

**HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 18, 2023**

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on April 18, 2023, at the Henry County 4-H Building in New Castle, Kentucky, with the following in attendance:

Scott Bates, Judge/Executive
Kassidy Dees, County Attorney
Esquire Brad Fisher
Esquire Ed Frederick
Esquire Roger Hartlage
Esquire Kevin McManis
Esquire Danny Shain
Esquire Carl Tingle

RE: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judge Bates led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

RE: PRAYER & PREPARATION

Judge Bates introduced Sr. Pastor Mike Fitzgerald of the Daybreak Baptist Church for prayer at tonight's meeting.

RE: CALL TO ORDER

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

RE: APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 21, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Shain, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2023, regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Judge Bates stated there was no unfinished business.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: ROADS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Road Supervisor Kenny Tindle reported that he and Judge Bates had met with a gentleman from Frankfort about New Cut Road. Although we may not get what we want, we will hopefully get something around \$100,000. Hinkle Construction was paid \$569,000 for the work on the slipped spots, and we have reached out to them to see if they will help us stretch this \$100,000 as a warranty since the work has not held.

The County has also received notice that the weight limit on the bridge on Carpenter Lane has been dropped to 3 tons. We can access 80/20 funds from Frankfort once per year, and this bridge must be addressed since it is used by safety equipment and school buses which would exceed the limit. Mr. Tindle stated that the 20 percent cost to the County will be \$40,000 to \$45,000. He recommends that we use a steel deck so that rising water will go through the mesh and not move it out of position.

The Department has completed a job at Gestville Circle, road shouldering in Lockport, routine maintenance, bushwhacking, and piping.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the County's application for an 80/20 grant for replacement of the Carpenter Lane Bridge.

Motion carried unanimously

2. Road Committee Report

Esq. Fisher reported that the Committee met last Friday and discussed doing better maintenance of the equipment. The County has been able to get rid of the junk trucks and equipment that were advertised online. The Committee is considering the rental of a track hoe for work during the summer. They will continue to look at roads that need work. Esq. Fisher thanked the road crew for their clean up during the wind storms in March.

3. County Road Aid Cooperative Road Aid Agreement

Judge Bates read a resolution allowing him to sign an agreement with the Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, accepting the annual allocation of \$996,675.27 for the construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of County roads.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to approve the resolution authorizing Judge Bates to enter into the County Road Aid Cooperative Program Agreement for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously

4. Rural Secondary Program / Flex Funds Approval

Judge Bates announced that that he has received information regarding the 2023-24 Rural Secondary Program Flex Funds allocation. The notification from the Transportation Cabinet cites \$148,536.00 that can be used for State Rural Secondary Road projects or for County road projects, although he was told by the Department that we should receive approximately \$205,000. Fiscal Court is allowed to designate how these funds will be spent. Judge Bates read the resolution authorizing the County's acceptance of the Flex Funds and stated that this amount should resurface about 3 miles of roadway.

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to designate the 2023-24 Rural Secondary Program Flex Funds for County road projects.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: EMS TAXING DISTRICT

1. Taxing District Monthly Report

Esq. Frederick stated that the EMS Taxing District Board met last night and appointed a Budget Committee to review the budget for the upcoming year. There were 155 runs last month of which 61 did not want to be transported to the hospital. Our system is within the guidelines in relation to run times. The problem at this point is with the dispatch from KSP Post 5 which is short-handed and has dropped the ball on some runs. There appears to be a breakdown between the phone call and sending an ambulance. There was one complete failure to dispatch last month. KSP dispatches for 6 counties currently, and the others have concerns with the operations as well. Our system would like to look at Oldham or Carroll County to take charge of dispatching. Judge Bates stated that the charge for this quarter for dispatching is \$111,000 which is about double. He will continue to do some investigation to determine a possible switch and will know more after the budget is completed.

RE: PLANNING & ZONING

1. Administrator's Monthly Report

P & Z/Solid Waste Administrator Jason Stanley reported that 7 building and 12 electrical permits were issued during March. The Board of Adjustments will meet on April 24, 2023, and the next P & Z Commission meeting will convene on May 10, 2023. Both meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Henry County 4-H Building.

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Travis Buchanan was unable to attend the meeting.

2. Henry Co. Library and Extension Service Story Walk Project

Judge Bates presented a proposed collaborative effort between the Henry Co. Library and Henry County Extension Service to install a Story Walk at the new park. The project will include mounted frames that will contain an illustrated children's book displayed page by page along the walking trail. The changeable stories will encourage literacy and movement in the natural setting. The Eminence Rotary Club may get involved in the project as well.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to approve the installation of the StoryWalk installation at the John Logan Brent Park.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Monthly Report

Director Dan Flinkfelt reported that the Shelter operations are normal. He announced a grand re-opening of the Animal Shelter on May 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and invited everyone to attend. There will be food and activities for children. Mr. Flinkfelt stated that he is finalizing a grant from Walmart and expects to get up to \$5,000. They are epoxying the floor for safety and appearance and painting the Shelter. Volunteers are welcome to help with this project. The Eastern Elementary STLP group gathered supplies, and he visited the school to accept their donations. There are currently 9 dogs at the Shelter following some rescues with the Chicago folks over the weekend.

2. Animal Services Committee Report

Esq. Hartlage reported that the Animal Services Committee including the Trimble County magistrates and their full-time officer met. He stated again that Officer Flinkfelt needs a new vehicle that represents the County well. The phone service is not working well, and Trimble County is looking at a better option for the office. They need better equipment for the hot spot and video system operations.

RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Esq. Hartlage stated that the Economic Development Committee did not meet, but the Economic Development Council did. He requested that the group be allowed to use the newly designed logo on their business cards and other information.

Upon motion by Esq. Hartlage and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered to allow the Economic Development Council to use the new Henry County logo that depicts the Courthouse.

Motion carried unanimously

Esq. Hartlage reported that the Pendleton Sewer Project has \$2 million in ARPA funds allocated from the Fiscal Court and \$1 million committed from the Pilot stations. There is a grant opportunity through the Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KDPI) where counties can apply for up to \$2 million. It appears that some or all of these funds could be used for the required 50 percent match. The projected costs for the project from the engineer range from \$4.3 million for a lagoon system to \$6 - \$7 million to run a direct pipe to LaGrange Utilities. The lagoon system would take care of the Pendleton area and future expansion there, but the piped system would go through property suitable for additional development. We are awaiting assurance about the match, but feel certain we can meet the match. There are other options for the match including up-front funding from users who would recoup their funds from tap-on fees. The deadline for notice to the state is April 28 when a letter of intent is due, and the application can be submitted after that point.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to authorize Judge Bates to submit a letter of intent to apply for \$2 million from the KDPI for funding to support the Pendleton Sewer Project.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: SHERIFF'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sheriff Keith Perry reported the following activities for the month of March: 265 KSP dispatch calls, 153 Sheriff's office calls, 82 citations/criminal summons, 26 criminal arrests, 8 warrant arrests, 90 court processes, 3 MIW transports, 2 special events, 55 vehicle inspections, 24 carry conceal licenses, 2 DUI arrests, and 10 drug charge arrests.

RE: JAILER'S BUDGET FOR FY 2024

Judge Bates presented the Jailer's budget for next year showing expenses of \$673,675.00 for 2nd Reading. There have been no changes made since the 1st Reading.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the 2nd Reading of the Jailer's Budget for FY 2024.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: HENRY COUNTY 2023-24 BUDGET

Judge Bates announced that the draft 2023-24 Henry County Budget would be ready for 1st Reading next week. He proposed a special meeting for 3:30 p.m. on either April 23rd or 24th at which the budget will be reviewed line-by-line.

By general consent the magistrates agreed to meet at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2023, at the Judge/Executive's office in the Courthouse Annex to hold the 1st Reading of the 2023-24 Henry County Budget.

RE: COUNTY CLERK GRANT

County Clerk Shanda Archer informed the Court that last year for the primary election the County was required to purchase new voting equipment which cost \$143,000. We have been reimbursed \$50,000, but the good news is that we have been approved for \$96,533 under House Bill 1. Fiscal Court needs to agree to accept this additional reimbursement when it is received.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to approve the acceptance of the additional \$96,533 reimbursement from the State for voting equipment purchased in 2022.

Motion carried unanimously

Clerk Archer also stated that we were required to get E-Poll sign in pads during the last election. She is awaiting a reimbursement of \$43,000 that was expended for that equipment.

Mrs. Archer presented her 1st Quarter report for the County Clerk's Office which shows an increase of \$20,000 over last year as of March 31.

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to accept the Henry County Clerk's 1st Quarter Report.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Judge Bates stated that he was notified that the term of LeAnne Yancey on the Henry County Public Library Board of Trustees will expire on June 30.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to appoint Leanne Yancey to the Henry County Public Library Board of Trustees for an additional 4-year term.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

Upon motion by Esq. Hartlage and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to approve the following claim and transfer:

General Fund	\$ 82,300.63
Road & Bridge Fund	21,338.89
Jail Fund	30,765.81
LGEA	11,990.38
CARES Act	0.00
Litter	503.50
911 Fund	328.66
ABC	597.59
Fair Fund	79.60
Pendleton Sewer	0.00
Angel's Envy	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$147,905.06

<u>From:</u> 01 General	\$10,000.00
<u>To:</u> 80 Fair	\$10,000.00

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Bates opened the floor for public comments.

Kelly Dockter asked about the tax rates for the special taxing districts and if for the sake of transparency audit reports could be posted on the website. Judge Bates stated that tax rates are set in the fall. Kentucky requires State audits which are extremely delayed. Currently the auditors are reviewing records from FY 2020 and those will be posted when available.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

Esq. Hartlage commented that the work on HWY 146 is moving along and A & B Contracting appears to be doing a good job in making the road safer.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Shain, 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

DENISE PERRY
FISCAL COURT CLERK

SCOTT BATES
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **May 16, 2023**