

HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
SPECIAL MEETING
April 28, 2026

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Special Session on April 28, 2026, at the Henry County Judge/Executive's office in the Courthouse Annex 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: CALL TO ORDER

Judge Bates called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. noting that all magistrates were in attendance.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

RE: FY 2027 BUDGET – 1ST READING

Judge Bates announced that the 1st Reading of the FY 2027 budget would be presented today by Deputy Judge Travis Buchanan. It was read line-by-line with explanations for adjustments and responses to questions posed. The budget includes appropriations and revenues totaling \$8,817,411.07.

Appropriations and revenues highlighted include the following:

- Insurance expense is being increased by 10% and health insurance is up by 16%.
- An HSA plan is being offered to employees through which Fiscal Court will contribute \$500 to single plans and \$1,000 for other plans for those employees who opt in.
- Medical costs for inmates is being increased from \$20,000 to \$75,000.
- The jail vehicle line item has \$15,000 unexpended from the current year and we are adding \$15,000 this year to allow for the purchase of a minivan at \$30,000.

- The economic development expense includes the specialist for the I-71 corridor group and a CDL training program that was proposed last year.
- The building inspector item is for the required monthly contract for \$535 to make the service available for citizens.
- The 911 emergency dispatch amount has been raised to \$125,000 because the regional 911 account that is funded through landline fees is seriously decreased.
- The \$400,000 for the Angel's Envy Sewer Project is the remaining EDA grant which should close out after the audit.
- The County Road Aid funding of \$991,307.75 is down \$217,513 from last year.
- The Jail Fund shows a significant difference of \$666,547 compared to \$482,900 in the current year budget.
- The budget liabilities include the Sheriff's Department building with a payment this year of \$12,889.50 and the Courthouse which is the responsibility of the AOC but must be included on our liability sheet.
- The tax rates for the County and special districts were approved in September, 2025, and are included on the budget document.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered to approve the standing order for preapproved claims and reoccurring expenses which do not have to be approved at Fiscal Court meetings.

Motion carried unanimously

Esq. Hartlage raised questions about the line items for Animal Services related to conferences and training, capital improvements, and the acquisition of a second vehicle. Judge Bates stated that adjustments between the line items could be made without affecting the total budget. The Court discussed changes that would satisfy the requests and be possible with the funds available. Judge Bates expressed his concern that with a tight budget we need to be careful in spending for the Shelter since the money must come from some other services. Discussion included how the funds generated from events have and are being expended.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to approve the 1st Reading of the FY 2027 budget with amendments to the Animal Services line items resulting in \$1,500 for Capital Improvements, \$1,000 for Conferences, and \$10,000 for Animal Control Vehicle.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: APPROVAL OF TREASURER & FINANCE OFFICER TRAINING INCENTIVE

Judge Bates stated that the treasurer and finance officer training incentives were added last year and must be voted on each year. Both attended the budget workshop and the Budget and Finance Officer Conference and he requested this training incentive be approved.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to approve the Treasurer and Finance Officer training incentives of \$2,000 for each position.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT APPROVAL

Judge Bates announced that the Interlocal Agreement for the operation of the Henry-Trimble County Animal Control and Animal Shelter has been finalized. The original one was enacted in 2011 and needed to be updated to current operations. The Trimble County Attorney reworked the document, and Henry County Attorney Cassidy Dees has reviewed it. Fiscal Court Clerk Denise Perry read the agreement in its entirety.

The Court discussed how changes could be made to the agreement that would not necessitate beginning the process again. The matters of hours of operation, expense procedures, and the Animal Services Committee and Board of Directors structure and meeting schedules were addressed.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered to approve the Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement for the Henry-Trimble County Animal Control and Animal Control Shelter.

Motion carried unanimously

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

S/ Denise Perry
DENISE PERRY
FISCAL COURT CLERK

_S/ Scott Bates
SCOTT BATES
JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Date Approved: **May 18, 2026**