

UNION COUNTY FISCAL COURT MEETING
May 24, 2022

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. No public comment was made at the hearing, by phone or by mail. Judge O’Nan closed the hearing.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with a Prayer by Bro. Jerry Manning, and the Pledge to the American Flag.

The Union County Fiscal Court met in a regular scheduled meeting with Judge Executive Adam O’Nan presiding. The Union County Fiscal Court met in the upstairs Courtroom. Magistrates present were Wyatt, Floyd, Ricketts, Byrnes and Clements.

The minutes from the May 12, 2022 Fiscal Court meeting were accepted as read.

Tammy Dempsey, our new Moffit Lake Manager and her daughter, Jessica Wright, came before the Court to give an update on the Mental Health Awareness 5k and 1mile fun run/walk that is taking place at Moffit’s on Saturday, May 28, 2022. Registration will start at 7:00 a.m., the race begins at 8:00 a.m., with stretching exercises beginning at 7:45 a.m. The entry fee is \$20 and all participants will receive a t-shirt and a medal. Jessica stated that as of today, there are 49 who have already paid to participate, with 13 being between the ages of 8 and 17. She encouraged everyone to come out for the race and if you aren’t actually running or walking, you could still participate by making signs/posters of encouragement to be held along the route cheering the participants on.

The Court commended Tammy on the great job she’s done since taking the position of Manager and Jessica for spearheading the 5k event for a very important cause.

Judge O’Nan was invited to the Kiwanis Club of Sturgis meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2022. At the meeting the Judge presented a Proclamation proclaiming May 19, 2022 as Kiwanis International Day in Union County. He presented the Proclamation to the Court this morning in honor of his friend, Magistrate Jim Byrnes who serves as the Vice-President of the club. Since the Proclamation was proclaimed a few days ago, no motion was needed.

Judge O’Nan presented the 2022/2023 County Road Aid Resolution with a total of \$1,135,240.83 in road aid money for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Roll was called as follows to approve said resolution:

Magistrate Floyd – Aye

Magistrate Ricketts – Aye
Magistrate Wyatt – Aye
Magistrate Clements – Aye
Magistrate Byrnes – Aye
Judge/Executive Adam O’Nan – Aye

Judge O’Nan presented a LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND 2022 Grant Application RESOLUTION. The Resolution states that the Union County Fiscal Court proposes to repave the roads and basketball court at Moffit Lake Recreation Area and that the Court is holding in reserves \$268,496.00 for the purpose of matching the Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to approve said Resolution, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

While stating that it is an “aggressive budget,” Judge O’Nan presented the first reading of the 2022/2023 Budget in the amount of \$23,535,892.96. Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 first reading of the budget, seconded by Magistrate Wyatt, motion carried. Magistrate Clements voted NO due to there not being any funds in the budget for blacktop.

Judge O’Nan presented the Preapproved Expenses for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 Preapproved Expenses, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

County Attorney, Julie Wallace stated that it was time to Appoint Viewers Pursuant to KRS 178.070 to View and Report on Martin Collins Road. Those appointed were County Engineer and Deputy EMA Director, Sean Sheffer and EMA Director, Rick White. Wallace stated that they will meet with a supervisor to go look at the road and a hearing will be held on June 14, 2022. Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to appoint Sean Sheffer and Rick White as viewers for said project, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Magistrate Clements made a motion to award the bid for a Tandem Axle Dump Truck to Vomac Truck Sales & Service, Inc. in the amount of \$234,370.00, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried. The bid stated that the price included the chassis, body, snow removal, pintle hitch and tarp, which will be installed before delivery on a 2024 GR64F with body with dump bed and plow equipment. Delivery is expected to be in the 2nd or 3rd Quarter of 2023.

Due to supply issues, Magistrate Clements made a motion to accept all 2022/2023 Road Material Bids, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried. Magistrate Wyatt abstained from voting due to him being employed by Young’s Rental.

Judge O’Nan stated that after he, Road Supervisor Tony Ratley, Magistrate Ricketts and Magistrate Wyatt finished interviewing for the full-time Road Department hire, they are recommending the Court to hire David Reed at \$16 an hour. David already has his CDL License and is a heavy equipment operator. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve said recommendation, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

County Engineer Sean Sheffer explained to the Court that because of mold issues in the current office at Moffit Lake a new building needs to be constructed. This building will consist of an office area, a store area, bathhouses, and a laundry facility. It will be built to accommodate being used as a severe weather shelter for the campers in the event one were to occur. They are also wanting to purchase approximately 6 park model cabins on wheels to replace the older cabins that have been there for years. These cabins will have no foundation, will be furnished, ready to go, lock and key and will be winterized, allowing them to be rented out later in the year. We will be responsible for putting in the septic systems for the new cabins. There are currently 49 camping sights at Moffit Lake with 40 of those being seasonal/monthly, 9 cabins and we have a primitive tent camping area. The plan is to add about 25 new campsites.

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to set advertisement bid dates for June 1, 2022 and June 8, 2022 and to open bids on June 14th for the construction of a new office and to purchase additional cabins for Moffit Lake, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan explained to the Court our need for an IT Director. Currently, Eidetik takes care of our IT needs, but they have multiple customers and cannot be dedicated to just us. He stated that we are extremely vulnerable for cyber-attacks. With our new website allowing payments to be made online, he wants to ensure that those utilizing it feels secure.

Magistrate Ricketts made a motion to set May 25, 2022 and June 1, 2022 as dates to advertise to hire an IT Director for the County and to bring a hire recommendation before the Court on June 14, 2022, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Magistrate Byrnes made a motion to advertise for a part-time Jail Transport Officer on May 25, 2022 and June 1, 2022 and to bring a hire recommendation before the Court on June 14, 2022, seconded by Magistrate Ricketts, motion carried. Judge O’Nan stated that the maximum hours would be 20hours a week or 40hours a pay period and there would be no benefits.

Judge O’Nan stated that there is an opening for the Appeals Board and on the recommendation of PVA Clay Well, Judge O’Nan appointed DeeDee McPeak to the board. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to accept said recommendation, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Claims are to be paid as presented.

Judge O’Nan told the Court that he would like to cancel our 5th Tuesday Court date. Magistrate Byrnes made a motion to approve cancelling our 5th Tuesday Court date, seconded by Magistrate Clements, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan then stated that he would like to hold a special called meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, for the sole purpose of hire recommendations for summer help in the Judge’s office, our seasonal hire and the Moffit Lake Gatekeeper. Magistrate Clements made a motion to approve having a special called meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, seconded by Magistrate Byrnes, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan informed the Court that he attended a meeting with a lot of the Kenergy District Judges, Connexion and Ervin Cable and he was encouraged with the legislative work that was done and the approach the Judge’s are taking with Kenergy to stand in unison with them. He’s hoping that we might see some action soon in regards to rural internet.

Magistrate Wyatt informed the Court that the First Responders are still having radio issues. It’s gotten to the point that they’ve had to use cellphones while on some calls and that something needs to be done to fix the issues. Judge O’Nan said that the Kentucky State Police is in the process of putting up new towers all over to provide coverage that will allow us to access these at no cost to the county. A meeting has been scheduled for June 16, 2022 with some folks who are going to help us with a short-term fix. The long-term fix is after the KSP get their repeaters up we should have about 95% coverage in the county. Unfortunately, there is no quick fix. A quarter of a million-dollar grant has been applied for on radios but we’ve not heard anything about it yet. If we don’t receive the grant this may turn into a Coal Severance project. Judge O’Nan is also going to accept bids for a RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for companies that can help us on a large scale and bid advertisement dates will be set at our next meeting.

Magistrate Wyatt stated the he had met with some of our county chiefs regarding the high fuel prices. They are really concerned and said that they may have to cut back on going to non-life-threatening calls.

Magistrate Ricketts wanted to recognize our County Clerk, the poll workers and everyone involved in the primary election for the outstanding job that they did.

He also stated that Sturgis Trade Days was brought back last weekend and that everyone seemed to really enjoy it.

Magistrate Floyd inquired if we were any closer to getting another inmate crew? The Judge said that we’ve actually increased the number of inmates that Danny Dempsey is getting, and that there’s a lot of red tape to get through in order to get another crew.

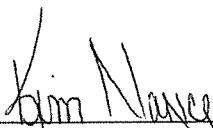
He also encouraged everyone to visit one of the ballparks to see how well the recreation funds have been put to good use.

He noted that the state finished blacktopping HWY 360 and are planning on blacktopping HWY 948 which is in dire need of it.


Magistrate Clements wanted to know what the status was on the landfill? Judge O’Nan said that about 3 weeks ago he met with Republic and that the full-on opening of the landfill is still on hold and that they are very interested in opening a transfer station at the landfill location. He will keep the Court updated.

He said that he’s been getting a lot of questions regarding the Officer’s Club/Museum. Judge O’Nan said that the Preservation Society has held us up and was being difficult. They are upset that they were not brought in earlier on the project than what they were. Judge O’Nan asked what the consequences would be if we went at this on our own? They stated that we would lose all Federal dollars that we’re getting for this project and that we wouldn’t be able to get the tax abatement. Since we are not getting any Federal dollars for this project and we’re already tax exempt the Judge had Jeff Cantor, project engineer, call and tell them that we are withdrawing from the Kentucky Heritage Council and we are full speed ahead now.

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



Fiscal Court Clerk
Kim Nance



Adam O’Nan
County Judge/Executive