

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

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on July 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 Bro. Kevin Kimes of the New Castle First Baptist Church for the evening's prayer.

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 JUNE 20, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Shain, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2023, regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 23, 2023, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. McManis and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2023, special 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 was unable to attend. Judge Bates stated that the crew is very busy mowing and weed eating and from what he has seen is doing a good job. The advertisement for the new hoop barn to store salt will be published soon. The in-house patching of County roads will commence when there is a break from the weather and so much roadway mowing needed.

2. Road Committee Report

Esq. Fisher reported that the Road Committee met discussing mowing and equipment. Everything is operating now, and in-house patching will begin when weather permits. They are looking to lease an excavator in September. The Road Committee will get together with Judge Bates and the staff to determine the placement for the salt storage barn. The Ford tractor may need to be replaced next year due to on-going issues.

Esq. Hartlage asked if asphalt would be re-laid where the work at Hollow Tree Road and Manor Drive was done. Additionally, there have been concerns raised about the end of Bates Lane where water is backing up at the culvert. Judge Bates responded that work will be completed at both locations including blacktopping the bridge and culvert area on Bates Lane.

Judge Bates stated that the Ky. Department of Transportation has notified him that they are ready to resurface HWY 421 from the Shelby County line back to the Pleasureville crossroads. Their process creates problems when they lay the "chip and seal" first for no more than 10 days and then come back with a "cape seal" which is a thin layer of blacktop applied over the base. The County has nothing to do with this project, but he anticipates that we will get numerous complaints.

RE: EMS TAXING DISTRICT

1. Taxing District Monthly Report

Esq. Frederick reported that last month Henry County EMS had 157 calls. There were 99 actual transports and 47 refusals. The chute time which records the time from the call until the ambulance is moving was 1 minute, 3 seconds. The run response time was 13 minutes, 13 seconds. Narcan was administered on 3 overdoses which were followed by transports. There were 3 back-up runs with 2 handled by Oldham County and Shelby County taking 1.

RE: PLANNING & ZONING

1. Administrator's Monthly Report

P & Z/Solid Waste Administrator Jason Stanley reported that 28 building and 28 electrical permits were issued during June. The Board of Adjustments will meet on July 24, and the P & Z Commission is scheduled to meet on August 9.

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Parks Director Toby Berry reported that the Buchanan Splash Pad was down for 10 days over July 4th. They were able to finally get the parts needed and Travis Buchanan got it repaired last Sunday. There is church league softball now at Harry Hill Park, and the slides which have been ordered since last spring just arrived. As soon as Harvest Showcase is completed, work will begin on the playgrounds.

Travis Buchanan updated the Court on the progress of the new ballfield at Harry Hill Park. One contractor bid was received for the dirt work and fencing. It was higher than anticipated, but it appears that we can still get the ballfield constructed. The bid received from Jason Klempner is \$210,000 for the dirt work. Judge Bates added that there were 4 contractors at the required pre-bid meeting which included 3 local and 1 from out of the county; however, only 1 bid was actually received with some opting out and a concern with being able to meet the time frame.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered by the Court to accept the \$210,000 bid from Jason Klempner for the dirt work on the new ballfield at Harry Hill Park.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Monthly Report

Director Dan Flinkfelt reported that operations at the Animal Shelter are going well. He attended training last week for cruelty certification and will have additional certification training in September. He has been working on the walking trail, but the weather has not cooperated. The new phone number is not operational yet due to an issue with Spectrum, but it should be soon. Judge Bates added that the Road Committee will have assistance with tree removal when they have the excavator.

2. Animal Services Committee Report

Esq. Hartlage reported that the Committee met with Trimble County and discussed the water leak which has now been repaired. They will prepare a list of businesses to call for any needed repairs. At the next meeting they are asking for an update on the proposed fees and will review the proposals and come up with recommendations. Trimble County has their full-time person, but their part-time position not being filled is causing higher hours for other staff. They will be hiring someone for that position. The Committee continues to work toward a 5-year plan for the Shelter.

RE: ENTERPRISE FLEET LEASING PRESENTATION

Judge Bates stated that he would like the Court to hear and consider all options before decisions are made. Although there is not money in the budget at this point, the Sheriff's office has looked at the option of leasing vehicles and he would like the Court to be informed. He introduced Shelby Martin of Enterprise Fleet Leasing to present the possibility of using a leasing company and how that would work. She provided information on current customers and explained that they would provide an individual to support the organization's fleet management. They use a consultative approach and would provide that service for all the County's vehicles as long as the fleet met the minimum of 20. Esq. Frederick stated that it is hard to even know what questions to ask without hard numbers. Judge Bates requested that Ms. Martin meet with the Budget Committee to discuss the matter further.

RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Esq. Hartlage stated that the Economic Development Committee has not met, but will on Friday morning to discuss the Pendleton Sewer Project. The Economic Development Commission met prior to this meeting and will be providing information on how to improve the i-71 Alliance website.

Mike Ray, Chair of the Economic Development Commission reported that during their meeting they heard from a speaker regarding affordable housing. They addressed potential support that might be available to bring affordable housing to the County and if that would involve assistance for the developer or the residents. We are part of the I-71 Alliance which has done a survey in some counties to determine housing needs and their costs. Mr. Ray stated that we may need to do that as well.

Judge Bates stated that we are getting contacts from people wanting to do things in the County. He has received a cost estimate for the project to get water to the folks living in LeCompte's Bottom. The current cost is \$1,375,000 since it now appears that it would be possible to run a 4-inch line partially and then a 3-inch one. The line would have to be run from North Shelby through Franklin County because it is not accessible from Henry County. Judge Bates thanked Esq. Fisher who has been working on this issue. He added that we are looking at further options for the Pendleton Sewer Project, and he took the grant writer from KIPDA to tour Heaven's Door Distillery as they look at options for their company.

RE: SHERIFF'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sheriff Keith Perry reported the following activities for the month of June: 365 KSP dispatch calls, 135 Sheriff's office calls, 93 citations/criminal summons, 33 criminal arrests, 25 warrant arrests, 147 court processes, 1 fugitive transport, 3 MIW transports, 62 vehicle inspections, 18 carry conceal licenses, 2 DUI arrests, and 17 drug charge arrests.

RE: SHERIFF'S 2022 PROPERTY TAX SETTLEMENT PRESENTATION

Sheriff Perry presented the current Sheriff's Department tax collections for the period ending April 30, 2023. The audited total is \$11,214,530.73 with a difference of 28 cents which is due to rounding.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Shain, it is ordered by the Court to accept the Sheriff's 2022 Property Tax Settlement in the amount of \$11,214,530.73.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: COUNTY CLERK'S QUARTERLY REPORT

County Clerk Shanda Archer presented the 2nd quarter report for her office. She stated that everything is going well, and they have had to make no assessment value refunds. The bank balance is currently \$397,447, and she anticipates approximately \$290,000 in excess fees will be returned to Fiscal Court.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered by the Court to accept the County Clerk's 2nd Quarter Report.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: COUNTY REAPPORTIONMENT – 1ST READING

Clerk Archer explained that Kentucky mandates reapportionment of voting districts following every census although this time that was changed due to the pandemic. The Court appointed the Reapportionment Commission composed of Paul Feemster, Steve Woods, and Jakob Beckley to serve along with Clerk Archer. They met on June 8th and did preliminary work to meet the requirement for variations no greater than 3 percent between the magisterial districts. She thanked those members for their work in making the necessary adjustments. Clerk Archer reviewed the reapportioned population for each district: #1 - 2,793; #2 - 2,705; #3 - 2,515; #4 - 2,625; #5 - 2,497; and #6 - 2,543. Fiscal Court can accept the committee's recommendation or it becomes their responsibility to realign the districts.

Fiscal Court Clerk Denise Perry read the proposed ordinance adopting the report of the Reapportionment Commission and reestablishing the boundary lines of the existing districts, adopting a map of the same, and fixing compensation of the Reapportionment Commission members.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered by the Court to approve the 1st Reading of the Henry County Reapportionment Ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: 2023-2024 TAX RATE – 1ST READING

Judge Bates stated that Fiscal Court is required to hold the 1st Reading of the 2023-2024 tax rates at this time in order to meet the deadline for the 2nd Reading; however, we have not yet been notified by the Revenue Cabinet what our compensating rate will be. Our current rates are as follows: 11.2% on real property, 15.9% on personal property, and 11.9% on motor vehicles. He anticipates that we will receive our compensating rates soon since about one-fourth of the counties have already been informed. Judge Bates recommended that for this 1st Reading the rates remain unchanged.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the 1st Reading of the 2023-2024 tax rates of 11.2% on real property, 15.9% on personal property, and 11.9% on motor vehicles which are the same as last year.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL & COUNTY CORONER VEHICLE DISCUSSION

Judge Bates explained that up to \$25,000 each was budgeted for the purchase of a truck for the Animal Control Officer and the County Coroner. He recommended that the Court make those funds available so that the Budget Committee can approve and make the purchases when vehicles are found. The actual purchase amounts will be included in the claims for the month funds are expended so that the entire Court will see the exact costs.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to authorize the Budget Committee to purchase vehicles for the Animal Control Officer and County Coroner at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 each.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Shain, it is ordered to approve the following claims and transfer:

General Fund	\$296,016.31
Road & Bridge Fund	20,274.48
Jail Fund	27,643.89
LGEA	9,926.09
Litter	0.00
911 Fund	1,647.99
ABC	973.35
Fair Fund	344.75
Angel's Envy	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$356,826.86

<u>From:</u> Road	\$223,214.00
<u>To:</u> General (Road Fund Allocation)	223,214.00

<u>From:</u> General	\$150,000.00
<u>To:</u> Jail	150,000.00

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

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Bates opened the floor for public comment.

Jakob Beckley reminded everyone that the Harvest Showcase will be held this year on July 29th at the Henry County Fairgrounds. It is a free event and provides great family fun. Esq. Frederick stated that the Chamber of Commerce will be cooking breakfast with local ingredients.

County Clerk Archer informed the Court that her office has collected more delinquent tax bills that were not included in the Sheriff's settlement and only about 150 are still outstanding. She also praised Olivia Herrell of her staff who is in the process of back indexing and back scanning the contents of the records contained in the deed room. Kentucky requires that the process for all documents for 60 years be accomplished by 2026; and Olivia currently has our records completed back to 1955. She has already exceeded the requirement and is a great asset to the office.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

There were no additional Court comments.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, 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/ Scott Bates
SCOTT BATES
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **August 15, 2023**