

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

March 17, 2020
5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the March 17, 2020, special 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
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 25 , 2020 .

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. 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 List - Dated March 13, 2020 .

There were no questions on the Claims List.

B. Presentation by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet regarding Rural Secondary Roads.

County Engineer Nick Hendrix stated that this is a routine function per KRS for the Transportation Cabinet. He believes this is appropriate for this fiscal year.

Judge Knochelmann stated that Andy Yeager was scheduled to be with us this evening, but due to the pandemic we asked him to stay home.

Commissioner Draud asked what roads will be done?

Mr. Hendrix answered that the Transportation Cabinet will be doing Moffitt Rd. from KY 17 to Rector Rd and Visalia Rd, which is KY 536 from Staffordsburg Rd. to KY 177.

Commissioner Sewell asked if that section of Visalia Rd. the one that we have talked about as being the dangerous part? Are we repaving it, and how are we planning to address this with folks that live out there?

Mr. Hendrix answered that as a matter of practice, there is a pot of money set aside for rural secondary roads. We have entered an agreement with the Transportation Cabinet, and we now routinely maintain those roads. Routinely, this set of funds is only used for resurfacing and minor patching operations. In that section there is a section of high friction surface near one of the curves that has a high crash rating. That is a question that he has for Andy Yeager, as well as when we will be applying that high friction surface. There is a waiting period, but in terms of the investment for the section it is time. This isn't bad money spent. We are working with the Judge to come up with a plan to correct some of those nasty spots.

Commissioner Sewell stated that she noticed that all of the projects are sort of contiguous right there. So, all of the money will be spent in that area.

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

C. Presentation and request for approval of a PILOT agreement for the Monarch IRB.

Judge Knochelmann stated that we have the agreement for the payment in lieu of taxes recommendation. Jeanne Schroer from the Catalytic Fund and Bob Hoffer from DBL are here, and we have gone over the recommendation. This is the County's portion of the pilot we will be supporting tonight.

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

D. Report from the Address Authority Taskforce (appointed February 2019) on steps needed to prepare for NexGen 9-1-1 technology.

Judge Knochelmann stated that we have been working on this taskforce for a while with PDS. A lot of good work has been done on this already. We are trying to having a system in place to fix this in the future without going back and renumbering houses and rename streets.

Tom East from PDS stated that we have completed the first phase. The taskforce met five times, and they have given recommendations to move to the next phase. This would be to pursue any questions, seek assistance from the County Attorney and to start building consensus with the Mayor's Group and other groups as necessary. This is not something that will happen immediately. It is not a re-addressing, it is going from this day forward to make sure addresses are handled in a predictable manner.

Commissioner Nienaber stated that one thing that he has heard a various meetings about this is "why are we doing this"? He remembers that when he was first on Ft. Wright Council, there was conversation about changing Kyles Ln. to Ft. Wright Parkway or something and this made people very upset. The important thing to express here is that there is no appetite to go changing existing addresses that are currently used. He has heard that while we realize that there are some addresses that are existing that are problematic to EMS, police, energy services and the post office, there won't be a recommendation to change anyone's existing address.

Mr. East stated that this taskforce is not looking at existing addresses. They are looking at putting in guidelines to do future addressing, which includes new addresses and roads. Those other issues that are outstanding will have to be dealt with later.

Commissioner Sewell asked if there are a lot of addresses that are inconsistent that will need to be looked into at some point?

Mr. East answered that there are enough that this is an issue., and we need to prevent it from happening in the future.

Judge Knochelmann stated that in a perfect world, there are things to fix. This is not to address that, the idea is to keep mistakes from happening in the future. He thanked Mr. East for all of his hard work.

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

E. Request approval of the bid for Shelter Services.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is the RFP that we put out, and it is allowing us to move forward with the next piece of this property that was donated to the county by St. Elizabeth. The Emergency Shelter was the only one that bid. This was a very broad shelter agreement, and now the meat will be in the operating agreement. There were other agencies that support the shelter's work. The only other agency was afraid that if they did apply, it would preclude them from being funded for some sheltering services in the future. He assured them that this is not how the county does things.

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

F. Discussion regarding the Administration Building.

1. Request to approve the Contractor 's Application for Payment #30.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this has been vetted with the Judge, himself and the County Engineer. They find it to be appropriate. Most of it is retainage or items owed to Turner by Milestone. There is really only a little left to go with this. They have started discussions with them about the final true-up, and it looks like we will be positive there as well. The hope is that we can get this closed up. There is work under the underpass that still needs to be done, but because of temperatures we aren't able to do that. This is really the only substantial thing left with the project.

Commissioner Nienaber asked if he see correctly that there is \$460,000 left?

Mr. Shriver answered that this is correct.

Judge Knochelmann stated that we do believe there will be reduction in the contract amount. Hopefully, we come back with good news.

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

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 20-01E

**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: \$1,800 for testing and evaluation at the Police Department, \$2000 for vehicle repairs for the Parks Department, \$500 for towing at Fleet and \$25,500 for prisoner hygiene expenses at the Jail.

Commissioner Draud asked what the expenses are for the Jail?

Judge Knochelmann answered that this is due to the pandemic. It is not new money, it is within the Jail budget. They are moving money around. This is hygiene items and cleaning.

Commissioner Sewell asked if some of these expenses will come back to us with Federal dollars?

Judge Knochelmann stated that we are tracking all of it now with the County and the cities. The expectation is that we probably aren't going to get reimbursed unless the expenditures are special.

Steve Hensley stated that if it falls under the category of emergency protective measures we will be reimbursed.

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

B. Resolution No. 20-07

A Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a Rural Secondary Program Agreement between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, 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 spin out of the earlier presentation he made. The Rural Secondary Program carves out a section of Flex Funds for counties to utilize for resurfacing. We routinely opt to take the Flex Funds and not give them back. The ones that we are recommending are Mann Rd and Vises Trail in the County System, and this is for the fiscal year 2020 program.

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

Commissioner Draud asked for an update on the Bromley/Crescent Springs Rd. project.

Mr. Hendrix stated that hit another milestone on the project last week. They have right of way certified, which means that at this point it means that we purchased all the right of way through the corridor for the project. Our consultant is working on a final construction estimate, and a handful of submittals that the Transportation Cabinet requires before we can bid it. Ideally, we would have a construction letting in June or July this summer.

Commissioner Draud asked if the state is paying for most of it?

Mr. Hendrix answered that today the state doesn't have any interest at all in terms of paying. It is federal funding, so it is an 80/20 grant, so 80% of the funds are federal and 20% is responsible to be paid by the county, the City of Ft. Mitchell and Crescent Springs. It is not an equal match, ours is the largest portion of that match because the existing alignment is in

Unincorporated County. Based on the construction market in Northern Kentucky we do have some concerns about the way some of the bids come back.

Ordinance

No Ordinances came before the Fiscal Court at this time.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 20-38**
Request approval to accept the bid from Hartford for Group Life and AD&D Benefits for the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

- B. Exhibit No. 20-39**
Request approval of the Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between
the
Kenton County Fiscal Court and St. Elizabeth Medical Center for property located at 2330-2332 Royal Dr., Ft. Mitchell, KY property.

- C. Exhibit No. 20-40**
Request approval of a Parking Spaces Lease between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and Step CG, LLC at the parking facility located at 220 Madison Ave., Covington, KY.

- D. Exhibit No. 20-41**
Request approval to surplus various items for the Kenton County Police Department.

- E. Exhibit No. 20-42**
Request approval to extend the contract with ABM Parking Services for management and operations of the Kenton County Parking Garage.

Commissioner Draud asked if the second item is the shelter?

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is to sell the property at Royal Drive. They transferred the piece of property in Covington for a plan to put up a future Health Department site. There are a total of 17 parcels. This is the sale to the hospital. We agreed to their proposal of purchase, and with that they would give us the property in addition to cash. In all we will have a \$900,000 benefit from what we acquired it for from PDS. We also have about \$300,000 worth of property off of James Simpson Way. The plan is to be able to use that for the potential Health Department Location.

Commissioner Draud asked if St. Elizabeth is going to put something on Royal Dr.?

Judge Knochelmann answered that he doesn't know what their plans are for that.

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 4-0.

Executive Orders

- A. Executive Order 20-17**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of

Jason Carter as a Dispatcher II for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.

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

**B. Executive Order 20-18
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jeff Price as a Detective for the Kenton County Police Department.**

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

**C. Executive Order 20-19
An Executive Order relating to the Judge/Executive declaring a State of Emergency in Kenton County.**

Judge Knochemann stated that our order is one of 90 in the State of Kentucky.

No Action Needed

**D. Executive Order 20-20
An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving leave for employees diagnosed with COV-19 or who live with person(s) with COV-19.**

Judge Knochemann stated that this allows for two weeks of sick pay (14 days) if an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, or have to care for someone who is diagnosed. They will not need to use sick pay. We want to make sure our employees are taken care of at this time.

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

Administrative Reporting

There was no administrative reporting.

Treasury

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the February, 2020, Financial Reports have been submitted. He then asked for permission to print claims list and cut checks for the end of March, by the 14th of April and by the 28th of April.

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

County Attorney 's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke stated that the Courthouse is doing basic needs only. There are bench trial dockets, jury trials and the minimum is being done so as to keep people from having to go to the Courthouse. The Courthouse is still open, but if anyone has a court date they should call first. They will be continued past April 10th right now, and maybe even longer.

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 that we are operating without the public in the building. However, there is staff here working, and they are working diligently to address any timely issues. Gabe Summe's office was completely shut down at the Independence Courthouse for staff and public. Those staff members were brought to the Covington office to process a lot of things. We are trying to be open to resolving everything electronically, including PDS issues.

Mr. Knochelmann then stated that he spoke with the area utility companies, and there will be no turn offs in this situation. Also, we have reached out to the cities to let them know that if people are working from home for a Cincinnati company they will not have to pay an Occupational License fees or have a permit. We are trying to react to things moment by moment, and help support the economy as best that we can.

Commissioner Nienaber asked that with the announcement of tax filing changing the deadline, does that effectively change the County's tax filing?

Roy Cox answered that they have been waiting for this determination, and will be following the Federal Government's lead.

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 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 March 17, 2020.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk