



## SPORTS

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# Southern



# Standard

## Martin launches verbal attacks in meeting

Commissioner hurls profanities at fellow representative, reporter

BY **LISA HOBBS**  
Reporter for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Commissioner Michael Martin lashed out with profanity during a Warren County committee meeting on Tuesday. Verbal expletives were made in the direction of Commissioner

Blaine Wilcher and the *Southern Standard* reporter covering the meeting.

Martin also tossed Animal Control director Kim Pettrey from the room, threatening to have her removed from the building by a deputy.

The incidents happened during a county Health and

“Y’all dog lovers. All y’all care about is a dog. When I bring up something, you’re negative.”

**MICHAEL MARTIN**



Welfare Committee meeting to review monthly reports from three county departments, including Animal Control.

Pettrey presented her department’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2018-19. That conversation brought on the first heated

exchange with Martin.

“I wanted to go over my budget,” she said.

She, with assistance from Wilcher, proposed a budget that would provide the department with a full-time employee by reducing the hours of part-time employee Deitra Kester from 29 hours to 20 and increasing the hours of part-time employee Brandi Bouldin to full time.

Continued on **2A**



Lacy Garrison photos

**A flat-bed truck driven by McMinnville resident Braxton R. Moody came to rest on its roof after a Thursday wreck atop Harrison Ferry Mountain.**

## Teen airlifted after side-swiping semi

BY **JAMES CLARK**  
Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

A McMinnville teen was airlifted Thursday after the vehicle he was driving reportedly crossed the center line and side-swiped a tractor trailer.

Braxton R. Moody, 19, was airlifted to Erlanger Medical Center from the scene of the wreck on Highway 8 atop Harrison Ferry Mountain. It occurred near Wash Roberts Road.

His passenger, McMinnville resident Noah L. Pedigo, 18, was transported to Saint Thomas River Park Hospital. The driver of the semi, Michael W. Scates, 41, of Sale Creek was not injured.

According to the Tennessee Highway Patrol, the accident took place around 4:20 p.m. Thursday. The Moody

vehicle was traveling on Highway 8 toward McMinnville when it began to drift across the center line.

“The truck driver saw him coming and tried to move over and get out of the way,” said state trooper Billy Prater. “He moved over to the emergency lane but it was not enough.”

Prater said the collision between the two vehicles was a side-swipe, but the impact was enough to send the Moody vehicle onto its roof. It landed on a guardrail. Family members gathered to pray with first-responders as the Life Force helicopter landed near the wreckage.

“There’s no evidence of any drugs or alcohol so it looks like the driver either fell asleep or was distracted,” said Prater. “It’s still under investigation but that’s what it looks like.”



**A group takes a moment to pray after a helicopter lands atop Harrison Ferry Mountain to airlift Braxton Moody.**

## City to open search for administrator

Job requirements to be adjusted

BY **LISA HOBBS**  
Reporter for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

A temporary position will be coming to an end for city administrator Bill Brock. However, it appears he will be given a chance to hold the job permanently.

McMinnville’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted 5-2 on Tuesday night to begin the search for a city administrator. Following that measure, members unanimously voted on first read to change city code to allow work experience or a college degree.

“Four years ago, the board allowed me to be acting city administrator,” said Brock. “Now they want to move to a permanent city administrator and the current board is willing to allow work experience to be added to the job description which will give me the opportunity to apply. So, yes, I will be applying.”

Mayor Jimmy Haley, Vice Mayor Ben Newman, and Aldermen Ryle Chastain, Kate Alsbrook and Steve Harvey voted in favor of beginning a hiring process. Aldermen Everett Brock and Mike Neal voted against it.

Brock, appointed interim city administrator by the board in August 2014, does not meet the college degree qualifications to be a candi-

date for the position. City code was changed so he could be appointed on an interim basis.

Chastain was among the majority of the board who voiced approval for Brock’s service and a desire to change city code so Brock could apply for the position permanently.

“I don’t know if there’s a person in this room that knows more about the functions and the goings on in the city as Bill,” said Chastain. “He should be allowed to apply for the position if he chooses.”

Harvey stated, “I agree with Ryle. I’m OK with changing the qualifications and having him be a candidate for the job.”

The measure to begin the hiring process required only one passing vote.

However, altering city code requires an ordinance and two passing readings before the change can be made. The next regular session is June 26.

Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) will facilitate the hiring process for the city. It will accept resumes, narrow the field of candidates to only those qualified, and act as a moderator during the interview process. However, city officials will make the final decision on whom to hire.

The position will be advertised once a final decision has been made on qualifications.



**BROCK**

## Craven injured in Yager Road crash

BY **EMMA HOLMES**  
Southern Standard intern  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

A local resident was injured Wednesday afternoon when her vehicle left the road, went airborne, hit a utility pole, and struck a magnolia tree.

Casey Craven, 32, stated to witnesses and McMinnville Police Department officers the wreck was a result of falling asleep at the wheel.

She was traveling outbound on Yager Road in a white Ford Fusion in the area of Union Hill Road.

Darlene Reed, a witness at the scene, saw the accident unfold.

“I walked outside and the next thing I knew a car hit the ditch then hit the concrete culvert,” said Reed. “That made her car flip three times. After the third time, she hit the tree and that threw her car airborne into the utility pole, flipping one more

time. She landed right-side up, and I screamed for someone to call 911 when she crawled out of the driver-side door. She started to walk around until she sat down by her car on the ground.”

Craven was examined by EMS personnel at the scene. After examining her injuries, the decision was made not to call life flight. She was transported by ambulance to Saint Thomas River Park Hospital.



Lisa Hobbs photo

**Drowsy driving is being blamed for a single-vehicle crash that injured local resident Casey Craven on Wednesday. Witnesses say she crawled from the wreckage after her car flipped several times.**

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