

**HENRY COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

The Henry County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on February 21, 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 Reverend Joey Woods of the Union 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 JANUARY 17, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Esq. Tingle and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to approve the minutes of the January 17, 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 stated that the Department has been bushwhacking, grading gravel roads, cold patching, and getting mowing equipment ready for the season. They are looking at equipment and determining what items should be removed from their inventory. They have begun inspecting roads to determine which need blacktopping this year, and he asked the magistrates for recommendations from their districts.

2. Road Committee Report

Esq. Fisher reported that the Committee met in January and last week. They have identified 4 trucks that are not worth repairing and will be listing them on the Ky.gov site for sale. One truck has been repaired and should last for a couple of years. They are working to get on-going maintenance records for equipment established and updated.

Judge Bates stated that the equipment to be sold will be ready for listing by March 1, and it will be available online for 7-10 days on the ky.gov website if anyone is interested in bidding on it.

RE: EMS TAXING DISTRICT

1. Taxing District Monthly Report

Esq. Frederick stated that the new EMS Taxing District Board representatives attended their first meeting last night. It was very informative including the packet of materials which compares Henry County regarding runs, refusals for transport, and other information. They have asked for data on drug overdoses and are learning about how the operations with the hospital are run. One chase vehicle is out of service and will be sold. Baptist Health is looking at 3 new heart monitors which must to be purchased soon at a cost of \$140,000 since the software on the current ones is not updatable.

RE: PLANNING & ZONING

1. Administrator's Monthly Report

P & Z/Solid Waste Administrator Jason Stanley reported that 16 building and 22 electrical permits were issued during January.

Mr. Stanley reported that applications for the P&Z/Solid Waste Administrative Assistant were reviewed and interviews held. He recommended the hiring of Amy Mahoney for the position. Judge Bates stated that he is pleased that so many very good applications were received.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Tingle, it is ordered to hire Amy Mahoney as the full-time P & Z/Solid Waste Administrative Assistant.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PARKS & FAIRGROUNDS

1. Director's Monthly Report

Director Travis Buchanan reported that with the weather turning warmer they are getting busy and will open Harry Hill Park next week for spring sports practices to begin. The 4-H Small Engines class for 10-12 members will begin on March 1st and run for 4 weeks.

RE: COURTHOUSE

1. Director's Monthly Report

Courthouse Supervisor Travis Buchanan reported that renovations to the front desk area have been completed and work on replacing wainscoting that wasn't done during construction is finishing. These last 2 projects should close out the construction.

Mr. Buchanan has been consulting with members of the Courthouse Committee about moving Fiscal Court meetings back to that facility. The consensus is in favor of holding meetings at the Courthouse. Judge Bates stated that the County owns the building and the Administrative Office of the Courts reimburses for the debt load. It is a beautiful building and will be more professional. He will be purchasing audio/video equipment to record the meetings and allow for those in attendance to be able to hear well.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to return Fiscal Court meetings to the Henry County Courthouse.

Motion carried unanimously

Judge Bates stated that this public notice is made to inform everyone that beginning with the March meeting sessions of Fiscal Court will be held at the Henry County Courthouse.

RE: ANIMAL SERVICES

1. Director's Monthly Report

Director Dan Flinkfelt reported that Animal Services is staying busy and that rescue groups have resumed accepting animals. Trimble County has hired both their part- and full-time employees

and training is scheduled through Louisville Metro Police and the Humane Society for new hires and refreshing for all staff. Problems continue with both the car and truck which each have over 200,000 miles and replacements will be needed soon. Trimble County has been doing maintenance work on the HVAC system at the shelter, and they continue to look for ways to improve the insulation. LaGrange Animal Hospital has donated 6 outside kennels which will be available to provide to individuals as needed.

Judge Bates added that the dog issues raised in Pleasureville are being addressed. Mr. Flinkfelt said he is going through the town each work day, and he will be attending the Pleasureville City Council meeting.

2. Animal Services Committee Report

Esq. Hartlage reported that the Animal Services Committee met in conjunction with Trimble County magistrates. They discussed the standard operating procedures as were adopted 12 years ago which worked very well. The Committee will continue to meet monthly. Hours of operation should be 8 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and 8:00 until 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Mr. Flinkfelt and the Trimble County staff can determine how to cover the hours with minimal overtime.

Judge Bates stated that he has been communicating with the Trimble County Judge, and he expects to maintain a good relationship and partnership going forward.

RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Esq. Hartlage informed the Court that he had received an update from CODEX Streaming who received a grant to provide high-speed internet across the County. The Campbellsburg, Lacie, and Vance Road area is ready to go and customers will be onboarded this weekend. Work will begin on path alignment between Lacie and Fallen Timber Road with the expectation to have that area lit in 1 to 3 weeks. At that point, path alignment to Pleasureville will begin. All towers referenced in the grant will be operational by the end of March. All ground work and enclosures are completed.

Esq. Hartlage announced that the Economic Development Committee will meet at 10 a.m. on March 14 at the Lake Jericho Fire Station to further discuss the Pendleton Sewer Project. Judge Bates stated that he had been in contact with KIPDA about the project and some changes will be required using a lagoon instead of a line system.

RE: ABC QUARTERLY REPORT

Ed Nelson, ABC Administrator, presented the quarterly report citing that all fees have been paid. There are 18 licensed businesses with 16 currently selling retail. Receipts are up slightly this quarter, and he projects to at least match last year's revenues.

RE: SHERIFF'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sheriff Keith Perry reported the following activities for the month of January: 224 KSP dispatch calls, 134 Sheriff's office calls, 83 citations/criminal summons, 36 criminal arrests, 28 warrant arrests, 99 court processes, 1 fugitive transport, 3 MIW transports, 45 vehicle inspections, 29 carry conceal licenses, and 3 drug charge arrests.

RE: SHERIFF'S EXCESS FEES

Sheriff Perry reported that the 2022 budget projected \$880,083.88 in receipts and expenses of \$868,796.24. The year ending balances show \$906,960.69 in receipts and expenses of \$866,741.07. Sheriff Perry presented a check to Fiscal Court for the Sheriff's Office excess fees for 2022 in the amount of \$40,219.62.

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to accept the 2022 Sheriff's excess fees of \$40,219.62.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: COUNTY CLERK EXCESS FEES

County Clerk Shanda Archer explained to Fiscal Court that the State has mandated that counties replace all sign-in tablets for this May's election. The previous contract is no longer valid, and new ones will be purchased from KNOWINK immediately to insure receiving them in time. Fiscal Court must pay for the Poll Pads, but the County will be reimbursed as soon as serial numbers are submitted to the Department for Local Government. The cost is \$43,750, and she anticipates a quick turnaround in the reimbursement process.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to purchase the Poll Pads from KNOWINK for \$43,750 with the cost added to this month's claims.

Motion carried unanimously

County Clerk Archer reported that she is happy to be turning over \$224,809.38 in excess fees from her office for 2022. The State mandated motor vehicle refunds to some customers which amounted to \$10,230.57 in Henry County. The required recording fee of \$10 which is managed by Records Clerk Olivia Herrell has a balance of \$15,470 with those funds is to be used for permanent records retention costs.

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered to accept the County Clerk's excess fees totaling \$224,809.38.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: COST-OF-LIVING FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Judge Bates explained that the annual cost-of-living adjustment for elected officials has been set by the State at 6.5 percent. This COLA is required for the Judge/Executive, Sheriff, and County Clerk. The magistrates are also included in the COLA proposal; however, they are allowed to vote to not accept the increase.

Upon motion by Esq. Hartlage and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered that the magistrates will retain their present compensation and not accept a cost-of-living increase.

Motion carried unanimously

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Judge Bates requested that Fiscal Court go into Executive Session per KRS 61.810 to discuss potential litigation and personnel issues.

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Fisher, it is ordered that Fiscal Court go into Executive Session per KRS 61.810 to discuss potential litigation and personnel matters.

Motion carried unanimously

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to end the Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously

Upon motion by Esq. Frederick and second by Esq. Shain, it is ordered to resume the Regular Session.

Motion carried unanimously

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, it is ordered to adopt the agreement resolving the matter of potential litigation discussed in Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously

Judge Bates announced that Travis Buchanan would be officially assuming the position of Deputy Judge on July 1 although he will begin working in that role along with his current duties. Judge Bates praised his knowledge, experience, and initiative and looks forward to all he has to offer the County. Toby Berry will be assuming the Parks Director position, and a new employee will be hired to assist him with the parks' operations. Denise Perry will remain in the role of Fiscal Court Clerk.

RE: CLAIMS & TRANSFERS

Upon motion by Esq. Shain and second by Esq. Frederick, it is ordered to approve the following claims which include the additionally approved \$43,750 for Poll Pads for the County Clerk:

General Fund	\$103,274.74
Road & Bridge Fund	33,374.27
Jail Fund	6,274.68
LGEA	22,947.90
CARES Act	0.00
Litter	0.00
911 Fund	1,643.48
ABC	922.08
Fair Fund	3,418.99
Pendleton Sewer	15,557.50
Angel's Envy	<u>120,000.00</u>
Total	\$307,413.64

Motion carried unanimously

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Bates opened the floor for public comments.

Debbie Feemster inquired why a representative of the North Central District Health Department Board was not in attendance. Judge Bates explained that he had spoken with the director and presented a proposal during the Executive Session to resolve the issue.

RE: COURT COMMENTS

Esq. Hartlage stated that the County needs to remain vigilant regarding barrel taxes as there is a move to eliminate them by the State Legislature. He encouraged the implementation of binding elements or other ways so that the schools and County will still receive funds. He added that the implementation of an occupancy tax as other places have would be good.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Esq. Fisher and second by Esq. McManis, 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: **March 21, 2023**