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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 16 September 2026

SUBJECT: Commission and Staff Update

Commission Update

Please join me in thanking Representative John Crawford, whose terms end in November, for his service on the commission and to the people of Tennessee. He has been a great supporter of the commission and its work and will be greatly missed.

Also, please join me in congratulating Calvin Clifton on his election to the Kingsport Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Unfortunately, our enabling statute restricts elected officials from serving as private citizen representatives on the commission, so we will also be wishing Calvin a fond farewell and thanking him for service.

Finally, I am happy to welcome our newest members, Mayor John Gentry of McMinn County, Mayor Allen Foster of Cumberland County, and a returning former member, Mayor Buddy Bradshaw of Loudon County.

Staff Update

Please join me in recognizing two staff milestones; Director of Policy Matt Owen recently graduated from the state's prestigious Tennessee Government Executive Institute, and Research Manager Mike Strickland has achieved five years of service with the State of Tennessee.