

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT VIRTUAL MEETING

<http://www.tbnk.org/togo2>

1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington, KY 41011

MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2020

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the August 25, 2020, virtual meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Commissioner Sewell 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
Scott Gunning, Assistant County Administrator
Roy Cox, County Treasurer

Request approval to appoint County Administrator Joe Shriver as Fiscal Court Clerk for this meeting on August 25, 2020.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of August 11, 2020.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Citizens Address

No citizens sent any questions to the Fiscal Court.

General Business

A. Public Hearing regarding the closing of Lynn St.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that we haven't received any comments in writing or orally.

County Engineer Nick Hendrix stated that this is correct, we have not received any comments. The Road Closure committee, which consists of himself, Jim Shumate and Tony Tuttle have reviewed the facts and are recommending the closure of this road. There will be a first reading of the Ordinance later in this meeting for the closure of Lynn St.

B. Claims Lists - Dated August 21, 2020.

There were no questions on the Claims List.

C. Presentation/Testimony on the Kenton County Public Health Taxing District's tax rate.

Dr. Lynne Saddler from the Health District stated that this taxing district is managed by the Kenton County Local Board of Health, and was created to support public health services in Kenton County. The taxing district provides support to the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District through ad valorem taxes, with revenues that are used to help maintain many programs as well as the Health Center. The tax rate that the Kenton County Local Board of Health approved is 2.53 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, which is the same as last year. This equates to an annual cost of \$43 for a home that is valued at the median, which is \$170,000. The annual amount that is expected to be generated is \$3,389,394, and this equals six cents per person per day for all of the health services that are provided in Kenton County. The Local Board of Health also allocated 1.9 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to the District Health Department for operations. The total for this allocation is \$2,545,395, and their budget for 2021 is \$19 million.

Judge Knochelmann asked if this is the same rate as last year?

Dr. Saddler answered that the taxing rate is the same rate as last year. The allocation rate is less than last year due to the pension costs holding the same as last year.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Dr. Saddler, as he knows this is a crazy time. He appreciates her, and all of her team.

D. Presentation of the Piner Fire District's Tax Rate.

Chief Schleue stated that the Piner Fire District's tax rate will remain the same as last year.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Chief Schleue for all his help when combining the districts. We will not need to take a vote on this one, they are just required to present to the Fiscal Court.

E. Request approval of the professional services agreement for finish construction of the Riedlin-Schott room in County Administrative Center.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that Turner did quite a bit of work in the Riedlin-Schott room, but it is not quite ready for occupancy yet. This will finish the room so that it can be used. We did receive funds from Ried Schott to put towards this room.

Judge Knochelmann stated that we do have funds in the bank, and this will give us bid documents so we can go out to bid. We will be making this a community room, and Ried Schott continues to be involved to make sure we get to the finish line on this room.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 20-01 O
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Adjustments.

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustment is to fix a Scribner's error in the budget that went to the Department of Local Government. It is to move budgeted money from account 5515A to 5515B.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

B. Resolution No. 20-26
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court acknowledging and concurring in the setting/maintaining of the tax rates of the Kenton County Board of Health for 2020 at 2.53 cents per \$100 valuation.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

C. Resolution No. 20-27
A Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police for the Kenton County Police Department to enter into a Management Control Agreement with the Kenton County Emergency Communications Board.

Mr. Shriver stated that this is an agreement that we already approved, and KSB had some changes to it. We felt it was best to bring it back before the Fiscal Court. There were no material changes, just word changes.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

D. Resolution No. 20-28
A Resolution authorizing and approving an interlocal agreement for the collection of assessments under Kenton County's Energy Project Assessment District as created by Ordinance 950.89.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is the final interlocal agreement for the EPAD that we have been working on for years.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 225.90 - Second Reading**
An Ordinance (225.90) of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget and amendment thereof.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is for the adjustment due to the Cares Act money.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

- B. Ordinance No. 620.14 - First Reading**
An Ordinance discontinuing Lynn St in Unincorporated Kenton County.

No action required.

- C. Ordinance No. 225.91 - First Reading**
An ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the levy and adoption of the 2020 tax rates of 15.9 cents per hundred dollars valuation on real property, 20.20 cents per hundred dollars valuation on personal property and 15.8 cents per hundred dollars valuation on motor vehicles to provide such revenue as has been budgeted and approved for expenditure in the current fiscal year.

Judge Knochelmann stated that the rates will be the same as last year. No action required.

- D. Ordinance No. 225.92 First Reading**
An ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the levy and adoption of the 2020 annual improvement benefit assessment rate on the basis of the assessed values of benefitted properties within the former city of Latonia Lakes, Kentucky as specifically identified in Kenton County ordinances 620.9 & 620.10.

No action required.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 20-113**
Request approval of the Core 12 Program Agreement between the Kenton County Detention Center and New Foundations.
- B. Exhibit No. 20-114**
Request approval to award the Commissary Services bid to The CareACell Company for the Kenton County Detention Center.
- C. Exhibit No. 20-115**
Request approval to extend the Facility Management contract with Four Seasons Environmental, Inc. for the Kenton County Detention Center.
- D. Exhibit No. 20-116**

Request approval to surplus a 1994 Ford E-250 Van for the Kenton County Police Department.

E. Exhibit No. 20-117

Request approval to continue the contract with Meridian Management for the Kenton Co. Justice Center/Parking Garage Facility Management.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Executive Orders

A. Executive Order 20-71

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Samantha Helt as a Volunteer Coordinator for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

B. Executive Order 20-72

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Sarah Halpin as a Call Taker/Dispatcher 1-1 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

C. Executive Order 20-73

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Abby Buckler as a Call Taker/Dispatcher 1-1 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

D. Executive Order 20-74

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the retirement of Jim Boeing as a Part Time Staff Accountant for the Kenton County Treasury Department.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

E. Executive Order 20-75

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Spencer Carpenter as an Equipment Operator for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

F. Executive Order 20-76

An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Evan Stevens as an Equipment Operator for the Kenton Parks Department.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Nienaber, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Administrative Reporting

Steve Hensley- Emergency Management

Steve Hensley stated that there are 1,632 cases of COVID19 reported in Kenton County, which includes 12-new cases reported today. There are 338 currently active, 1,253 recovered and 41 deaths. As of today 831,302 Kentuckians have been tested. There are 688 new cases today, and of those 96 are 18 years old or younger. There are 43,899 total positive cases, of which 9,544 have recovered, 885 have died and 593 are currently in hospitals. The State has a 5.07% positivity rate. It is important to note that many of those that have recovered from the virus are still experiencing cardiac and respiratory problems resulting from the virus. Medical experts can't predict how long those symptoms may exist. Our Boone/Kenton/St-E Drive- thru testing partnership continues on Atlantic drive, Monday-Friday 8:00-230 each day. On average we are testing 1,000 people each week. We continue to assist the county departments in obtaining needed PPE.

Mr. Hensley then stated that the state has allocated 8-million dollars of Cares Act funding, to a statewide broadband project, "Digital Divide" to assist in providing internet access to rural and low-income areas throughout the Commonwealth. Details on how to sign up for that assistance will be posted next week on the State's Department of Education's website. They also complimented Mayor Meyer and the City of Covington, as they have already initiated a program in the low-income areas of Covington, to assist city students with online learning.

Lastly, Mr. Hensley stated that TransMontaigne located at 700 River Road in Villa Hills is proposing that they will be introducing styrene into their facility. We are not the approval agency, but they have sought our input. As long as they are operating within the State, Federal and Environmental laws we have no objection. Again, we are not the approval agency, we are just the response team if needed.

Commissioner Nienaber stated that he knows the public is a bit weary of the COVID subject, but the number that stuck out to him was that there are 593 people statewide that are hospitalized. He assumes that is not a bad number, even though having just one hospitalization is terrible. He wants to know when we start celebrating any number?

Mr. Hensley stated that everyone has a different opinion on what is a good number. He agrees that the number is low, but we would like it to be at zero.

Commissioner Nienaber stated that he wanted to create hope instead of despair.

Mr. Hensley stated that the community, and everyone across the Commonwealth should be commended for putting all the best practices into place and driving the numbers down.

Commissioner Nienaber thanked everyone for all that they are doing.

Commissioner Draud stated that if he were voting for a raise, it would be for Steve Hensley for his productivity. He has done a great job during this emergency situation.

Mr. Hensley stated that it is a team effort.

Commissioner Draud stated that it takes leadership to get everyone to work together, and Steve Hensley has proven that he is a good leader.

Judge Knochelmann stated that if we get below 5%, we would no longer be one of the bad states. We are very close. The number we keep hearing about hospitalizations in NKY is low compared to the capacity. He feels that this is a win.

Mr. Hensley stated that we have made the transition from the red zone down to the yellow zone, which is very positive.

Captain Alan Johnson - Police Department

Captain Johnson had technical difficulties, and was unable to report.

Beckey Reiter- Animal Shelter

Beckey Reiter thanked the Fiscal Court for the approval of Samantha Helt. She comes to the County with a lot of experience. On the operational side, Animal Control Officers are back out running calls and the call volume is down a bit. They are using this opportunity to patrol some of the problem areas. So, if anyone has a problem area let them know, and they will get it on their route.

Ms. Reiter then stated that the Animal Shelter has seen an interesting trend. When comparing this year to last year, the length of the stay for animals coming into the shelter has been reduced by 48%. It has gone from 14.6 to 6.5 days of time in the shelter. She believes that the spay and neuter services in the shelter is helping move them through faster. Also, the safety precautions they are using for COVID are allowing them to be more efficient in processing online adoption papers and appointments.

Ms. Reiter then stated that they are working with the software vendor and the IT department to install an online licensing module. She anticipates that this will be tested and online by the end of the year. She then showed a video of the shelter's exercise yard that was built from donations from the public. She thanked the public for their support.

Jessica Ramsey - Technology Services

Jessica Ramsey thanked everyone for dealing with everything while she was out on maternity leave. She then thanked Darrin Gilvin for running her department while she was off. One of the items that is new is that they increased the bandwidth speed at 1840 Simon Kenton Way. This

was a budgeted item, and we were able to triple the speed. They are in the process on getting quotes on replacement computers and laptops.

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 had nothing to report.

Commissioner Joe Nienaber

Commissioner Nienaber had nothing to report.

Judge/Executive 's Report

Judge Knochelmann stated we will be getting information for the closing for the transfer of the Transitions building. Secondly, we have increased overdoses year to date. Lastly, calls to the helpline are doubled month to month year to date. The work being done between facilities in Northern Kentucky has been so cooperative.

Judge Knochelmann then stated that we continue to see requests from the community on economic development. We are meeting some of the goals we set pre-COVID. There is a lot of good news for Northern Kentucky.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge 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 25, 2020.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk