

# MCCH board chooses Haigler to be next CEO

BY JESSICA PAINE, THE MURRAY SENTINEL | SPECIAL TO THE SUN

MURRAY — After whittling a pool of more than 150 candidates over the last four months, the Murray-Calloway County Hospital Board of Trustees unanimously selected Tonda Haigler to be the hospital's next CEO after current CEO Jerry Penner retires at the end of March.

With one item on the agenda, trustees wasted no time getting down to business. From start to finish, the meeting lasted three and a half minutes. Upon calling the meeting to order, Search Committee Chair Amy Futrell took the floor.

"As you all know, the search for a CEO for our organization has been a long road," she said. "We took this entire process very seriously as we know, as a board, this is the biggest decision that we will make. We have had applicants from all over the nation, and through a tedious process, we narrowed those 150+ applications down to a top five, four of which made site visits. We brought them on site to interview with the full board, the VPs, the directors, the medical providers and the community as a whole.

"We feel that all these candidates were very qualified, and (we had) a strong group to choose from. After the four site visits, we, as a board, read every comment, whether they were verbal or in writing. We studied those. We met

**"They picked an absolutely excellent candidate to be my successor, no question about that. Ms. Tonda Haigler is extremely well trained. She's been a COO at very large organizations back-to-back-to-back. She has worked both rural and metropolitan facilities before, so she's well versed; also, not-for-profit and for-profit, so she's going to leave a level of expertise from the corporate world as well as a not-for-profit world that I think will be invaluable to the organization going forward."**

— Jerry Penner

and discussed those comments and what we, as a board, are looking for in our next CEO, as far as qualities and characteristics.

"The process and decision has been prayed over. It's been discussed. It's been deliberated very thoroughly and carefully. Saying all of that, as the chair of the Search Committee, I respectfully submit Tonda Haigler to be voted on as the next CEO of the Murray-Calloway County Hospital; and if this vote is a success, then I recommend we offer her a contract immediately."

Futrell made the motion, which was seconded by Vice Chair Summer Cross and followed by a roll-call vote. All of the current trustees participated — Futrell, Cross, Mayor Bob Rogers, Calloway County Judge-Executive Kenny Imes, Board Chair Steve Owens, Marti Erwin, Shawn Reynolds and Joetta

Kelly attended in person; Dan Renick attended via Zoom. Gale Sharp, who was appointed to the board at the last city council meeting to fill the seat left by Jane Bright, was not present.

"The board really worked hard on this," Penner said after the meeting. "This was a very difficult decision — to replace somebody who's been here for 14 years. I think they did a nice job outlining all of the things they were looking for today as well as what they're looking for in a CEO for tomorrow.

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ADAM STUMP | The Sun

The Federal Trade Commission is taking action against Evolv for false claims about that its AI-powered security screening system can detect weapons and not pick up harmless, personal items.



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Evolv weapon detection system pictured inside a Marshall County school.

## FTC targets security system company over misleading claims

### Marshall County Schools may be impacted

BY TAYLOR BRYAN, ADAM STUMP  
MARSHALL COUNTY, Ky. — The federal government is cracking down on a security system used in schools nationwide — including in western Kentucky.

The Federal Trade Commission announced it is taking action against Evolv Technologies.

It stems from allegations the company made false claims about how well its AI-powered security screening system can detect weapons and not pick up harmless, personal items.

Marshall County Schools uses the Evolv security system. The district experienced

a shooting in 2018 at Marshall County High School and implemented the Evolv system last year.

After contacting the district today to see what their next steps are, Superintendent Bill Thorpe emailed us back, saying he passed along the request and the "FTC's stipulated order for permanent injunction and other relief" to Marty

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