

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT MINUTES
Independence Courthouse
5272 Madison Pike
Independence, KY 41051

April 9, 2019
5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the April 9, 2019, 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 March 26, 2019.

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.

Citizens Address

No citizens came before the Fiscal Court at this time.

General Business

A. Claims List-Dated April 5, 2019.

There were no questions on the Claims List.

B. Update on the Legislative Session from Senator Chris McDaniel.

Senator McDaniel discussed numerous bills that were passed at the Legislative Session. He complimented Judge Knochelmann for his work on the Convention and Visitors Bureau bill, and the work for the NKADD.

Judge Knochelmann stated that amazing work was done this year, and he appreciates all of the hard work.

Commissioner Draud asked if there has been any serious interest in increasing the gas tax?

Senator McDaniel answered that there aren't the votes for it right now. There are a lot of folks that want to see the modernization of the way the money is allocated, and modernize the actual formula itself. We don't want to continue to layer on a 1960s method of doing things. There is a lot of fundamental opposition to gas tax, and he doesn't think it had the votes to get around this time. There is a lot of serious push for it, and there are some issues coming up with the loss of federal toll credits that will disproportionately show a loss.

Commissioner Draud asked if the Road Fund is in bad shape?

Senator McDaniel answered that it isn't in as bad of shape as the General Fund. The fact is, the Road Fund spent about a decade growing exponentially until we peaked out at \$4.09 a gallon. Now there is the loss of toll credits, and that will be a big deal.

C. Presentation of a Proclamation declaring April 9, 2019, as Beechwood High School Day.

Judge Knochelmann presented the Proclamation to Head Coach Goetz and his team declaring April 9, 2019, as Beechwood High School Day.

D. Presentation of an Achievement Award to Coach Erik Goetz from Beechwood High School.

Coach Goetz thanked the Fiscal Court for the award. He stated that they had a historic season, with a bunch of talented young kids. The community really rallied around the team. He is very proud of the entire team.

One of the team members stated that they couldn't have done this without the coach. He is the best coach, and has changed the program in a great way.

Commissioner Draud stated that this was an amazing year for the team. The team had the highest win total in school history, the first district title since 1949, the first regional tournament victory since 1968, the first regional finals appearance since 1949, most wins in the ninth region, fifteenth in the state in points per game, most points scored in the ninth region, third in the state in three point average, 22nd in the state in scoring, top 50 in the state in free throws and top 50 in the state in rebounds. He congratulated the team on all of these accomplishments.

E. Update on SUN Behavioral Health from Chris Lockey.

Chris Lockey, gave an update on the work of SUN Behavioral Health that has been open for a little over one year. He thanked the Fiscal Court and the community for the tremendous amount of support that they have received.

Judge Knochelmann stated that the program will improve each year. He appreciates everyone's attitude, and willingness to improve every day.

Commissioner Draud asked where the facility is located?

Mr. Lockey answered that you can get off of I 75 or I 275. It is on Dolwick.

Commissioner Draud asked where they get most of their referrals?

Mr. Lockey answered that they are partnered with St. Elizabeth, so they manage the flow from their emergency department. About 40% of the patients come from St. Elizabeth's emergency department. They are starting to pick up referrals from other community providers, such as Children's Hospital.

Commissioner Draud asked if federal funds built this facility?

Mr. Lockey answered that SUN Behavioral Health, in partnership with St. Elizabeth, built this facility. St. Elizabeth owns 25% of the venture.

Commissioner Draud asked if there are a lot of federal funds for mental health issues?

Mr. Lockey answered that there are funds, but he doesn't know of any specific funds available for buildings. There are for particular programs, such as opiod use disorders, but not for private inpatient community hospitals.

F. Discussion regarding the new Administration Building.

1. Request approval for the Contractor's Application for Payment #19.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that the pay app has been reviewed by the County Engineer and the owner's rep. They find it to be appropriate expenditures pursuant to 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 4-0.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 19-01F

A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget Adjustments.

Treasurer Roy Cox explained that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$35,000 for Police overtime (much of this is reimbursable), \$1,000 for Police animal food, \$12,000 of overtime for the Animal Shelter and \$10,000 for repair of the parking garage sprinkler system.

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.

B. Resolution No. 19-07

A Resolution of the Kenton County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/ Executive to execute an affiliation agreement with the Northern Kentucky Health Department for services provided by the Northern Kentucky Medical Reserve Corps during certain emergencies.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is an agreement that is done every year.

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.

C. Resolution No. 19-08

A Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a County Road Aid Co-op Program Contract between the Kenton County Fiscal Court, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is a yearly contract.

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.

Ordinances

A. Ordinance No. 971.15 - First Reading

An Ordinance of the Kenton County Kentucky Fiscal Court revising the local participation agreement relating to the establishment and implementation of a development area tax increment financing district known as the City Center Covington Development within the City of Covington, Kentucky.

There were no questions on the Ordinance.

Consent Agenda

A. Exhibit No. 19-46

Request approval to surplus one MAG III Model 20 Money Counter and one Desk with Keyboard Tray for the Kenton County Treasurer's Office.

B. Exhibit No. 19-47

Request approval to award the Cupola Tower Repair bid to Midwest Maintenance, Inc. for the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

C. Exhibit No. 19-48

Request approval of a one year renewal of the lease with Gary and Nancy Thompson for the 3549 Mills Rd. property.

D. Exhibit No. 19-49

Request approval to surplus cell phones, old computer equipment and Accessories for the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

E. Exhibit No. 19-50

Request approval to purchase and install a 4" main dry stand pipe at the north east stairs of the Kenton County Parking Garage.

F. Exhibit No. 19-51

Request approval to reject all bids and rebid the bunker reconstruction services for the Kenton County Golf Course.

G. Exhibit No. 19-52

Request approval of the bid from Kubota Tractor for a mini-excavator for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

H. Exhibit No. 19-53

Request approval to allocate the funding for the Cupola Tower Repair from the AOC Building Repairs line item for the Kenton County Justice Center.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together. Item 7C was corrected to the Richardson Rd. address.

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.

Executive Orders

A. Executive Order No. 19-47

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the Burn Ban Order for Kenton County.

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

B. Executive Order No. 19-48 (Action Requested)

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Michael McHargue and Joe Richardson as Seasonal Trustees for the Kenton County Parks Department, with the effective date of April 10, 2019.

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.

Judge Knochelmann asked for approval to appoint Joan Arlinghaus to the Transitions Board, per the agreement that was made with Transitions during the acquisition of property.

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.

Administrative Reporting

Emergency Communications

Dan Mathew stated that the report that he gave the Fiscal Court shows how his department is using their time. He is providing the number of calls to the Fiscal Court each month. They had 7,813 incoming phone calls in the month of March.

Commissioner Draud asked why it is such a significant difference from March to February?

Mr. Mathew answered that March was a longer month, and there are other factors (weather, etc.). There is no true explanation, except less of a need in the community in February. He then stated that they are the third busiest dispatch center in the State of Kentucky. There were 4,259 calls that

were dialed to 911. This doesn't necessarily mean that there were that many emergencies. Quite frequently, people call 911 and say it isn't an emergency. They also dial the administrative number and have a crisis though. He is going to start trending the number of calls by the day of the week, as this will impact the staffing. In March the average ring time was 5.3 seconds.

Police Department

Chief Jones stated that they have one QRT visit schedule for the upcoming week, and they have seen overdose responses decrease dramatically over the past year.

Chief Jones then stated that with summer just around the corner, he wanted to let everyone know about the vacation house check service that is offered by the County Police. If you are a resident of the unincorporated area, and are planning on leaving your home for an amount of time, you can request a vacation house check by contacting the patrol commander prior to your departure. Call the non-emergency number and ask to speak with an on duty Kenton County Police supervisor or Patrol Bureau Commander. This service will be offered soon online with the upcoming webpage upgrades. Don't post on social media that you are leaving town, and wait to post your photos after you return. Also, keep your doors secured, and your garage doors down. An open or unlocked door is an easy invitation for a thief.

Lastly, Chief Jones congratulated Gary Helton for graduating from the Criminal Justice Executive Development Course in Richmond, KY. It is an intense four week course in executive level training, with a focus on managing and leading a police department. Gary did a great job of representing the Kenton County Police Department, and we are all very pleased with his performance.

External Affairs

John Stanton stated that today is the last day that the Governor can veto legislation from the General Assembly. We thought it was going to be an uneventful day, but the Governor did veto Senate bill 358 which was the pension bill. This has significant ramifications for the Health Departments, NKU and the other regional universities. This was bill that was a product of free conference between the Senate and the House in the waning moments of the General Assembly. The Governor's message was that the Senate's original message of the bill is acceptable to him, but that the House's changes that were made in conference are not acceptable. He plans to call a special session before July 1st. Other than that, everything else that we had an interest in passed. Generally, he feels that this session was a success.

Mr. Stanton then stated that Lee Crume, the new President of Tri-Ed, is now in day two of his tenure. He had a chance to meet with him last week. It is interesting, because for the last four years we have been pushing the agenda on economic development and now the message to him is to give us our punch list and we will help execute the strategy. We are looking forward to working with him.

Lastly, Mr. Stanton stated that over the last 50 years, most of our neighbors at the 303 Court St. location have been businesses. We have been contacted by the Westside Neighborhood Association, and we will be meeting with them regarding our soon to be move to their neighborhood. It will be different for us, as we will be integrating ourselves in with the residential component at the new building.

Parks and Recreation/Golf/Building and Grounds

Scott Gunning stated that he has a few operation updates on the upcoming season at the golf course. They have been having meetings with Davey on a regular basis, and they have been busy making some changes during the off season. A few of those changes consist of adding additional staff to their turf management team, along with a specialized Irrigation Technician. This Technician is going to be assigned to focus only on the irrigation system and watering needs for the courses. With a person centered on the sprinkler system, this should help alleviate some of the problems that they encountered last year. When it comes to outings and events, they have been out more aggressively selling this year by attending chamber and community events, along with ramping up their marketing efforts. In the upcoming weeks you should be hearing more advertisements on the radio, in addition to more targeted email and Facebook ads. Also, they have made some adjustments to their rate structure and are developing a discounted Kenton County resident rate to be effective in May. We are excited with all the changes and are looking forward and hoping for a good year.

Mr. Gunning then stated that an RFP was recently put out for the painting of the Independence Courthouse, and they are in the process of reviewing the bids. He expects to have a recommendation on how to proceed at the next meeting. This is a much needed project as we are estimating that it has been at least 30 years since this building has been painted. Also, with the weather warming up, the roof project at this building is moving forward. They are currently working on the lower roof this week with the upper portion to follow. He is hoping by the next time he is scheduled to report, this project will be complete.

Lastly, Mr. Gunning stated that the crews have been getting ready for the season prepping baseball and sports fields. They are working on the reconstruction of the baseball fields at Pioneer from some of the flood damage this winter. Over the next few weeks they will be having a large group of volunteers from Seven Hills church coming out to help with general cleanups at the parks. They will be volunteering for four days, with the work being split up at Pioneer, Doe Run, Mills and Lincoln Ridge Park. A lot of the work will be picking up trash along with mulching, and weeding flower beds. This is the second year that this group has come out to help us. The RFP for the playground at Mills is out and closes on April 18th. We are hopeful to have a recommendation on how to proceed by the first meeting in May. In regards to Programs, last weekend we hosted our Doe Run Cleanup as part of the Great American Cleanup, with over 75 volunteers coming out. This Saturday, April 13th, we are participating in then Reforest NKY at the Morning View Heritage Property. Then on April 23rd, we are hosting our Touch a Truck event in partnership with the Boy Scouts Troop 808 at Mills Park from 6-8PM.

Commissioner Draud asked what happened with the bunker bids?

Mr. Gunning answered that the bids came back a bit higher than expected, so they are going to be going back out to bid for these.

Commissioner Draud asked if the youth ball team numbers are up this year?

Mr. Gunning answered that he doesn't get those reports until after the season starts.

Treasury

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the March, 2019 financials have been submitted.

County Attorney's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud wished Judge Knochelmann happy birthday.

Commissioner Beth Sewell

Commissioner Sewell wished Judge Knochelmann happy birthday.

Commissioner Joe Nienaber

Commissioner Nienaber stated that he appreciates being invited to the county staff meetings. His first round was with the Police Department, and he was truly impressed with the presentation from the Police Department. He thanked the Police Department for what they do. He then wished Judge Knochelmann happy birthday.

Judge/Executive's Report

Judge Knochelmann had nothing to report.

Executive Session

- A. Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (C) pending workers compensation litigation regarding the Jenny Bell vs Kenton County.

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

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

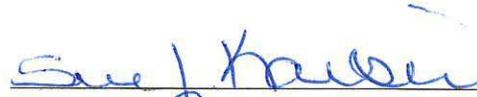
Adjournment

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 April 9, 2019.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk