

**KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT**  
**Kenton Chambers**  
**1840 Simon Kenton Way**  
**Covington, KY 41011**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**January 25, 2022**

**5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Judge Knochelmann called to order the January 25, 2022, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Judge Knochelmann 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 January 11, 2022 .**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. 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. Request approval of the Detention Center 's Policy/Procedure Manual.**

Commissioner Draud 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. Claims List dated January 21, 2022.**

There were no questions on the Claims List.

**Resolutions**

**A. Resolution No. 22-01B**  
**A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year Budget**

## **Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$2,500 to cover an insurance premium tax refund, \$300 for Fleet equipment replacements, \$1,500 for the cost of the new tee signs at the Golf Course and \$3,000 to cover an upcoming bond payment for Dispatch.

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

### **B. Resolution No. 22-03**

#### **A Resolution authorizing forfeiture of matching SNK grant funding from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments for Phase II of the Bromley-Crescent Springs Road Project.**

County Engineer Nick Hendrix stated that he believes everyone is familiar with the funding and schedule challenges with this section of the roadway. They have been advised by staff at OKI that the correct approach at this point would be to forfeit our current grant, and reapply in a future cycle with updated budget numbers.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is the second phase of this project, so this has nothing to do with the present phase or construction.

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.

## **Ordinances**

### **A. Ordinance No. 971.18 - Second Reading**

#### **An Ordinance of the Fiscal Court of the County of Kenton, Kentucky repealing Kenton County Ordinance 971.16 which authorized a local development area agreement relating to the establishment and implementation of a local development area tax increment financing district known as the Local Development Area No. 1 within the city of Crescent Springs, Kentucky.**

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that the City of Crescent Springs has already taken action to repeal their Ordinance, and this just cleans up our part in it.

Commissioner Draud asked why this is necessary?

Mr. Shriver answered that they are not going forward with the project that the TIF would have funded.

Commissioner Draud ask if Crescent Springs isn't going to do the project at all?

Mr. Shriver answered that he is not sure what their plans are, but since they canceled their TIF it is only appropriate that we repeal ours.

Commissioner Nienaber asked if this is for Eubanks Rd.

Mr. Shriver answered that it is for Eubanks Rd.

Commissioner Draud 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 No. 226.02 - First Reading**

**An Ordinance amending Kenton County Ordinance No. 225.73 relating to the collection of per diem charges and processing/booking fees for prisoners at the Kenton County Detention Center.**

Jailer Marc Fields stated that there was a Supreme Court ruling about the jail fees, and it basically says that if someone is not convicted of the crime, the jail has to refund their fee.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that he wanted to point out that on the Consent Agenda, there is an item that discontinues collections of released prisoners who may or may not have those charges dropped.

Jailer Fields stated that there was a collection agency that was working on collected fees once the inmate was out of jail. This will be discontinued.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Exhibit No. 22-08**  
Request approval to accept the proposal from National Golf Graphics for the purchase of new tee signs at the Kenton County Golf Courses.
- B. Exhibit 22-09**  
Request approval to discontinue using outside vendor Advent/fs for the purposes of collecting jail fees from prisoners after their release from Kenton County Detention Center custody.
- C. Exhibit 22-10**  
Request approval to extend the Gasoline & Diesel contract with Petroleum Traders Corporation for gasoline with proposed changes, and Valor Inc., for diesel for the Kenton County Fleet Department.
- D. Exhibit 22-11**  
Request approval to award the In-Building Emergency Responder Radio Communications System bid to Mobilcomm, Inc., for the Kenton County Justice Center and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

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.

**Executive Orders**

- A. Executive Order 22-10**  
An Executive Order declaring a Level One Snow Emergency.

No action required.

- B. Executive Order 22-11**  
An Executive Order rescinding the Level One Snow Emergency.

No action required.

- C. Executive Order 22-12**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the declaration of a State of Emergency for the Kenton County Detention Center.**

No action required.

- D. Executive Order 22-13**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Shane McQueary as a Seasonal Public Services Technician for the Kenton County Public Works 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.

- E. Executive Order 22-14**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Nick Tewes as the Engineering Services Manager for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**

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

- F. Executive Order 22-15**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the promotion of Sarah Halpin from a Dispatcher I to a Dispatcher II, G7-1 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

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

- G. Executive Order 22-16**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Kelsey Maccombs as the Director for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

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

- H. Executive Order 22-17**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Michael Richman as a QRT Police Officer for the Kenton County Police 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.

- I. Executive Order 22-18**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the step increase of David Jump from a Public Services Technician I to a Public Service Technician II for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**

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.

**J. Executive Order 22-19**

**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the step increases for Timothy Hogan, John Mairose and Daniel Merrell for the Kenton County Police Department.**

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.

**K. Executive Order 22-20**

**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Joe Nienaber with Beth Sewell as the alternate for the Planning and Development Services Council.**

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

**Administrative Reporting**

**Public Works**

Nick Hendrix stated that Nick Tewes is resigning from his department. Mr. Tewes has been with the County since July of 2015. He is leaving to go to the City of Ft. Mitchell, and will be their Public Works Director. They are going to miss him, as he has been with the County on every big project that they had, and has run the engineering services division.

Mr. Hendrix then stated that his department will have a couple of equipment purchases coming up that were budgeted for this year. One is a replacement backhoe, and the other is a replacement skid steer. The pricing that they got for the backhoe comes from a modification in the procurement code with Sourcewell as the vendor. He will return at the next meeting with a request for a budget adjust to purchase.

**Technology Services**

Jessica Ramsey stated that her department has been working on a lot of connectivity issue at 1840 Simon Kenton Way. There were three major places where they made some adjustments. They have added additional access points to improve Wi-Fi connectivity. They were about to change these access points without having to make any purchases.

Ms. Ramsey then stated that they had a very important piece of hardware that stores all the data for the servers that was ordered in July that finally arrived. This will address some of the major slowness and connectivity problems that they have been basically patching up for the last six months.

Lastly, Ms. Ramsey stated that she and Michelle Foster met with Nick Hendrix and the Police Department to talk about the requirements at the new Police auxiliary building. They will be beefing up security as much as they can, getting some better card readers and security cameras. This will allow people like Steve Hensley to have the ability to see the whole system at multiple facilities at the same time.

**Parks/Buildings and Grounds/Golf Course**

Scott Gunning thanked the Fiscal Court for approving the replacement of the tee signs at both the Willows and Pioneer courses. He feels it will be great to get those signs updated. They were hoping to start the patio expansion last week, but unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate. The contractor has assured them that it will be completed in next few weeks, and definitely before the start of the upcoming golf season. We are also in the process of working with Indigo Golf on the removal of additional dead trees on the property, which should help improve the conditions and playability of the courses.

Mr. Gunning then stated that last week the guardrail at the Historic Courthouse parking lot was completed. He is still working with GRW to finalize the landscape plan for the building along with getting the RFP out for the second phase of the roof project. The house at 27 Klette that was purchased last year is now vacant, as the tenants have moved out and we are currently getting that property ready for demolition.

Mr. Gunning then stated that the crews have been busy this week removing debris at Doe Run Lake, as it's a good time with the water being down. The RFP for the replacement of the playground and safety surfacing at Lincoln Ridge closes this Thursday. As the Court is aware, we've been replacing our playgrounds for some time now. The good news is that this should be our last playground we have to replace for a while, as we are finally all caught up with these projects. He thanked the Fiscal Court for allowing us to update all of our playgrounds over the past few years, as this has helped enhance the parks.

Lastly, for Commissioner Draud, he wanted to give an update on the sidewalk project on Independence Station Road to the New County Park. The design phase is still going well, as last week Integrated Engineers conducted the traffic counting study. We have not received those results back yet, but the plan is moving forward. It does look like, as we expected, we might have to purchase around 5-8ft of additional right of way in one area but he will continue to keep everyone updated as we get more information on it.

### **External Affairs**

John Stanton stated that today completes day 15 of the 60 day session with the General Assembly. What has been most noteworthy about the first session is the redistricting and the General Assembly. We will have four State Senators who represent a portion of Kenton County versus two under the prior map. That redistricting is unlikely to be challenged in court, and won't necessarily mean a big change in business for us, because we're fortunate up here in Northern Kentucky that our Caucus Members across counties work together so well. We get equal support from folks who are serving in Campbell or Boone County. House map which would add another House Representative representing part of Kenton County is being challenged, and we'll have to see how that works out in court. If one is familiar with the concept of reapportionment, after redistricting occurs the counties are obligated to reapportion their Commissioner or Magistrate districts based on population. In the last legislative session, there was a piece of legislation passed that delayed that from June of 21 to June of 22. There was a disagreement among lawyers as to whether or not that worked adequately, so yesterday a Bill was passed unanimously out of the House to move reapportionment to June of 23. He has every reason to believe that will pass out of the Senate in similar fashion. So, reapportionment is an issue that we probably won't have to take up until June of 23. Since the filing deadline has passed, so we may see the General Assembly getting more engaged in budget and other legislative issues. In a very unusual occurrence, the budget has passed, out of the House and gone over to the Senate inside of the first two weeks of the session. Also, there's been a lot of publicity up here about some of the projects, including the potential \$10 million lab project for Covington. In as much as he can tell, that project was not included in the House version of the budget that

passed, but we are fortunate to have folks in the Senate, who will have their say on the budget process also and that'll take up a lot of the next 45 days in the General Assembly.

Mr. Stanton then stated that just a couple hours ago, they were able to attend a news conference that the Governor had in Northern Kentucky where \$19 million in checks for water and sewer were passed out. Kenton County benefited from over \$6 million of those funds. One million dollars was for water projects, and over five million dollars was for wastewater treatment projects.

### **County Attorney 's Report**

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

### **Commissioners ' Reports**

#### **Commissioner Jon Draud**

Commissioner Draud had nothing to report.

#### **Commissioner Beth Sewell**

Commissioner Sewell stated that a major Intel project has come up just a little ways from us, and she is just thrilled about that. She hopes that part of Northern Kentucky can take advantage of the possibility of the need for that kind of manufacturing in this community, and it's a huge success for our sister state. She hopes our economic development ears or eyes are open for those opportunities here.

#### **Commissioner Joe Nienaber**

Commissioner Nienaber had nothing to report.

### **Judge/Executive 's Report**

Judge Knochelmann stated that Governor visited today to present checks for the grants that were given for Kenton County and various cities for the Water District for backup power generators. This actually makes our system even that much more secure, and then there will also be almost 60 houses that are going to be off of the septic system due to money being given to SD1. These would have been projects that would have been so far down the list that he doesn't know if they ever would have gotten accomplished.

### **Adjournment**

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. 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 January 25, 2022.

*Sue Kaiser*

---

Sue J. Kaiser  
Fiscal Court Clerk

DRAFT