

UNION COUNTY FISCAL
May 26, 2020

All supporting documents to these Minutes may be found in the office of the County Judge/Executive.

Judge O’Nan opened the budget hearing at 9:00 a.m. regarding the propose use of County Road Aid and Local Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds. There were 25 letters mailed in regarding Enterprise Drive & Robin’s Way. The Judge will respond to each letter letting them know that there is nothing the County can do because these are privately owned roads. No public comment was made, Judge O’Nan closed the hearing.

The Union County Fiscal Court met in regular session with the Honorable Adam O’Nan presiding. Due to the Corona Virus the Union County Fiscal Court met in the upstairs Courtroom so that social distancing could be practiced and the meeting was livestreamed on Facebook. The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with a prayer by Judge O’Nan and the pledge to the American Flag. Magistrates present were Wyatt, Floyd, Ricketts, Byrnes and Clements.

The minutes from the May 12, 2020 Fiscal Court meeting were accepted as read.

Judge O’Nan presented the second reading of the Ordinance Reducing the Speed Limit to 25 mph on Buckman Lane. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve said second reading, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan presented road material bids for asphalt, pipe and rock for the 2020/2021 fiscal year: The following bids were received as follows:

Asphalt:

- Rogers Group
- Road Builders, LLC

Pipe: Fiberglass

- Welden Sons Excavating and Tiling LLC

Rock:

- Rogers Group
- Jeff Ratley Trucking, LLC

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to take bids under advisement, letting Magistrate Wyatt, Magistrate Byrnes, Road Foreman Mike Schmied and Judge O’Nan come back with a recommendation at the June 9, 2020 Court Meeting, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.

The 2.3%, 2020/2021 Cost of Living increase for Elected Officials (County Attorney, Coroner, and Magistrates) was presented. Magistrate Byrnes made a motion to accept said increase, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to approve the 2020/2021 salary schedule, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried.

Union County Clerk, Garrick Thompson provided an update on voting procedures for the June Primary Election. He reported that voters can request a mail in ballot either by contacting his office or by using the online portal. They are to mail the ballot back in, with the state taking care of postage, or they can drop it in the state provided drop box located by the Sheriff's Office. Between June 1, and June 22, voters can vote in person at the Union County Courthouse by making an appointment with the Clerk's Office, or on June 23, election day, they can go to the Union County Middle School where at least four voting stations are being set up for their convenience. Voters are encouraged to take their driver's license if they plan to vote in person. The Middle School will be prepared to where two thousand voters can come through.

Judge O'Nan presented the first reading of the 2020/2021 budget in the amount of \$11,195,057.02. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2020/2021 budget, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried. The Judge stated that the new budget includes the County continuing to operate as is now, with the County taking over the 911 system as of July 1, 2020. For several years the County and the City of Morganfield have funded our 911 system, but beginning July 1, 2020 the County will take over the sole funding responsibility. The Judge told the Magistrates, that 911 employees will move from city to county employees, and that a new 911 Director will need to be hired. Mark Doepel, who was the Director, resigned several weeks ago to work for the Henderson Dispatch Center. If the hiring is done before July 1 the City will be responsible for the hiring with Judge O'Nan being consulted. If done after July 1 the County will be responsible for the hiring. The City of Morganfield stated that 911 can stay in their building indefinitely, providing a written statement to the County.

Also, regarding the 2020/2021 Budget, Judge O'Nan told the Court that it included \$796,000 for jail expenses. Jailer Shawn Elder was present to answer any questions that the Court may have. In the last few weeks meetings have been held to discuss what needs to be done with jail in the future. Judge O'Nan stated that Jailer Elder is limited financially because of the size of the jail, it has a 45-bed capacity. Judge O'Nan and Jailer Elder have discussed three options for housing inmates:

- Option 1: continue to operate as they are now doing
- Option 2: build a new jail, which is estimated to cost \$10-\$12 million
- Option 3: close the jail and contract out housing inmates to another county

We have two bids from Crittenden and Webster counties.

Because of COVID-19 so many state inmates were released and that's where we received the majority of our funds.

Health care and transportation are a couple of issues we could face with housing inmates in another facility. Health care would become the responsibility of the housing facility and transportation will be the responsibility of the arresting agency. No decision has been made as of this time. Although Jailer Elder would like a decision to be made as soon as possible, regarding the future of the jail, so as to not leave the jail employees in limbo, the Judge said that more information will be needed in order to make sure that the County does the correct thing with the tax payers money. By statute the Jailer's position would remain with reductions, but there are 14 full-time and 7 part-time employees to take into consideration. Judge O'Nan is hoping to have more information at the June 9th Court meeting.

All claims are to be paid as presented.

Magistrate Clements made a motion to accept Transfers, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan announced the retirement of longtime road employee, Leo Rednour. Leo has been with the road department for 25 years and will retire on June 8, 2020. All Magistrates along with the Judge expressed how much Leo will be missed. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to advertise for the hiring of a new road employee, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Melissa Coker gave an update on the Census, stating that Union County has a 63.8% completion rate, that puts us tied with the state.

- Morganfield 68.3%
- Sturgis 60.5%
- Waverly 69.6%
- Uniontown 29%

We are number 51 out of 120 counties. The Census workers will stop going door to door in August.

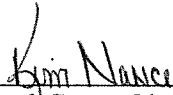
The Judge shared that drive thru testing for the COVID-19 Virus is taking place at the Henderson Community College on May 26th, 27th & 28th. Any Kentucky residents interested can go to thelittleclinic.com to register for testing. He also stated that at the time of our meeting Union County had 9 positive cases recorded in the County, with all in recovery. With the opening of the Courthouse, a Sheriff Bailiff will be at the door screening temperatures of every entry. Anyone that has a temperature over 100 degrees will not be allowed inside.

Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to go into Executive Session per KRS: 61.810 (1) (f) to Discuss Discipline or Dismissal of Employee and KRS;61.810 (1) (c) to Discuss Proposed Litigation, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.


After the Executive Session ended, Magistrate Floyd moved to return to Regular Session, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried. A couple of items were discussed in Executive Session. The Court approved to suspend Richie Jones without pay from May15-May25 for failure to follow directions from direct Supervisor. Magistrate Wyatt made a move to approve said suspension, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried. Court also followed the Judge’s recommendation to relocate Richie Jones to assist on the Community Service Department of the Road Department moving forward. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve said relocation, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried. A motion was made by Magistrate Wyatt to approve the swearing in of Kathy Baird as the Dog Warden effective immediately to replace Richie Jones, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Court also approved the acceptance and cashing of checks from Henderson County Fiscal Court as payment of up to date taxes owed on behalf of the Four Star Park from 2003 for locating Columbia Sportswear inside Four Star Park. Magistrate Byrnes made a motion to approve the acceptance of said payment, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Court, a motion to adjourn was made by Magistrate Clements, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.



Fiscal Court Clerk
Kim Nance



Adam O'Nan
County Judge/Executive