

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Kenton Chambers
1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington

MEETING MINUTES

August 31 , 2021

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge Knochelmann called to order the August 31, 2021, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Commissioner Nienaber led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann
 Commissioner Beth Sewell, District 1
 Commissioner Jon Draud, District 2
 Commissioner Joe Nienaber, District 3
 County Attorney, Stacy Tapke

Staff: Joe Shriver, County Administrator/Deputy Judge
 Scott Gunning, Assistant County Administrator
 Roy Cox, County Treasurer
 Sue Kaiser, Fiscal Court Clerk

Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of August 17 , 2021.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Citizens Address

No citizens came before the Fiscal Court.

General Business

A. Presentation of Service Recognition Awards to Dan Humpert and Dave Schroeder.

Judge Knochelmann stated that the Fiscal Court wants to honor Dan Humpert, a board member for the Library, and Dave Schroeder, the Director of the Kenton County Library. About a year or so ago, we were looking for partners in Kenton County to elevate the broadband discussion. It has been a passion of Dan Huppert's for a long time, and they got together and said they would like to help. Recently, we have come into come funding and some models that have allowed us to deploy broadband to every residence in Kenton County. Their direction and leadership to help start the conversation should be commended. He then presented each of them with a Service Recognition Award. He thanked them for all of their hard work, and asked them to pass that on to the rest of the board.

Mr. Schroeder thanked everyone on the county level, as they have been great to work with. It has been a great effort, and he enjoyed the process.

Mr. Humpert stated that it was the county that really got it started. Judge Knochelmann, Commissioner Sewell and John Stanton were very passionate about this. The Library Board was also fantastic. Also, the Kenton County Schools and St. Elizabeth were onboard with this as well.

Commissioner Sewell stated that Kathy Donohue and the citizens in the south end that worked on the survey that got a lot started.

B. Presentation by the South Kenton County Citizen Group.

Kathy Donahue, a longtime resident of unincorporated Kenton County thanked the county for the broadband. She is representing the South Kenton County Citizen's Group, and especially the zoning subcommittee. The South Kenton County Citizen's Group was formed in response to direction 2030. The zoning committee was formed as a subcommittee to address the vision set in 2014 for the rural-agricultural area. For the past seven years, they have been working in partnership with Kenton County and PDS to offer ideas towards the completion of the zoning task. The committee is comprised of eight landowners, and they represent all corners of South Kenton County. They individually own land from one acre to over 100 acres. Commissioner Sewell and Debbie Vaughn have attended some of their meetings, along with Judge Knochelmann and John Stanton. Over the years they have met with Commissioner Nienaber and Commissioner Draud to discuss ideas.

Ms. Donahue then stated that they have presented to the Fiscal Court their proposals for rural/commercial regulations, industrial buffers for farms and short-term rental regulations in agricultural zones. Now, they want to move onto residential zoning. They have sent the Commissioners three proposals for tackling this task. They want to research and align rural lot sizes, location and layout to preserve rural character. Their goal is to preserve their heritage and lifestyle, and at the same time respect individual property rights and allow for growth.

Ms. Donahue then stated that this proved to be their hardest task, because there are a lot of factors that come into it. They used results from their 2014 and 2016 surveys and community meetings, they did online research, met with real estate agents, contacted planning departments of neighboring counties, communicated with the Executive Vice President of the BIA, and PDS was extremely helpful for data and mapping services. They believe that their proposals represent the best path forward for a balance of preservation and growth. They consider the limitations, such as steep hills, soil types conducive to slippage, narrow rural roads and they are dependent on septic systems and roadside ditches for water. They are many years away from SD1 being able to provide sewer service.

Ms. Donahue then stated that they have some good things going for them. They have beautiful countryside that offers a unique lifestyle opportunity with the ability to support agriculture in combination with appropriate residential growth. They are close to urban and suburban settings, which makes it attractive to homeowners who would like to have a little more elbow room but are willing to drive a short distance for entertainment and shopping. The three proposals that have been presented are their recommendations for tackling the remaining zoning task in the comprehensive plan. They know that there is still a lot of work to be done. They have to get opinions from residents and other stakeholders need to be solicited. Market data and other options can be considered and analyzed as well. She thanked the Fiscal Court for the past partnership and support, and she looks forward to working with the Court as they tackle this remaining zone goal.

Judge Knochelmann stated that they have been talking about this, and they will take this back and have a proposal to them about next steps in the near future. He respects all of the months of work that the group has spent on this.

Commissioner Sewell stated that we can clearly say that this group of citizens is very motivated and passionate. They are concerned with preserving the phenomenal rural lifestyle that exists there. She asked if it is going to be the efforts of the Fiscal Court that drives this? She also asked for Commissioner Nienaber to speak to PDS involvement.

Commissioner Nienaber stated that these folks have done a tremendous amount of work, and PDS takes direction from the Government Body. He knows that Sharmili Reddy has been working with the group, and they ask that their direction be given by the Fiscal Court to keep consistent with the other cities.

Judge Knochelmann stated that it is on the Fiscal Court's back.

C. Presentation of the rate increase for the unincorporated area of Kenton County protected by Crescent Springs Fire Department.

Chief Jeff Wendt stated that in 2017 the Fiscal Court passed an Ordinance for them to put the Unincorporated Kenton County that they protect on the tax bills. As part of that Ordinance, they are just looking to raise the rate to the same rate that Villa Hills and Crescent Spring's residents pay. That was their stance all along. They are looking for an increase of \$1.15 per \$1,000, and that will make Crescent Springs, Villa Hills and the Unincorporated County equal across the board. In the last year they have had to replace a ten year old ambulance, COVID has hit them very hard on payroll and they are not in line for any COVID relief funds.

Judge Knochelmann stated that no action is needed, it will be on the bill at the new rate.

D. Request approval for Accurate Controls, Inc. to be named the sole source provider for the security control operations center utilized by the Kenton County Detention Center.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that the next two items are both sole source declarations. This is an integral part of our security controls. We are changing out cameras, and going from analog to high definition. Unfortunately, because of the controls being tied into the command center, you can't just go out to bid for that camera for plug and play. It is proprietary, so the documentation on the agenda states that. He asked that the record reflect that this is declared a sole source, and allow us to move forward to change out this important security system.

Commissioner Draud asked if we were having a problem with the old equipment?

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is all original equipment from ten years ago.

Jailer Marc Fields stated that they are having issues with the system. First of all, it is all analog and the camera system is getting to the point where the observation in the dorms is hazy to see. They are going from a DVR system of recording to a computer based IP system. It will be much better.

Commissioner Sewell asked if this is a budgeted item?

Jailer Fields answered that it is a budgeted item.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- E. Request approval for Flightwave Aerospace Systems to be named the sole source provider for the Edge-130 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for the Kenton County Police Department.**

Chief Jones stated that this is to upgrade the drone program, and is being paid for by the Port Authority Grant.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- F. Claims List dated August 27, 2021.**

There were no questions on the Claims Lis

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 21-24 (Action Requested)
Resolution of the fiscal court of the county of Kenton, K entucky approving the issuance of the National Finance Authority Revenue Bonds (Saint Elizabeth Medical Center, Inc. Project), series 2021 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$100,000,000 for the purpose of financing the acquisition, constructio n, improvement and equipping of medical facilities and certain other matters relating thereto.**

Elizabeth Younger from Dinsmore and Shohl stated that they are serving as the bond counsel for this issue. This has to be brought before the Fiscal Court because one of the projects that St. Elizabeth is looking to finance is physically located in Kenton County at the Edgewood facility. Essentially, St. Elizabeth has to finance this through the National Finance Authority this time, because they are also financing projects in Indiana at their Dearborn Facility with the same bond issue. This is simply approving the project. There is no obligation to the County on this. This is just a technical issue.

Lori Baldwin, the CFO from St. Elizabeth, stated that they will be making upgrades to the main campus in Edgewood as well as the outpatient surgery center in Edgewood with some of the proceeds from the bond issuance.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance 226.00 - Second Reading
An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the levy and adoption of the 2021 annual improvement benefit assessment rate on the basis of the assessed values of benefitted properties within the former city of Latonia Lakes, Kentucky as spe cifically identified in Kenton County ordinances 620.9 & 620.10.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- B. Ordinance 971.17 - Second Reading
An Ordinance adopting an interlocal agreement between the Kenton County Fiscal**

Court and the City of Walton, Kentucky for the collection of a job assessment fee.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that Walton doesn't have a payroll tax, so we need to have this interlocal agreement to collect for them.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**C. Ordinance 226.01 - Second Reading
An Ordinance (226.01) of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the Fiscal Year
2021-2022 budget and amendment thereof.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that this is for \$63,000 for a Police records grant, two COVID relief grants through the CDBG funds for \$200,000 each and increased transfers to the Road Fund for carry over projects for \$2,188,000.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 21-109
Request approval to accept the bid for hot mix asphalt from Riegler Blacktop, Inc. for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**
- B. Exhibit No. 21-110
Request approval to accept the bid for in-place paving from Riegler Blacktop, Inc. for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**
- C. Exhibit No. 21-111
Request approval to accept Fiscal Year 2021 Port Security Grant to be used for water safety vests and ballistic vests for the Kenton County Police Department.**
- D. Exhibit No. 21-112
Request approval to authorize an agreement between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Northern Kentucky Regional Hazmat/WMD Unit to provide services related to hazardous materials containment and control.**
- E. Exhibit No. 21-113
Request approval of a contract with NAPA of Alexandria for the supply of Vehicle and Equipment Parts**
- F. Exhibit No. 21-114
Request approval of a parking agreement between AWH Rivercenter Tenant, LLC and ABM Industry Groups, LLC on behalf of Kenton County.**
- G. Exhibit No. 21-115
Request approval of various leases between Kenton County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.**
- H. Exhibit No. 21-116
Request approval to apply for a grant from Norfolk Southern Rail Corp. for the Kenton County Police Department.**

- I. **Exhibit No. 21-117**
Request approval to surplus various items for the Kenton County Technology Services Department.
- J. **Exhibit 21-118**
Request approval of a proposal from Palmer Engineering for design and right-of-way professional services for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- K. **Exhibit 21-119**
Request approval to go out to bid for cart path paving/renovations at the Kenton County Golf Courses.
- L. **Exhibit 21-120**
Request approval of the Master Services Agreement for Rotary Drilling from Hennecke Drilling LLC for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- M. **Exhibit 21-121**
Request approval to surplus furniture at the Historic Kenton County Courthouse.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Executive Orders

- A. **Executive Order 21-115**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Donna Bloemer to the Kenton County Ethics Commissioner.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- B. **Executive Order 21-116**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the step increase from Dispatcher I to Dispatcher II, G7-1 for Kylie Gross for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

County Attorney 's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke thanked Roy Cox and Marc Fields for providing her with the needed numbers to help her speak about them at a conference.

Commissioners ' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud stated that the press release about the tax reduction was very nice. He wanted to know when it would be sent out, and suggested sending it to the Recorder.

John Stanton answered that now that everyone has approved the press release, it will be sent to the media tomorrow.

Commissioner Draud then asked for an update about sidewalks.

Assistant County Administrator Scott Gunning stated that we are moving forward with the design phase for connecting Meadow Glenn to the new County Park. They had a Zoom call with Integrated Engineers, and they are putting together a scope of work for that which should be back for Fiscal Court consideration at the next meeting.

Commissioner Draud stated that he believes that will be a great project.

Commissioner Beth Sewell

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

Commissioner Joe Nienaber

Commissioner Nienaber had nothing to report.

Judge/Executive 's Report

Judge Knochelmann acknowledged the work being done at the historic courthouse. The hope is to have the next meeting there.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann requested a voice vote whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative with a 4-0 vote.

Text for all proposed and recently passed ordinances may be acquired by accessing the Fiscal Court web page at <http://www.kentoncounty.org> or by contacting the administrative offices at 859.392.1400.

CLERK CERTIFICATION

I, Sue J. Kaiser, having been appointed to the office of Fiscal Court Clerk, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate record of the actions taken by the Kenton County Fiscal Court at the meeting of August 31, 2021.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk