, Chapter 34, established the Planters Bank of Tennessee at Nashville. In Obion County stock subscriptions would be taken in the City of Troy, and the Supervisors named in the Act were Benjamin Totten, James H. Davis, Andrew Harris, and John B. Hubbard.
- 7. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 229, named Henry J. P. Westbrook, James Harper, James M. Hunter, who were all residents of Obion County, and others, who were named, from Weakley County, Gibson County, Dyer County, and Carroll County, all of whom were to compose a Board of Internal Improvement for their combined Counties to improve navigation on the Obion River. The Board would receive a portion of the proceeds of a \$100,000 state bond issue.
- 8. Acts of 1842 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 4, appointed various Commissioners to oversee the improvements being made on several West Tennessee rivers. Hiram Partee, Alfred Gardner, Abner Boyd, George W. Merriwether, and Joseph T. Dudley, were appointed a Board of Commissioners to superintend the improvement of navigation on the Obion River.
- 9. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 130, Section 9, made it the duty and responsibility of the Board of Commissioners for the improvement of the navigation on the Obion River to examine the lock built by M. L. Lockridge on the north fork of the Obion River, and to draw a check in the amount of \$200 on the State Bank at Trenton for the compensation of Lockridge, if the lock is satisfactory.
- 10. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 192, provided that the Counties of Obion and Henderson would each have a Director in the Branch of the Bank of Tennessee located at Trenton in Gibson County.
- 11. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 173, repealed all laws declaring the Rutherford's fork of Obion River to be navigable above A. Keatley's mill and which required Keatley and other owning mills above that point to keep in good repair all the locks and dams situated in the river.
- 12. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 168, Section 2, required the Secretary of State of Tennessee to furnish two additional copies of the Acts of the present session and of the Tennessee Revised Code to Obion County.
- 13. Acts of 1866-67, Resolution No. 73, stated that certain murders and outrages had been committed in Obion County believed to be an attempt to drive out the "Radical Union Men" of the County. This resolution directed that a special committee be appointed to investigate and report back to the General Assembly.
- 14. Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 51, required that the Revenue Collector of Obion County should also make his report for the non-payment of taxes to the Circuit Court Clerk at Troy.
- 15. Acts of 1889, Chapter 3, stated that the county seat of Obion County could be removed from Troy to Union City, provided that a majority of the people vote affirmatively for the move.
- 16. Acts of 1897, Chapter 124, set the salary for county officials according to the population of the County in which they held office. All officials would be deprived of their fees which would be paid over to the County and a sworn, itemized statement must be filed with the County Judge, or chairman, each month accounting for the fees collected in the office. This Act was declared unconstitutional in Weaver v. Davidson County, 104 Tn. 315, 59 S.W. 1105 (1900).
- 17. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 53, was the authority for the Quarterly County Court of Obion County to adopt a Resolution to contract with the Bank making the highest and best bid to pay interest on the monthly balances on deposit therein, said bid to be contained in a sealed envelope only to be opened in open Court. The County Trustee was then authorized to deposit County funds therein.
- 18. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 453, permitted the Quarterly County Court of Obion County to provide for an audit of the books and accounts of the various county officials entrusted with County funds. The Court must appoint from among its members a three man finance committee who would audit the said books in July and August, 1918, and every two years thereafter. The committee could employ an expert accountant to audit the books of the officials, and, should

- anyone come up short, he and his bondsman would pay the expense of the audit.
- 19. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 454, amended Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 53, Section 6, by requiring the Trustee to credit the County general fund with any interest earned on the deposit of County funds in the Bank, rather than credit it to the fund specifically on deposit.
- 20. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 103, provided that the Quarterly County Court of Obion County could borrow money evidenced by the time warrants of the County, with legal interest, signed by the County Judge, or the Chairman, and the County Court Clerk, to pay any current indebtedness, or expenses when the County funds in the treasury were not sufficient to meet and pay the same. The warrants would be made due and payable out of tax funds. This Act was tested in the Courts and found to be Constitutional, in the case of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis R.R. v Obion County, 162 Tenn. 604, 39 SW2d 747 (1931).
- 21. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 161, provided for the salary of each member of the County Board of Equalizers in Obion County to be \$4 per day but not for more than 15 days in any year. This was repealed by Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 81.
- 22. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 260, was the authority for Obion County to expend up to \$60,000 of the funds received from the Department of Highways and Public Works under the State Reimbursement Act which would be used to remodel and repair the County Court house. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 107.
- 23. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 348, erased all the disabilities of infancy from Miss Ruth Lynn Hassell, of Obion County, which action would allow her to conduct business as an adult, to execute warranty deeds and deeds of trust and to receive all moneys which may be due her in Probate Court.
- 24. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 335, removed all the disabilities of his minority from Marvin D. Miller, son of D. M. Miller.
- 25. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 363, made an adult in a legal sense out of Joseph A. Wood, of Obion County, by removing the infirmities of his minority thus rendering him competent and legally responsible for all the actions taken in business and personal transactions.
- 26. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 144, authorized the County Judge of Obion County to appoint a Committee of four citizens to administer and control the Tom Stewart Airport in the County. The County Judge would chair the Committee whose appointed members would serve ten years. Any vacancy occurring would be filled by the County Judge. Among the powers vested in the Committee were the authority to supervise and manage the Airport, to lease to the United States Government, or to any Agency thereof, or to any other person, firm, or corporation, upon such terms as may be agreed upon, all the buildings, lands, or improvements located on the Airport. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 400.
- 27. Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 100, provided that any person building a new structure or remodeling an existing one in Obion County was required to obtain a building permit which would be issued by the Tax Assessor without a charge. Violators could be fined \$10. This Act was rejected by the Quarterly Court of Obion County and never became an effective law.

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