

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

February 12, 2020
5:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the February 12, 2020, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Treasurer Roy Cox 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
Sue Kaiser, Fiscal Court Clerk
Roy Cox, County Treasurer

Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of February 12, 2020.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge 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. Claims Lists -Dated February 21, 2020.

There were no questions on the Claims List.

B. Presentation of DRAFT changes to the Direction 2030 comprehensive plan pertaining to Unincorporated Kenton County.

Judge Knochelmann thanked James Fausz and Emi Randall from PDS for all of their hard work on this project.

James Fausz from PDS spoke about draft changes to the Kenton County 2030 Comprehensive Plan. This is a project that they have been working on for around a year. It is an overall part of the update to the recommended land use for the overall county. They have been through 18 different jurisdictions, and unincorporated represents the 19th community. This a long range land use update, and zoning will come later.

Mr. Fausz then stated that they researched the county in terms of physical layout, and they found that there were areas on the western portion of Kenton County that were flatter and had less environmental considerations. The same areas also had access to roadways and potential

access to infrastructure. He reviewed the slides that show the areas, and reviewed the changes on the slides.

Mr. Fausz then stated that they will be bringing the final changes back to the Fiscal Court for approval at the next meeting. They have had two public meetings on this already. The goal is to have an April 2nd public hearing for the Kenton County Planning Commission, as they have the final authority on the comprehensive plan. Information on this is available at action.direction2030.org under the recommended land use section of that page.

Commissioner Draud asked if Kentucky has a land/trust law where you can put your farm in a trust so that the development can be regulated forever?

Assistant County Attorney answered that Kentucky has deed restrictions that you could enact.

Commissioner Draud asked how often the Comprehensive Plan is updated?

Mr. Fausz answered that it has to be updated every five years.

Judge Knochelmann stated that they have involved the community a lot in this plan. People will be able to continue to use their property as they wish. They are working to help with industrial building as well.

Commissioner Sewell stated that the South Kenton Citizens Group has been involved. This is all on social media as well.

C. Discussion regarding the new Administration Building.

1. Request approval of the change order for the balance of owner purchased materials and the sales tax true up.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this is materials that we have already purchased, and this is to avoid sales tax. This is a true up, where it deducts off of the contract.

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

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 20-01C (Action Requested)

A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments.

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$2,200 for uniform cleaning for the Police Department, \$270 for uniform purchases for the Police Department, \$500 to cover towing expenses for suspect vehicles for the Police Department, \$20,820 to cover expenses for an employee who transferred from the Public Works Department, \$12,000 to cover a Tri-Ed vehicle rental tax pass through from FY 19, \$5,000 for Chrome Books for the Covington and Independence Courthouse, \$12,100 for unused sick pay for a resigning employee, \$320,000 to cover overtime expenses through the fiscal year for the Detention Center, \$50,000 to cover telephone and 911 hosting services through the fiscal year and \$3,500 for Change Order 15 to the Motorola Contract.

Commissioner Draud asked why there are so many budget adjustments?

Mr. Cox answered that it is that time of year, and is almost budget season.

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

B. Resolution No. 20-03 (Action Requested)

A Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a County Road Aid Coop Program Contract between the Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as provided in the Kentucky Revised Statutes and accepting all roads and streets referred to therein as being a part of the County Road System.

Nick Hendrix stated that this is a routine Resolution for the Fiscal Court. We have traditionally always opted for the Coop Program, which puts aside 3% of our funds for emergency road aid.

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

C. Resolution No. 20-04 (Action Requested)

A Resolution authorizing the filing of a 2019 Kentucky Community Development Block Grant-Public Services Application.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is the annual grant for Transitions.

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

Ordinance

**A. Ordinance No. 840.11 (First Reading) - No Action Needed
An Ordinance relating to the amendment and reenactment of Chapter 90 of the Kenton County Code of Ordinances regulating animals.**

Beckey Reiter stated that they have spent a great deal of time with the cities, as we provide Animal Control Services to all the Kenton County cities. The general idea was to have one comprehensive document that we can all work under. They met with the Mayors, the Chiefs and Manager, and everyone seemed to be really receptive. They feel like it is a good ordinance to work from, so the first step will be to get it approved by the Fiscal Court.

Judge Knochelmann stated many members of the community were involved in crafting this ordinance, as well as the County Attorney.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 20-10
Request approval of a one year renewal of the lease with Gary and Nancy Thompson for the 3549 Mills Road property in Kenton County.**
- B. Exhibit No. 20-11
Request approval to ratify Change Order #14 and Change Order #15 with Motorola for the radio project.**
- C. Exhibit No 20-12
Request approval to surplus 23 sign stands for the Kenton County Public Works**

Department.

- D. **Exhibit No. 20-13**
Request approval to surplus various items for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- E. **Exhibit No. 20-14**
Request approval to surplus 32 storm warning siren batteries for the Kenton County Emergency Management Department.
- F. **Exhibit No. 20-15**
Request approval to surplus 62 Forty Caliber hand guns for the Kenton County Sheriff's Department.
- G. **Exhibit No. 20-16**
Request approval to surplus various items for the Kenton County Fleet Department.
- H. **Exhibit No. 20-17**
Request approval to award the Mini Excavator bid to Kubota Tractor of the Tri-State for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- I. **Exhibit No. 20-18**
Request approval to reject all bids for the Paper Ballot Scanner and Tabulator HAVA-Compliant Voting System, and re-bid for the Kenton County Clerk's Office.
- J. **Exhibit No. 20-19**
Request approval to repurpose \$100,000 in the capital line of the budget for (2) 600 gallon hot water heaters for the Kenton County Detention Center.
- K. **Exhibit No. 20-20**
Request approval to terminate the contract with HP Products Corporation (Ferguson Facilities Supply) for the various departments of the Kenton County Fiscal Court, and award the contract to Greko Supply.
- L. **Exhibit No. 20-21**
Request approval of the annual preventative maintenance inspection agreement between Federal Field Service, LLC and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.
- M. **Exhibit No. 20-22**
Request approval to repurpose \$2,900 from the capital expense line in the budget for plumbing work at the Kenton County Police Department.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

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

Executive Orders

- A. **Executive Order 20-08**

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the hourly compensation adjustments for Brendan Bradley, Stacie Meyer and Kelly Murray as Dispatchers for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Sewell 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 20-09

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of George Kreuzjans as a part-time Dispatcher for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

Commissioner Sewell 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 20-10

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of John Hooper as a Dispatcher II for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

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

D. Executive Order 20-11

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Rita King, Mike Litzler and George Sparks to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Sewell 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 20-12

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Jessica Ramsey as the Director for the Kenton County Technology Services Department.

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

F. Executive Order 20-13

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jason Welch as an Animal Control Officer for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.

Commissioner Sewell 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

Public Works

Nick Hendrix stated that we have been talking a while now about the electronic voucher system for solid waste. We started last year with the paper voucher, and the citizens were coming to

the Public Works office to fill out information. Now the information is online, and folks can complete the process online and take the voucher or barcode to the Bavarian after many months of work. Sara Sgantas showed the Fiscal Court where the information is available on the website.

Commissioner Draud thanked Nick Hendrix for helping him with different issues. He was able to get Sleepy Hollow Rd. repaired.

Emergency Management

Steve Hensley stated that Dr. Saddler from the Health Department has been sending out protocols and practices for the Corona Virus. They have been working with them on this, and there are some protocols put in place between St. Elizabeth, the Health Department, all the Fire Departments and the Kenton County Communications Center. He thanked Dan Mathew and Dispatch for being so flexible and helpful. They ask prequalifying questions when people call for ambulance service, so if they get the correct answers the hospitals can put protocols in place. As of today, there have been no cases.

Mr. Hensley then stated that there has been a lot of precipitation, so they have been working with the river cities regarding the concern of flooding. Rain is predicted for the next two to three weeks, so his office will continue to work with them. Also, Golden Towers had another fire but they were able to contain the fire. They have been able to maintain services at that building. Lastly, they are finishing up the CPR/AED classes for employees. We are up to about 75 county employees that have been trained thus far.

Animal Services

Beckey Reiter stated that they are in the slow time of year for her department, so they have been doing some in-house training. She appreciates the public's patience as they paint the adoption lobby. The second week in May is when they will see a large spike in their services.

Technology Services

Jessica Ramsey thanked the Fiscal Court for the promotion. She then stated that a budget adjustment was approved for some new Chrome Books, which includes 10 additional Chrome Books for the Covington Courtroom to help out PDS and Chrome Books for the Independence Courthouse. There will also be some storage carts for them.

Ms. Ramsey then stated that they will be taking on the County Attorney's office. She has been working closely with the department to work on issues that they have been having with their connection.

Commissioner Draud asked if PDS is paying for their own Chrome Books?

Judge Knochelmann answered that this is in our budget, and we will own them.

Treasury

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the January, 2020, Financial Reports have been submitted.

County Attorney 's Report

Assistant County Attorney Chris Nordloh had nothing to report.

Commissioners ' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud stated that he got an email from the General Assembly asking him to support photo ID for voting. He thought it was a good idea, but then he got an email from Gabe Summe saying it would cost the county a lot of money. He asked Ms. Summe to explain.

County Clerk Gabe Summe stated that photo ID only is what is causing some of the issues. The people will need to get a provisional ballot, and this increases costs tremendously. They would have to prove who you are, so if you walked in without your driver's license you could fill out an affidavit that says you have an ID that you can provide later. You would then get a provisional ballot that doesn't get counted that day. As she said, this ends up costing a lot of time and money. What they want is to at least delay the decision for a year.

Commissioner Sewell stated that the provisional ballots are federally mandated. Also, Tennessee and Indiana have managed this.

Ms. Summe stated that they have been challenged, and they had to implement changes.

Commissioner Draud asked if from her point of view is that the system we have now works?

Ms. Summe answered that her argument is that there is fraud in elections. Every document that is signed as it relates to elections is a legal document, and can be used in court. A driver's license is not proof of citizenship. This might happen, but they have stated that if a conclusion can't be made they are asking for a year to get things together. They have expressed their concerns about cost and procedures, so they are hoping for at least a delay.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Ms. Summe and her team for all of their hard work during the move. He realizes that it was tougher on her team, but they all adapted.

Commissioner Beth Sewell

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

Judge/Executive 's Report

Judge Knochelmann had nothing to report.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge 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 February 12, 2020.

Sue Kaiser

Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk