

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Historic Kenton County Courthouse
5272 Madison Pike
Independence, KY 41051

MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann called to order the July 11 2023, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Commissioner Joe Nienaber led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann
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 meeting of June 27, 2023.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Citizens Address

General Business

A. Request approval of the Federally-funded Subaward and Funding Assistance Agreement between the Life Learning Center and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

Director of External Affairs John Stanton stated that this is a contract that they should be familiar with, as it is the companion that goes with the Enzweiler Building Institute. The Life Learning Center will provide the life skills necessary to help them optimize the outcomes of their addition of the work skills.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this will be a great partnership.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

B. Request approval to allocate COLT Tax Funds to Holly Hill and DCCH for various capital improvements.

Director of External Affairs John Stanton stated that after phase two of the ARPA review funds, the Court asked them to check with six additional organizations. The memo reflects recommendations regarding two of them. Treasury staff identified that reserve funds in mental health tax funds were around \$2 million, and we could use about one million dollars without compromising the financial stability of the fund. They are recommending dispersal of approximately \$500,000 a piece to Holly Hill and DCCH, as both of them are critical components in the mental health system in Northern Kentucky. They have already divided some critical infrastructure assistance to Children's Home of Northern Kentucky.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

C. Claims List - Dated July 7, 2023

There were no questions on the Claims List.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 23-01M

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: \$3 million for the revolving loan with the Port Authority which is for the Sims Building (this is to be able to have the revolving loan have a separate line item in the budget), \$9,600 for Dispatch retirement and \$4 million for funds approved in Fiscal Year 23 budget (have the Life Learning Center number a little bit higher) to get it in the correct line for the Fiscal Year 24 budget.

Commissioner Nienaber asked if there is a cap on unused sick time?

Treasurer Roy Cox answered that the cap is 2,000 hours, and they get paid out half of that.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

B. Resolution No. 23-25

A Resolution authorizing an application to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for reimbursement of expenditures for the transportation of non-public school students.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

C. Resolution No. 23-26

A Resolution authorizing and approving certain actions in connection with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is for Transitions, and we do it every year.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Ordinances

A. Ordinance 532.22 - First Reading

An Ordinance adopting the Kenton County Reapportionment Commissioner's Report establishing the boundaries of each of the districts of the County Commissioner's and Justices of the Peace.

John Stanton stated that this is the product of the Reapportionment process that occurs after the census every ten years. Three people participated in the process, and he thanked Gabe Summe and her staff for their incredible support. These recommendations were created within the boundaries of the law. The great news is that 18 of the 19 cities in Kenton County are intact under this plan. The only city that isn't intact is the City of Covington. The urban and Latonia core of Covington is intact, and the only piece that is separated is the piece that is a tail that comes out to the southern part of the county.

Commissioner Draud stated that he wanted to compliment the committee, as it looks like they took an urban/suburban/rural approach. Theoretically, he feels that is the best approach.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 23-109
Request approval of the Order of Allowance to the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Kenton County Clerk's Office.**
- B. Exhibit No. 23-110
Request approval of the contract with Four Seasons Environmental, Inc. for the Maintenance Agreement for a Fourth Skilled Trades Technician for the Kenton County Detention Center.**
- C. Exhibit No. 23-111
Request approval of the 2023 Kentucky Waste Tire Management Program Agreement for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**
- D. Exhibit No. 23-112
Request approval of the report for the Waste Tire Grant for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**
- E. Exhibit No. 23-113
Request approval of the funding contract between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and OKI.**
- F. Exhibit No. 23-114
Request approval of an Agreement of Parking Spaces Lease between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Northern Kentucky Port Authority.**
- G. Exhibit No. 23-115
Request approval to renew the contract with Robin for the scheduling software for the Kenton County Technology Services Department.**
- H. Exhibit No. 23-116
Request approval of the contract for cameras at the Animal Shelter with IPS for the Kenton County Technology Services Department.**
- I. Exhibit No. 23-117
Request approval of the School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding Extension Agreement.**

**J. Exhibit No. 23-118
Request approval to reject all bids for Acoustic Panels for the Driver 's License
Office.**

Commissioner Draud asked how much the OKI fund is?

Judge Knochelmann answered that it is the same amount that it has been for about 15 years. It is around \$56,203.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Executive Orders

**A. Executive Order 23-79 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order approving the reappointment of Ed Kuehne to the Transit
Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) Board.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**B. Executive Order 23-80 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order approving the appointment of Mayor Joe Meyer and the
Mayor Representative on the BE NKY Board.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that each year a local Mayor is appointed by the County Judge and the Fiscal Court. It rotates by the county, and it is our turn.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**C. Executive Order 23-81 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order approving the contract renewal of School Resource Officers
Stephen Benner, Chad Irwin and William Conrad.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**D. Executive Order 23-82 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order accepting the resignation of John Mairose as a Police Officer
for the Kenton County Police Department.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**E. Executive Order 23-83 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order accepting the resignation of Mike Thatcher as a School
Resource Officer for the Kenton County Police Department.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

F. Executive Order 23-84 (Action Requested)

An Executive Order approving the appointment of Lena Samad as a Dispatcher 1, G7-2 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**G. Executive Order 23-85 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order approving the appointment of Chief Joe Maier to the
Emergency Communications Board due to a retirement.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Administrative Reporting

Police Department

Chief Spike Jones stated that lane closures went into effect on N/B 1-75 (from Crittenden to Richwood) on June 7th of this year to facilitate needed repair work on the interstate. During the period from June 7th to July 3rd their officers have responded to 12 non-injury accidents and three accidents with injuries. That is a 1,400% increase over the same time period from a year ago. The Assistant Chief put together a meeting of the State D.O.T District 6 staff, Eaton Asphalt and the Walton Fire Department to discuss solutions to the factors contributing to these accidents. It was determined that additional signage would be added, ramp lanes would be adjusted and the concrete barrier wall would be adjusted to provide first responders with a lane during emergencies. After these corrective efforts went into place, they haven't responded to a single accident in this area of I-75. This repair work will be continuing over the next few weeks, and the total project time line is projected at a year to complete. As this repair situation progresses, he will keep the Court updated.

Chief Jones then stated that the 2023 CFR Report gives information from 01/01/2023 to 06/30/2023. The total calls for service for 01/01/2023 to 06/30/2023 are as follows: KCPD received 14,059 calls for service from 01/01/2023 to 06/30/2023. Out of those calls for service KCPD responded to 915 medical related calls for service. This is a 1% increase from 2022. KCPD averaged 4.98 medical calls for service per day during from 01/01/2023 to 06/30/2023. They had three deployments of Naloxone with one officer involved deployment of Naloxone. The total AED Usage for 01/01/2023 to 06/30/2023 was two times.

Emergency Communications

Ashley Hawks stated that they continue to recruit new dispatchers and lateral dispatchers. They are continuing to work on a project called ASAP to PSAP, which is allowing them to take alarm drop calls from alarm companies directly to the CAD instead of through the phone. After looking at the information provided by the company they are working with, it is going to eliminate approximately 3,000 phone calls incoming to the Dispatch Center and approximately 1,000 outgoing calls. The hope is that this project will be finalized by the fall.

Judge Knochelmann stated that Ashley is always innovating, and trying to bring new things for the team.

Emergency Management

Todd Schulkers stated that this past month they were able to complete an EOC exercise with Public Works and City Clerks. It has gone well since the major renovation to the Emergency

Operation Plan. Dave Jansing and Ron Becker were able to do CPR training for over 100 employees and staff. Also, Riverfest meetings are in full motion.

Commissioner Draud asked if that equipment that saved the football player from Buffalo is a requirement of every high school?

John Stanton answered that he doesn't know, but will check on it.

Attorney Stacy Tapke stated that this was Kim Moser's bill, and every high school has to have an emergency action plan and practice it on a regular basis.

Detention Center

Jailer Marc Fields stated that the population today is 594, and the average population for June was 591.2. So, looking back to bookings, there were 598 bookings in June and released 592. In 2022, they had 653 bookings in June and released 648 of those. In 2021, they had 703 bookings in June. This has dropped about 200, and what is the cause of that? He doesn't know. The population is mixed. Their female population is staying about 25% of that total number, which is a little high. They have hired five new people to their team in June, and he doesn't think they lost anyone in June. Also, they promoted two Sergeants and a Lieutenant. Their staff of the front line supervision side has almost changed over since he has been there. There is a new and younger staff that is bringing some more energy. During the month of June, they found three different contrabands that were coming into the facility. They had one Deputy that found a homemade weapon in one of the cells. They also did a lot of training in the month of June. They got their trainers recertified to train inside the jail. The State doesn't have a local corrections academy.

Commissioner Draud asked what the status is of the lawsuit with the State?

Jailer Fields answered that they just got done sending in all of the interrogatories, which was about 800-900 pages of answers they had to provide. There were depositions that were scheduled for June that got postponed.

Commissioner Draud asked how many jails are involved in the lawsuit?

Jailer Fields answered that there are five all together. There are four jails and the Jailer's Association.

County Attorney 's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke stated that

Commissioners ' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud had nothing to report.

Commissioner Joe Nienaber

Commissioner Nienaber had nothing to report.

Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann

Judge Knochelmann pointed out Christine Russell from BE NKY and the Port Authority is at this meeting, and she is doing a lot of work for the OneNKY Center and the Sims Building.

Christine Russell stated that both of those projects are moving forward thanks to this Fiscal Court. They anticipate a groundbreaking sometime in August for OneNKY. They are closing on the Sims Building next Friday, and will be working very closely with Blue North to turn that into an entrepreneur hub.

Commissioner Draud stated that some of his friends stated that Ms. Russell should be complimented for her great work with the Port Authority.

Judge Knochelmann then stated that the Assessment Appeals did a wonderful job on the appeals, and he thanked them for all they have done. There were many people step up for an unprecedented number of appeals, and he only got one phone call from someone that wasn't happy with the final result.

County Clerk Gabe Summe said there were close to 200 appeals. There were two groups for an entire week working on these appeals. Around 60 appeals were changed out of the 200.

Judge Knochelmann stated that when you come out 3L, you pass by the old Rollinghills Nursery. That will be the new Kenton County School District building. They will consolidate some locations into one. Dr. Webb from Kenton County Schools stated that there are a number of students that need mental health services, which makes our work with Holly Hill and DCCH very relevant.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann requested a voice vote whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative with a 3-0 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 July 11 2023.



Sue J. Kaiser/Fiscal Court Clerk