

UNION COUNTY FISCAL COURT MEETING

January 9, 2024

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 a regular meeting with Judge/Executive Adam O’Nan presiding. The Union County Fiscal Court met in the upstairs Courtroom. Magistrates present were Wyatt, Floyd, Jones and Girten. Magistrate Ricketts was absent.

The minutes from the December 28 and December 29, 2023, Special Called Fiscal Court Meetings were accepted as read.

Judge O’Nan presented two bids for the County Clerk’s Office Renovations. The bids were received as follows:

- Utley’s Construction - \$60,940.00
- Max’s Custom Completion, LLC - \$70,000.00 (\$35,000 Labor & \$35,000 Material)

Magistrate Floyd made a motion to take these bids under advisement and to award at our January 23, 2024, Fiscal Court Meeting, seconded by Magistrate Girten, motion carried.

Sheriff Jason Thomas came before the Court asking for their help in purchasing (5) Flock Safety Falcon Cameras for the Sheriff’s Department. Thomas stated that these cameras are not for tracking speed but are license plate readers and will also take pictures of vehicles. They are a game changer for law enforcement in that if an Amber/Silver Alert is issued and the license plate and vehicle has been put in the NCIC Data Base, if the vehicle passes through a Flock Camera, officers will be notified immediately of its location. Flock Cameras in Henderson and Evansville were detrimental in solving the ATM theft that recently took place in Sturgis. In order to become a part of the NCIC Directory, at least 5 cameras have to be purchased and this will allow a camera to be placed in each of our districts. Sheriff Thomas asked the Court to purchase 2 cameras, with his office purchasing 3 with their excess fees, at a cost of \$3000 per camera with an \$18,450 set up fee and a \$15,000 annual fee. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to purchase 2 Flock Safety Falcon Cameras for the Sheriff’s Department, seconded by Magistrate Jones, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan told the Court that since taking over the Expo Center and after talking to several equine enthusiasts, he was made aware of some equipment that was needed in order to help them with events at the Expo Center. He presented the Court with 3 quotes for a Black Widow that will be purchased with Coal Severance Funds. The quotes were as follows:

- West Kentucky Arena Tools/Tim Palmer-Princeton, KY
\$8,350.00 plus freight charges between \$400/\$800
- ABI Attachments, Inc.
\$9,645.15 including freight
- Amarillo Dirt Tech Engineering
\$9,336.00 including freight

Magistrate Jones made a motion to approve the purchase of a Black Widow from West Kentucky Arena Tools at the price of \$8,350 plus freight with Coal Severance Funds, seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

Judge O’Nan stated that with the purchase of the new chairs for the Breckinridge Museum, we have 309 old chairs and 10 chair carts that need to be declared as surplus. Magistrate Floyd made a motion to declare the old chairs and chair carts as surplus, seconded by Magistrate Girten, motion carried.

Tammy Dempsey, manager at Moffit Lake came before the Court to give an update on what’s taking place out there. She stated that all of the new cabins are up and going. They’ve been rented 23 times for a total of 53 nights. The new cabin cleaner, Brittany Drury, is doing a great job. Phase 1 of the blacktop has started and should be finished in the spring. As of January 1, 2024, reservations can be made on Campspot and she will start restocking the store for the March 15th opening.

Coroner Stephen Shouse came before the Court to request that Marcus Wilson be hired as an additional PRN Deputy Coroner. Shouse stated that once the coroner arrives on the scene of a fatality, they are not able to leave until all protocol has been covered. Because of new state regulations, regarding quicker, in person notification of next of kin, he feels it would be beneficial to hire an extra deputy who can help with this. The new deputy will have to complete a weeklong Basic Coroner Training that takes place the end of this month. Magistrate Wyatt made a motion to approve the hiring of Marcus Wilson as an additional PRN Deputy Coroner at \$16.85 an hour (in use time) and \$3.00 an hour (on call time), seconded by Magistrate Floyd, motion carried.

George Blakely, a veteran serving 4 years in the Air Force and 16 years in the Navy, came before the Court to share information regarding a Walk of Honor. Blakely said that the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars would like to have a Walk of Honor established in Union County at the Breckinridge Museum. The Walk of Honor will be made up of bricks purchased for approximately \$70, engraved with the name, branch of service and dates of enlistment of veterans, along with a monument that lists each branch of the service which are:

- Army

- Navy
- Air Force
- Marines
- Coast Guard
- Space Force

Judge O’Nan, Magistrate Girten and County Engineer Sean Sheffer have been out to the Museum and feel that out front, by the cannon would be a good place for this. Museum Manager, Amber Weatherbee has already volunteered to take care of the brick orders if approved. Judge O’Nan stated that he will have more information at a later date.

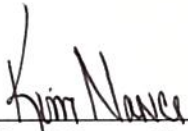
Claims are to be paid as presented.

Judge O’Nan presented the Court with an update on the Expo Center. He stated that a good deal of maintenance needs to be done. A Structural Engineer has looked at the roof and recommended that it be replaced, and the heating and air are currently being looked at. The Judge has requested the use of more trustees from the Webster County Detention Center from Judge Henry. The Fire Marshall was there Thursday and provided them with corrections that need to be addressed. He stated that the County can proceed with events as long as improvements continue to be made. Judge O’Nan personally committed to keep him apprised of the progress being made. Maintenance Supervisor, Mark Mills is currently working on emergency lighting that was not working when we took the facility over, and Magistrate Girten has volunteered to help with this. Our first event was this weekend with the Motocross. Jeff Cox, owner of West Kentucky Arenacross, was very complimentary and said that this was his largest crowd of the season. The food trucks were a huge success. There is another event this weekend and the weekend of the 27th is the derby which was sold out to participants 3 weeks in advance. Coach Steward and Mark Mills have made several great maintenance recommendations moving forward. The Judge stated that 95% of all expenses will be paid with Coal Severance Funds and the roof, tractor and other equipment will be 100 % paid with Coal Severance Funds. Judge O’Nan stated that “a lot of really good things are happening in the County”.

All of the Magistrates gave updates on their districts with nothing that required movement from the Court.

Emergency Management Director, Lee Baird, came before the Court to let everyone know that after working on it for nearly two years, the Sturgis First Christian Church is finally ready to be used as a Warming Center, along with the Sturgis Senior Citizens building. There are other Warming Centers throughout the County and those are listed on the Union County Judge Executive Office Facebook page, the Union County Emergency Management Facebook page, and the alert system that you can sign up for on our website at www.unioncountyku.org.

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



Fiscal Court Clerk
Kim Nance



Adam O'Nan
County Judge/Executive