

**HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on November 16, 2021, at the Henry County 4-H Building in New Castle, Kentucky, with the following in attendance:

John L. Brent, Judge/Executive
Virginia Harrod, County Attorney
Esquire Scott Bates
Esquire Jerry Beasley
Esquire Mike Fisher
Esquire Roger Hartlage
Esquire Chuck Smith
Esquire Jason Stanley

RE: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judge/Executive John L. Brent led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

RE: PRAYER & PREPARATION

Silent prayer was observed in preparation for the meeting.

RE: CALL TO ORDER

Judge Brent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that all magistrates were in attendance.

RE: APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19TH REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Beasley and second by Esq. Bates, it is ordered by the Court to approve the minutes from the October 19th Regular Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Judge Brent stated there were no items of unfinished business from the previous meeting.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: ROADS

1. Supervisor's Report

Road Supervisor Kenny Tindle reported that his crew is working on readying snow equipment, bushwhacking, and installing road signs. They will start grading roadways on Monday if the weather permits. He stated that 9 signs have already been stolen since last weekend. He asked for help if anyone sees this in progress so that it can be stopped. He would like to prosecute the thieves since each sign installation costs the County \$150. Esq. Hartlage stated that the new drain pipe on Blakemore Lane looks good.

2. Road Committee Report - Esq. Beasley

Esq. Beasley stated that the Committee met for the bid opening for the Longbranch Road bridge project. There was only one bid from Firm Foundation Construction, which is a renamed company who has previously completed bridge work for the County.

3. Longbranch Road Bridge Bid Award

Judge Brent informed the Court that the Committee was authorized to select the winning bid. They have been notified, and work is scheduled to begin in December. Esq. Bates reminded everyone that contract states the concrete cannot be poured when temperatures are below freezing so this timing could affect the progress.

RE: EMS TAXING DISTRICT REPORT

1. EMS Board Report - Esq. Smith

Esq. Smith reported that he was unable to attend the meeting, and Esq. Bates informed the Court that operations were going well. Baptist Health LaGrange has put extra money into payroll until sometime in February and remain staffed.

RE: AMBULANCE BID AWARD

Judge Brent stated that the Court voted to spend some of the ARPA funds for the purchase of an ambulance which would then be leased to the EMS Taxing District. The bid opening was held at 4 p.m. today with one proposal submitted. Esq. Smith reported that the sole bid was from Crossroads Ambulance Sales and Service, LLC, for the total of \$158,905. The ambulance is a 2022 Ford F-450 4x4 chassis with a 6.7-liter diesel engine. The bid meets all the specs, and the price includes lettering and delivery by January 31, 2022.

Upon motion by Esq. Smith and second by Esq. Bates, it is ordered to approve the purchase of an ambulance from Crossroads Ambulance Sales and Service, LLC, for \$158,905.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: P & Z/SOLID WASTE

1. Update

P & Z Administrator Amanda Ricketts reported that 12 building permits and 14 electrical permits have been issued. The P & Z Commission approved a subdivision on Hwy. 55 and Beasley Lane for a nine 5-acre lot development. The Board of Adjustments is not scheduled for a November meeting.

The annual county-wide trash pickup was very successful. Two dumpsters were filled with the trash collected from 156 miles of roadways cleaned by 365 participants on 37 different teams/organizations. At the fairgrounds, 1 dumpster was filled with scrap metal and 1 with household items for recycling. Special thanks to Rumpke for supplying 2 dumpsters and Driveway Dumpsters for the donation of 3 dumpsters and disposal. Ms. Ricketts acknowledged Esq. Beasley and Kenny Tindle who operated the skid loader for compacting the materials and Ed Nelson, Steve Heffley, and Mike Sawalich who received and recorded all the trash.

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

Travis Buchanan, Parks & Fairgrounds Supervisor, reported that Trail or Treat was held with approximately 1,100 kids and many additional parents and grandparents. They have winterized all the parks and fairgrounds with the exception of the front restrooms at the new park which are left open with low heat for use by park patrons.

RE: COURTHOUSE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Buchanan stated that the Courthouse operations are going well. They continue to wait for the benches for the upstairs courtroom. The open house will be held on December 20 at 2 p.m. Judge Brent encouraged everyone to attend and take the opportunity to tour the beautiful building that should make everyone proud.

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Report

Director of Animal Services, Dan Flinkfelt, reported that the Shelter is exceptionally busy with persons surrendering animals and rescue services already at capacity. The annual Santa Paws event will be held at the fairgrounds on December 4 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. and will include an adoption fair and fund raiser. All funds raised by the Betsy Jackson Memorial organization pay for vet services for animals at the Henry Trimble Animal Shelter. Donations from these fund-

raisers, Pet Sense in Madison, and other benefactors have furnished all the needed pet food for the past 5 years.

2. Committee Report – Esq. Fisher

The Animal Services Committee did not meet.

RE: SHERIFF'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sheriff Keith Perry reported the following activities for the month of October: 319 KSP dispatch calls, 192 Sheriff's office calls, 136 citations/criminal summons, 59 criminal arrests, 44 warrant arrests, 214 court processes, 1 MIW transport, 1 special event/detail, 49 vehicle inspections, 19 carry conceal licenses, 1 DUI arrest, and 27 drug charge arrests.

RE: SHERIFF'S 2022 BUDGET – 1ST READING

Sheriff Perry presented the proposed budget for his office for 2022. He cited estimated receipts at \$807,083.88 and disbursements at \$805,796.24 with excess fees of \$1,287.64.

Judge Brent explained that the Budget Committee would meet individually with the County Clerk and Sheriff to review proposed budgets prior to the 2nd Readings scheduled to be held at the December meeting.

Upon motion by Esq. Bates and second by Esq. Beasley, it is ordered to approve the 1st Reading of the 2022 Sheriff's Office budget.

RE: CLERK'S 2022 BUDGET – 1ST READING

County Clerk Shanda Archer presented the proposed budget for her office for 2022. She estimates receipts at \$3,589,888 and disbursements of \$3,514,905 with excess fees projected at \$74,983.

Upon motion by Esq. Beasley and second by Esq. Smith, it is ordered to approve the 1st Reading of the 2022 County Clerk's budget.

Judge Brent asked County Clerk Archer if she could explain the current status of voting machine requirements and the unfunded mandate from the Kentucky Legislature for new machines by 2023. She stated that the expense of replacing the current machines with the required ones with paper trail capability for 20 voting precincts is \$219,000. The State will provide only \$44,000 to defray these costs. She has worked to consolidate the polls into 9 voting areas; although this may prove unpopular with some citizens, the opportunities to vote will include 3 early days, mail-in ballots, and election day at these sites. Clerk Archer feels that she is responsible for the expenditure of tax funds and this change is necessary. She anticipates setting aside funds from the next 2 years and will pursue any possible grant opportunities.

RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT TITLE DISCUSSION

Henry County Attorney Virginia Harrod explained that she is unable to certify a clear title for the purchase of the Sheriff's office from the Henry County Health Department. In 1985, the attorney failed to include information about the marital status of the sellers of the property to the Health Department. The man has signed an affidavit that he was single at that time and therefore had no spouse who had any legal claim to the property. His ex-wife has not been located so there is no way to determine if there could be heirs that would have an interest in the property. Although it has been 36 years with no evidence of any party with a claim, it is possible that a spouse could come forward. The Court discussed the pending purchase without a clear title and agreed that additional efforts should be made to locate the woman and get a certified title before proceeding.

Upon motion by Esq. Smith and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered by the Court to postpone the question of finalizing the purchase of the Sheriff's Office from the Henry County Health Department until December.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

Upon motion by Esq. Beasley and second by Esq. Bates, it is ordered to approve the following claims and transfers:

General Fund	\$171,211.55
Road & Bridge Fund	51,001.42
Jail Fund	43,732.84
LGEA	338.27
CARES Act	0.00
Litter	819.03
911 Fund	44.54
ABC	5,796.89
Fair Fund	<u>1,490.00</u>
	\$274,434.54

<u>From:</u> 014909	\$175,000.00
<u>To:</u> 034910	\$175,000.00

<u>From:</u> 014909	\$9,950.00
<u>To:</u> 804910	\$9,950.00

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Brent opened the floor for public comments.

Ricky Doyle asked that the Director of the North Central District Health Department be contacted to notify her of the issue with the title for the old Henry County Health Department building which currently houses the Sheriff's Office.

Steve Warnersmith expressed his dissatisfaction with what he called the blighted condition of some businesses in his area and his desire for gravel roads to be paved based on the number of residents served by them.

County Clerk Shanda Archer stated that she is happy to see people excited about the upcoming election. She encouraged individuals to access their voter registrations via govote.ky.gov. Voters can check and update their registration information including addresses which may not be current, register to vote, switch party affiliation, and check polling locations. The deadline for changes for 2022 is December 31, 2021.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

Esq. Bates, Chair of the Budget Committee, scheduled the budget reviews for the Clerk's and Sheriff's Offices for Tuesday, December 7. They will meet with County Clerk Archer at 5 p.m. and Sheriff Perry and 5:30 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Esq. Bates and second by Esq. Beasley, it is ordered by the Court to adjourn and each Magistrate, the Judge/Executive, and the County Attorney shall receive a typed copy of these Minutes prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

S/ Denise Perry
DENISE PERRY
FISCAL COURT CLERK

S/ John L. Brent
JOHN L. BRENT
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **December 21, 2021**