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Jim Haslam authors memoir on leadership lessons, learning and luck

Pilot Company Founder James "Jim" Haslam II has written "Co-Piloting: Luck, Leadership, and Learning That's All About Others," a book that takes readers inside the journey from owning a single gas station in Gata City, Virginia, to starting one of the largest privately owned companies in the United States.

"This book is written to hopefully inspire people to embrace life," Haslam said. "Hold firmly onto the values you set as the foundation of your life and stay true to them, remembering that life

is not a spectator sport."

The story of the Haslam family and Pilot Company offers an encouraging, engaging and entertaining perspective on family, faith and the discovery of what really matters the most in life. Friends and family offer stories and insights, including contributions from Natalie Haslam, his wife and community philanthropist, Peyton Manning, former University of Tennessee and NFL quarterback; Philip Fulmer, former UT head football coach and now director of athletics at UT; Rick Barnes,

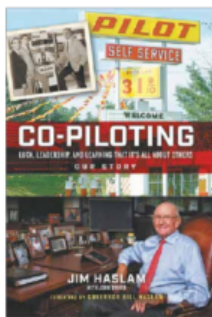
head basketball coach at UT; Lamar Alexander, a U.S. senator and former UT president; Jimmy Haslam, oldest son and CEO of Pilot Company; Bill Haslam, youngest son and former mayor of Knoxville and governor of Tennessee; Ann Haslam Bailey, daughter and vice president of the Haslam Family Foundation; and Lee Scott, former CEO of Walmart.

"I am a little biased, but I think the story before you is unique, inspirational, and often hilarious," Bill Haslam wrote. "You should also know that it has been written

against the will of its author. You don't see that every day, I know. But then again, you don't meet many people like my dad every day."

Haslam, a military veteran who served in the U.S. Army, is the founder and chairman of the board of Pilot Company, which is headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee. Founded in 1958, the company has remained a family business with Jimmy Haslam serving as CEO for the last 25 years and several other members involved, including Bill Haslam serving on

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Eddie Mannis is confirmed by state Republican Party

By Mike Steely
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Eddie Mannis had a rocky road to the Republican nomination to represent District 18 in the Tennessee State House. Last Wednesday the Republican Party of Tennessee voted 43-18 to accept the August primary election results of Mannis defeating Gina Oster by 99 votes.

Mannis said he was "grateful for the confidence that the 43 members had in me."

Mannis has been attacked publicly since announcing his candidacy by Knoxville Republican Chairman Randy Pace and others questioning Mannis' voting history and his donations to some Democrat

office seekers. Pace spoke at the August Republican Victory Rally the evening of the primary, blasting the results and calling out Mannis.

Oster pleaded with the state party to accept her as the nominee because she said Mannis actively sought Democrat voters in the Republican Primary.

Mannis replied to Oster's accusations through his attorney, Billy Stokes, who stated, "At no point during his campaign did his campaign directly solicit Democrat voters to cross over."

Mannis will face Democrat Virginia Couch in November's general election. The winner will replace retiring Representative Martin Daniels.

COUNTY OFFICIALS TAKE OATH



New Knoxville County Law Director David Busck takes the oath of office as his mother, Dorothy Busck, holds the Bible and his predecessor, Bud Armstrong, looks on at the installation ceremony held at the Tennessee Theatre on Tuesday morning. Seven county commissioners, four school board members, the criminal court judge, public defender and property assessor also took oaths to serve Knoxville County that morning.

Jay and Schoonmaker named chair and vice chair of Knox Commission

By Mike Steely
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Knox County's rural commissioners and the two new Democrats on the body came together Tuesday during the reorganization special session to elect Commissioner Larsen Jay as the new chairman.

Lots of behind the scenes campaigning went on before the four new commissioners were sworn to office earlier that Tuesday morning. Jay was nominated by new District 1 Commissioner Dasha Lundy and new District 4 Commissioner Kyle Ward nominated Randy Smith.

The 4 p.m. reorganization meetings saw Jay get the six votes needed from Commissioners Lundy, Courtney Durrett, Carson Dailey, Larsen Jay, Charles Busler and Richie Beeler. Beeler, who was home with COVID-19, attended via Zoom.

Voting for Smith were Commissioners Smith, Ward, John Schoonmaker, Terry Hill and Justin Biggs.

Chairman Jay said it will be difficult "filling the big shoes" of outgoing Chairman Hugh Nystrom, who chose not to seek re-election.

Following Jay's election as chair he took the seat and called for nominations for vice chair.

District 2 Commissioner Durrett nominated Schoonmaker, Jay nominated Dailey, and Lundy nominated Smith. Smith pulled out in favor of Schoonmaker, who went on to receive seven votes with Jay and Dailey voting for Dailey and Busler and Beeler passing. Dailey and Jay then joined in supporting Schoonmaker, giving him nine votes.

The commission, with direction from newly elected Knoxville County Law Director David Busck, then proceeded to fill in all the vacancies in various county committees.

Chosen to chair the Rules Committee and Insolvency Board was Charles Busler. Dailey will chair the Court Committee; Schoonmaker

heads the Legislative Committee and Beeler will chair the Cable TV Committee. Smith was chosen to lead the Finance Committee.

Other assignments included Biggs to the Development Corporation, Ward to the Investment Committee, and Schoonmaker and Beeler to the Audit Committee. Dailey will serve on the UT Arena Use Committee, Jay on the Agricultural Committee, Beeler on the Public Records Commission, Durrett on the Insurance Benefits Committee and Kyle Ward on the Three Ridges Golf Board.

Additional committee and commission positions may be assigned in the new commission's first full meeting or work session this month. Commissioner Smith suggested a "mock meeting" of the commission for returning and new members and the idea was also applauded by Chairman Jay.

"The new chair would enjoy that also," Jay said.

Horn re-appointed as chair of KCS Board of Education

By Ken Lay

The Knoxville County Board of Education had a relatively short work session Wednesday night. That was preceded by a called meeting to reorganize the board for the 2020-2021 school year.

In the called meeting, current board chairperson Susan Horn was chosen to serve for a second year. Vice Chair Virginia Babb will also continue her role for a second consecutive school year.

Wednesday was also the first meeting for new District 3 member Daniel Watson, who replaces Tony Norman.

The board will be one member short until the November election as Terry Hill resigned on Aug. 31 to serve District 6 on the Knoxville Commission. Horn said that she was honored to be selected to

serve as the board's chair for a second straight academic year.

"I have enjoyed my time as chair and I guess continuity is always a good thing, especially in uncertain times like this," she said.

She and Babb were both re-appointed unanimously.

Following that brief meeting, the work session ensued at the Andrew Johnson Building. Knox County Schools Superintendent Bob Thomas announced an incentive plan for substitute teachers whose services may be needed if teachers are forced to quarantine.

KCS is looking to hire between 20-25 full-time district-wide subs. If those substitutes work 10-14 days a month, they will earn an extra \$300. If they work an additional 35

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