

UNION COUNTY FISCAL MEETING
February 9, 2021

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

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with a Prayer by Judge/Executive, Adam O’Nan and the Pledge to the American flag.

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. Magistrates present were Wyatt, Floyd, Ricketts, Byrnes and Clements.

The minutes from the January 26, 2021 meeting were accepted as read.

First on the Agenda was a Proclamation that Judge O’Nan holds very near and dear to his heart. This Proclamation is for CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK. He offers this Proclamation for all of the families who have experienced having a loved one who was born with a Congenital Heart Defect, especially for his daughter Emily, who was born with Aortic Stenosis and a little boy named August. Jeanie Hancock presented the Court with many Congenital Heart Defect facts and explained how this heart disease has affected her family personally and how she is trying to raise awareness and funds to help with research for this cause.

On December 1, 2017, Jeanie’s daughter Cassie and husband Ryan Graham received the news from a Fetal Cardiologist that an echocardiogram performed on their unborn baby revealed a serious, perhaps critical heart defect called Tetralogy of Fallot. August Warren Graham, was born on March 9, 2018 at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. Upon birth, he was assessed immediately and sadly he was not only born with Tetralogy of Fallot but was also diagnosed with a really serious, critical condition called Pulmonary Atresia with VSD, which means that he was born without the valve that controls blood flow from the heart to the lungs and as a result, blood does not properly flow to the lungs to pick up oxygen. He experienced open heart surgery at 4 days old, 3 catheterizations and was dependent upon oxygen all of the time. August lived for 65 days and he was able to spend approximately a month at home with Mom, Dad and 2 big brothers. Sadly, August’s brave fight ended on Mother’s Day, May 13, 2018.

Judge O’Nan then read the Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Proclamation, proclaiming the week of February 7-14, 2021 as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week in Union County. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve said proclamation, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan then presented a Teen Dating Violence Awareness Proclamation, proclaiming the Month of February 2021 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to approve said proclamation, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Next on the Agenda was an ambulance update, but due to bad weather, that will be rescheduled for our next February meeting or our first meeting in March. Judge O’Nan gave the Magistrates some information for them to look over until that update is presented.

The Judge then presented 4 quotes to the Court for another used Coroner van. He invited Coroner, Stephen Shouse and Deputy Coroner, Lee Baird to the meeting but unfortunately Stephen was unable to attend. Judge O’Nan expressed how badly the Coroner’s office needed 2 vans. He stated that if there were multiple runs or if the van was needed to transport to Louisville or Madisonville for autopsies, just having one van puts them in a bind and causes them to have to lean on our local funeral home and we don’t need to be in the practice of having to do that. Purchasing another van will help prolong the life of the one they have now as well. The quotes provided were as follows:

1. 2016 Nissan-\$19,500
2. 2017 Nissan-\$22,500 Lee stated that this van is already equipped with a lot of stuff that they would need.
3. 2017 Ford Transit Cargo-\$22,500
4. 2018 Chevy Express Cargo-\$23,900

With having reviewed the quotes, Stephen and Lee are requesting with Judge O’Nan recommending that we purchase the 2017 Nissan. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2017 Nissan van for \$22,500 for the Coroner’s Office, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan also asked for the Court’s approval to be able to go on and write a check for the van, which will show on next month’s claims so that we can go on and have it delivered. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve the writing of a check for the van to be able to be delivered now which will show on next month’s claims, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried.

Next on the Agenda is listed as Opening bids for Construction Management for the EOC and Museum. That was incorrectly listed and should have read, Request for Qualifications for the EOC and Museum. Judge O’Nan presented 2 requests, one being from Codell Construction Management out of Winchester, Ky and the other from Integrated Building Services, Frank Eiter of Morganfield, Ky. After talking to our Engineer of record and our Architect of record, Jeff Cantor and Bacon, Farmer & Workman, they are going to review both requests for information and qualifications and get back with the Judge and Sean Sheffer with a combined recommendation, that they will bring to our next Court meeting. Judge O’Nan is asking the Court at this time to take the two Requests of Qualifications under advisement. Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to take the requests under advisement, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan presented to the Court information about the updating of the Fire and Security System at our Central Office Building located across from the Morganfield Elementary School. County Attorney, Julie Wallace has been in contact with Sonitrol regarding the system that is currently in the building. We are trying to get this updated to where it is usable and it will have some kind of monitoring. He wanted to bring to the Court’s attention the costs that are involved in making this happen. There is going to be about \$1,800 worth of installation to upgrade the equipment and then a total of \$79 a month for a 36-month term. Judge O’Nan

recommended that the Court approve this contract and give him permission to sign it in order for the work to be done. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve and to give Judge O’Nan permission to sign the said contract, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried. Magistrate Clements asked for the financial figures on this. Judge O’Nan broke it down stating that for the security part it was \$600, to update the fire system was \$1,200 which is a one-time expense and then on a monthly recurring basis, it will be \$49 for the security and \$30 for the fire for a 36-month lease term. Magistrate Floyd stated that they have had Sonitrol at their store for many years and have had nothing but success with them.

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve the December 2020 Treasurer Report, pending audit, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to approve the January 2021 Treasurer Report, pending audit, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve the 2nd Quarterly Treasurer Report, pending audit, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve transfers, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

On the Claims, the Court was asked to approve a last-minute claim to VoMac Truck Sales in the amount of \$60,940 for our new 2021 Dump Truck with Plow that will be delivered this afternoon. County Attorney, Julie Wallace asked that the claim to the Webster County Jail be held until she makes sure no State inmates were included on the invoice. After these changes were addressed, claims are to be paid as presented.

Judge O’Nan stated that our COVID numbers continue to drop. Governor Beshear announced yesterday that we may have seen 4 solid weeks with reduction in numbers. As of this morning, we are at 32.8 cases per 100,000. That’s the closest we’ve been to the number 25 in a while and we would have been well under that but we added 12 to our report. As far as vaccines, the Green River Health District has received 700 new doses to catch everyone up on their 2nd dose, to make sure everyone stays on schedule. We see the Regional vaccines being dropped in at Madisonville and Owensboro and you do not have to be from Madisonville or Owensboro to take advantage of this. Several of the judges of the Green River District sent a Resolution, as did the Purchase Area about this Regional approach, stating that it punishes some of the people in our rural areas to have to drive that far, because our residents cannot get to Owensboro or Madisonville as quickly as their residents can. Anyone in the 1a or 1b category, which is the 70 plus, if you’re in that age group you are eligible and you can call the Owensboro Health or Madisonville Baptist Health and get on the schedule, or you can go online and register. You can also call our local Health Department or go online at healthdepartment.org and schedule to be put on the list for when we receive more doses. They anticipate receiving another 100 doses this week. Judge O’Nan has heard many people say they can’t get an answer when they call our Health Department. That’s because they have thousands of people calling. The best way to register is online and if you don’t have the ability to do it online, or if you have a family member who is unable to do it, the Judge is asking you to help them to get registered. Green River also

told Judge O’Nan that some of the Regional approach is going to be the private partnerships that the State has developed and he was told that our local Walgreens will be giving vaccines as well. He anticipates that happening as early as late this week. He said to check with Walgreens to be put on their list. He was asked when they were going to get to the 60’s age group and he doesn’t see that happening until mid-March. All of the teachers in the county who wanted the vaccine have been able to be vaccinated. He also stated that Pfizer has announced that they’ve doubled their vaccine output, which is good news.

Magistrate Wyatt stated that for the next couple of days the weather is going to be rough. He asks everyone to slow down and take your time getting where you need to be. He said that the 1st Responders in the County have been very busy and on some very serious calls. At this time Judge O’Nan brought to the Court’s attention that he and Sean Sheffer have been working with the people from the EPA on the new Rescue Building and that that’s still ongoing. At our last Court meeting the Judge told the Court that he would have the final EPA report to bring to this meeting, but the lady that they’ve have been speaking with has been sick for the last 2 weeks. She did email Sean, who made a copy of it for all of the Magistrates, of the Brownfield Grant Application that we will be filling out. It’s actually cheaper than we had previously thought at \$2,500 which is a fail-safe protection for the County that helps protect against both old and new regulations, that grandfathers us in and puts a blanket around us and keeps us safe. When we do receive the final report, we will get the deed prepared and be ready to move forward.

Magistrate Ricketts wanted to compliment and Thank our 1st Responders for the tremendous amount of work that they do. He also stated that the Bunger Road Bridge is near completion. Judge O’Nan thanked Sean Sheffer, Mike Schmied and his Road Crew for all of the work that they’ve done to help get this completed.

Magistrate Floyd Thanked Magistrate Ricketts for all of the bridge updates and pictures that he’s brought before the Court. He also noted that he wanted to start thinking about the Annual Clean-Up that the County provides every year. Uniontown usually has theirs around the 1st of June so he wants to work with all the Magistrates and get them scheduled. He noted that last year Uniontown’s was a huge success. He has also talked to Treasurer, Lissa Gibson about the funds that we get for the Clean-ups and Roadside Pick-ups. Lissa informed him that we came very close to receiving all of the money last year. The Judge concurred that we really did come close to getting all of it last year. As an update, Judge O’Nan stated that we won’t have to give much of that grant money back, that were able to use some for paid help. Moving forward the Judge stated that we should still be able to use inmates, even though they are housed in Webster, we may go to a 4 10hour day schedule because of the traveling. He isn’t sure though. how quick the inmates are going to be allowed to get out to do the work but there is talk of whether or not we can hire crews to do the work with that money until the inmates are available. If he finds out that we are able to do that he will let the Court know.


Magistrate Byrnes wanted to caution everyone in the County to Please be safe the next few days with the weather getting so bad.

Magistrate Clements wanted to know, with the Oil AST having to be emptied at the building that we’re wanting to purchase for the Rescue Squad, would the Road Department have

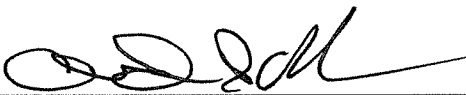
any need for the 5- gallon empty tank? Judge O’Nan replied that the oil itself would not be hard to get rid of with there being several people who use oil fired furnaces that would be glad to have it and there’s a service that comes around and will pick up the tanks and take them as well. Magistrate Byrnes also stated that it can be taken to the Recycle Building and gotten rid of as well. Clements also wanted to know about the 2 transports to Webster County that Jailer, Shawn Elder refused to accept because their blood alcohol level was above 2.5. He wanted to know the procedure on this. Judge O’Nan stated that we have a breathalyzer machine here that they check them on when the police officers bring them in and he thinks that what Shawn’s proposal is, is that if an agency brings someone in that has that high of a blood alcohol level, they’re not going to take possession of them until it’s lower to a safe level, which is the same way he ran the jail when it was an open jail. A lot of times they would have to be taken to the hospital to make sure they are kept alive when levels are that high. Webster County also has the right to refuse to take possession of someone with that high of a level for liability purposes also. When Shawn refuses to transport someone because of levels higher than 2.5, the arresting officer then takes them to the hospital for their own safety as well as to keep them off of the roads.

Judge O’Nan wanted to add, that if the weather follows through with the way it is predicted, the Courthouse may be on a delayed schedule Thursday morning. With as many accidents that have occurred this morning, the ice that we may get is going to be very dangerous. He asked for everyone to stay tuned and that he would let the County know by announcing it on WMSK and on his Facebook page.

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



Fiscal Court Clerk
Kim Nance



Adam O’Nan
County Judge/Executive