

HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
October 21, 2025

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on October 21, 2025, 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. Michael Luttrell of Restoration Life Church who blessed the meeting.

RE: CALL TO ORDER

Judge Bates called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. noting that all magistrates were in attendance.

RE: APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025, regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: ROADS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Road Supervisor Zach Smith reported that the crew has been busy with on-going tasks. They finished the patching on Clear Creek Road which required 51 tons of blacktop. They are currently on Carmen Creek Road, but have to go to Louisville for pickup of the blacktop and it is going slowly. Driveway pipes have been installed on Montfort Lane and New Cut Road. Bushwhacking continues on Radcliff Road with Dawkins Lane and Wolfpen Branch Road upcoming after Herndon Lane, Sorrell Lane, and Crabb Acres have been completed. The crew has been working on the shoulders and slips on New Cut Road by filling them with dense grade and rolling to pack the rock.

2. Road Committee Report

Esq. Fisher stated that the Committee met yesterday where they discussed Carmen Creek Road, but are afraid they may run out of time for blacktopping and have to get it completed in the spring. They have visited New Cut Road, and the work appears to be good. The plan is to keep it open for the local farmers, but not blacktop it. The low water crossing on Bullitt Hill was discussed, and they will be meeting with the contractor tomorrow to see what can be done. The bushwhacker is worn out, and we need another option. Jason Shryock purchased state equipment that might possibly be fabricated to put on our current tractor. If this works, he is willing to donate it to the County.

Judge Bates added that FEMA originally wanted to mitigate a new bridge on New Cut Road which was quoted at \$325,000. Other employees have come back and said they can get a new bridge for \$40,000 to \$90,000. Judge Bates said it is doubtful that can happen, and FEMA now wants another quote. A cap over the bridge is now not an option, and we hope to get FEMA to give a definite answer that they will fund it. Judge Bates added that he has submitted road resurfacing work that was not approved last year for possible discretionary funding: Cherry Lane, \$34,020; Cedar Run Road, \$40,860; Stuckers Lane, \$17,280; Bart Smith Road, \$24,030; Park Road, \$24,120; Dixie Highway, \$27,720; Garrett Lane, \$11,790; and Sand Springs, \$28,080.

RE: PLANNING & ZONING

1. Administrator's Monthly Report

Administrator Jason Stanley reported that during the previous month 27 electrical and 35 building permits were issued. The Board of Adjustments will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, October 27, 2025, at the 4-H Building at 1106 Castle Highway, Eminence. The P & Z Commission is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m. on November 12, 2025, at the Henry County Fairgrounds.

2. County-wide Litter Clean-up

Administrator Stanley informed the Court that the county-wide trash pickup will be this Saturday, October 25. He asked everyone to be careful while driving.

Esq. Hartlage requested an update on the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Stanley responded that it has been done for a long time except for the future land use maps. We are waiting on the Pendleton area and the final from Eminence which is reported to be finished.

Judge Bates explained that he would try to get the updated Comprehensive Plan by the end of the year. It should have been completed long ago, but KIPDA has been paid for the work and had internal delays. They lost personnel who were in charge of it and had to regroup and start over. He hopes it will be voted on by January.

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Parks Director Toby Berry reported that the department has been busy with grass cutting and prepping for sports events. Most of their time was spent getting everything ready for Trail and Treat which was another huge success. They also had a car show at Harry Hill Park. Upgrades at the new ball field include handrails for the ramp and steps and new drainage for the Fairgrounds.

Judge Bates stated that there is more work to do at the Fairgrounds when the skid steer tracks are repaired. They will continue to get the ground leveled and seeded to improve the appearance. The turnout for Trail and Treat was 1,250 children and over 2,600 in total attendance. He thanked everyone who worked on the event and singled out Deputy Judge Travis Buchanan for his leadership in making the event possible.

RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Esq. Hartlage stated that the Economic Development Committee met on October 14 at the 4-H Building at 5 p.m. Discussion included the need for and importance of the updated Comprehensive Plan and the perception of the Planning and Zoning Board. The last few meetings have been contentious, and he wants to look at the direction of Planning & Zoning. The last meeting with the Malins was embarrassing; and a previous time when a group from New Jersey with a \$38 million subdivision project came there were questions that were not called for. He requested that the Planning & Zoning Committee take a look to see if we are receptive to business. The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2026, at 5 p.m. at the 4-H Building.

Judge Bates reported that he has submitted potential projects for funding to Rep. Rabourn for the Legislature's consideration including \$2.5 million for the LeCompte's Bottom/Flat Creek water project for the 20 families there without service, \$9.5 million for the Pendleton Sewer Project, and \$300,000 for a new concession stand and restrooms at Harry Hill to replace the 40-year old facilities currently in use.

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Monthly Report

Animal Services Director Danielle Ashcraft provided the following report for the month of August: 9 adoptions totaling \$1,500, donations of cash and food/supplies of \$1,069, and \$160 of fines/fees with a total of \$2,729 received by the Shelter. There are currently 26 dogs in the shelter after 11 were adopted, 1 rescued, 1 returned to owner, and 1 other. Successful events were held including the Henry County Volleyball fundraiser, a Car Show on October 4, the Cedar Lake Fall Stroll on the 11th that resulted in 2 adoptions, and Bark and Whine on October 12 which raised \$12,300 for the Shelter.

2. Animal Services Committee Report

Esq. Hartlage reported that the Committee met at 4 p.m. on October 14 at the 4-H Building. The Trimble and Henry County Judges are rewriting the Interlocal Agreement. They discussed the need for a washing machine which is in the budget and can be purchased. The individuals collecting for the Shelter are doing well, and the Shelter is headed in a good direction. The Committee will meet again on January 13, 2026, at 4 p.m.

Judge Bates stated that he and Judge Ogburn are working on the Interlocal Agreement to get it cleaned up and simplified and insure we are on the same page. It will be available for review by both fiscal courts soon.

RE: SHERIFF'S REPORT

1. Monthly Report

Deputy Sheriff Josh Jamiel reported the following activities for the month of September: 223 KSP dispatch calls, 142 Sheriff's office calls, 53 citations/criminal summons, 21 criminal arrests, 12 warrant arrests, 83 all court paper service, 1 MIW transport, 80 vehicle inspections, and 10 carry conceal licenses.

RE: HISTORICAL MARKER DISCUSSION

Frank Charles addressed the Court with his request for support for the placement of a historical marker at the site where the 9th Regiment of the Kentucky Cavalry started their service on August 22, 1862, and ended their one year of service there. His research has identified the original location was Eminence Camp which was the old Henry County Fairgrounds. The proposed marker location is outside of Eminence on HWY 22 near the entrance to the IAA Auto site. He will be submitting a request to the Kentucky Historical Society during their 2026 cycle, and there would be no cost to the County. He requested the support of Fiscal Court to strengthen his application for the marker to honor the men who served and those citizens who made sacrifices during this period.

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered that the County support the establishment of a historical marker at the location of Eminence Camp by authorizing Judge Bates to draft a letter to be included in Frank Charles' application to the Kentucky Historical Society.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

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

General Fund	\$261,740.57
Road & Bridge Fund	65,072.54
Jail Fund	59,796.24
LGEA	2,487.73
Solid Waste	1,411.50
E-911	1,194.78
ABC	2,146.30
Transient Tax	134.12
Angel's Envy Sewer Project	166,030.00
Total	\$560,013.78

<u>From:</u> 02 Road (Cash)	\$833,107.77
<u>To:</u> 02 Road (Cash)	\$833,107.77

<u>From:</u> 03 Jail (Cash)	\$67,448.33
<u>To:</u> 03 Jail (Cash)	\$67,448.33

<u>From:</u> 04 LGEA (Cash)	\$184,742.91
<u>To:</u> 04 LGEA (Cash)	\$184,742.91
 <u>From:</u> 13 Solid Waste (Cash)	 \$39,986.19
<u>To:</u> 13 Solid Waste (Cash)	\$39,986.19
 <u>From:</u> 76 E-911 (Cash)	 \$44,494.76
<u>To:</u> 73 E-911 (Cash)	\$44,494.76
 <u>From:</u> 78 ABC (Cash)	 \$235,729.90
<u>To:</u> 78 ABC (Cash)	\$235,729.90
 <u>From:</u> 81 Transient Tax (Cash)	 \$2,680.97
<u>To:</u> 81 Transient Tax (Cash)	\$2,680.97

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Bates opened the floor for public comments.

Olivia Herrell stated that the Historical Society has received a donation of items from Aaron Hieatt whose ancestors fought in WWI. With the help of the Charles', they have obtained a display case and gotten the items cleaned. They have obtained permission and placed the case in the Courthouse. A dedication is planned and everyone will be notified when it is finalized.

Amy Charles stated that she had attended several committee meetings in the last week and shared summaries on FaceBook. She reiterated her request that committees and Fiscal Court post meeting agendas and outcomes on the Henry County Fiscal Court page.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

Esq. Shain reported that the Budget Committee met yesterday at the Judge's Office and reviewed the last quarter's budget. All questions were answered and the documents were approved. Judge Bates explained that the Committee approved the documents to be submitted to the Department for Local Government stating that the quarterly reports and balances are correct and all bills paid.

Esq. Fisher thanked everyone for coming to the Bash on the River Cemetery Fundraiser. He acknowledged Travis Buchanan and Toby Berry for helping get tables and the Malins for their donation of tents, tables, chairs and a tent. Final totals are still being calculated, but the cake auction raised \$9,000 and proceeds appear to be about \$19,000. Judge Bates stated that all the cemeteries could certainly use the money.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher 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

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

S/ Denise Perry
DENISE PERRY
FISCAL COURT CLERK

S/ Scott Bates
SCOTT BATES
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **November 18, 2025**