

**HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2024**

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on April 16, 2024, 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. Ed Perry of Henry Christian Church who offered 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 MARCH 19, 2024, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024, 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 was with a family member at the hospital and was not in attendance.

2. Road Committee Report

Esq. Fisher reported that the Committee has discussed the blacktopping that is going well this week with several loads already laid. They are looking at purchasing maintenance items for the backhoe and grader. They discussed getting started on the base layers, but that work will depend on the continuing pickup of debris from the tornados that the crew is currently completing.

Judge Bates added that tires are needed, but we are insuring that the line items are all okay before making expenditures. The plan is to get as much done as possible from this year's budget. They have hauled 4 loads already in the last 2 days so that will be out of this budget, and we will get more done in the fall from the new budget.

3. Bid Acceptance for Carpenter Lane Bridge

Judge Bates announced that Friday was the bid opening for the Carpenter Lane Bridge. Only 1 bid was received after the advertising which amounted to \$95,000. This is an 80/20 project with the State of Kentucky. We will pay for the project be reimbursed for 80% of the cost upon completion. The timeline requires that the work be done and the invoice paid as quickly as possible to allow for the State's return of their share by the end of the fiscal year. The contactor says they should be able to get it finished in May with plans for 4-5 days required for the engineering and plans, 2 weeks to build, and 5 days to install it.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered by the Court to accept the bid from Firm Foundations for \$95,000 for the replacement bridge for Carpenter Lane.

Motion carried unanimously

4. Public Hearing for Closure of Troutman Hill Y Closure

Judge Bates stated the process for the closure of the Troutman Hill spur requires a public hearing. Andrew Sharp and Cody Raisor agreed to serve as the viewers who have no vested interest. Judge Bates read the submitted written statements of each in support of the closure citing no known issues or citizens who have expressed concerns about the action. Judge Bates asked for any individuals who would like to speak in opposition to the proposed closure and there were none.

Citizen Earl Holmes addressed the Court on behalf of the Drennon Christian Church citing their plans. The church would like to expand their fellowship hall to accommodate their members and extend the parking area. Their research indicates that they must move in the direction of the road spur because of the existing grave site locations on the other side. He expressed the desire of the church membership for the Court to approve the closure.

Judge Bates explained that after checking again with the State Department of Transportation, we would have to take up a small amount of the blacktop and the area grassed to make it safer.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered by the Court to approve the closure of the Troutman Hill Y spur adjacent to the Drennon Christian Church.

Motion carried unanimously

Esq. Hartlage inquired about the ownership of the actual property that would no longer be a County road and expressed his desire that the action be formalized.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered by the Court that the ownership of the County road property of the Troutman Hill Y Spur being closed revert to the Drennon Christian Church.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PLANNING & ZONING

1. Administrator's Monthly Report

P & Z/Solid Waste Administrator Jason Stanley reported that 29 electrical and 13 building permits were issued during the last month. The Board of Adjustments will meet at 7 p.m. on April 22, and the P & Z Commission will meet at 7 p.m. on May 8. Both meetings will be held at the 4-H Building at 1106 Castle Highway.

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Parks Director Toby Berry stated they are cutting grass and prepping fields since baseball, softball, and soccer are in full swing. The new baseball field fencing is almost complete.

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Monthly Report

Danielle Ashcraft presented her report indicating that during March there were 5 adoptions totaling \$840 and donations of \$800. Calls for the month included the following: 27 nuisances, 5 welfare, 1 bite, and 2 stray reports.

Esq. Fisher inquired about the incorrect phone number that some folks are getting when trying to reach the Animal Shelter. The number is correct on Henry County's website, and the problem is an old one that is still listed on some sites managed by Trimble County. The correct number is 502-667-1055.

Animal Services Committee Report

Esq. Hartlage stated that the Committee did not meet.

RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Esq. Hartlage stated that the Economic Development Committee does not have a report this month.

RE: SHERIFF'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sheriff Keith Perry reported the following activities for the month of March: 298 KSP dispatch calls, 143 Sheriff's office calls, 111 citations/criminal summons, 66 criminal arrests, 38 warrant arrests, 138 court processes, 1 fugitive transport, 73 vehicle inspections, 14 carry conceal licenses, 1 DUI arrest, and 21 drug charge arrests.

RE: SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAXIMUM EMPLOYEES WITH BENEFITS DISCUSSION

Judge Bates explained that the Sheriff's office operates under an agreement with the Court setting the maximum number of full-time employees who have County-paid benefits at 8. Sheriff Perry has requested an additional full-time officer at a cost of \$40,000 for benefits. Sheriff Perry has asked that that cost be taken directly from his excess fees line item. Sheriff Perry stated that this is a current part-time officer who would go to full-time and provide for 7-day coverage to the County since he works weekends. He expressed his opinion that this is a much-needed addition based on the current number of calls the office is receiving. Judge Bates added that this would be a straight transfer from the Sheriff's office excess fees line item, and the Sheriff will have to raise the salary cap. This change would be an agreement between the Fiscal Court and the current Sheriff and will continue following the end of his term.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered by the Court to approve an agreement between Sheriff Keith Perry and the Fiscal Court for an additional full-time position with the Sheriff's Office paying the benefits for that person from their Excess Fees line item for the duration of his term.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT

Judge Bates stated that there are 50/50 match grants available through the Emergency Management Agency. Amy Mahoney, EMA Director, would like to submit grants for a new generator for the Pleasureville fire station, a truck, and siren repair within the County. The 911

regional group voted to allocate \$20,000 to us and Oldham and Trimble Counties for sirens, but repairs and replacement equipment are very expensive. The Port Royal pole will be moved and then that siren reconnected. We are requesting the permission to pursue these grants which will be covered by 50% matches.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered by the Court to authorize Emergency Management Agency Director Amy Mahoney to pursue matching 50/50 grants for the purchase of a generator and truck and emergency siren repair and replacement.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT FY25 BUDGET

Judge Bates stated that the 1st Reading for the FY25 budget must be held by the end of April. He suggested that a special meeting be held on April 29, 2024, at 3 p.m.

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

Deputy Judge Travis Buchanan stated that there is an outstanding invoice for \$2,390 for work completed at the Courthouse that is pending Administrative Office of the Courts approval. This bill would be added to the distributed claims if AOC approval is received.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the following claims including the \$2,390 outstanding invoice for maintenance performed at the Courthouse pending AOC approval:

General Fund	\$252,665.41
Road & Bridge Fund	61,618.78
Jail Fund	39,113.26
LGEA	2,131.94
ABC	2,175.15
Fair Fund	635.21
AE Sewer Fund	358,197.27
Total	\$716,537.02

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Bates opened the floor for public comments.

Deeanne Whitaker West expressed her appreciation to the Judge's Office and the Emergency Management staff who responded so quickly following the tornado last week. They provided information and resources that have been very helpful to her family.

Judge Bates commended Amy Mahoney, new EMA Director, for the phenomenal job she has done since assuming the position and in this incident.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

Fiscal Court Clerk Denise Perry stated that there has been an issue related to the posting of the Court minutes on the website since January, 2024. The site is hosted by ky.gov, and they retain rights for some of the functions. After repeated requests, the problem resulting in the inability to add new minutes appears to be resolved.

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

S/ Denise Perry
DENISE PERRY
FISCAL COURT CLERK

S/ Scott Bates
SCOTT BATES
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **May 21, 2024**