

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Kenton County Government Center
Kenton Chambers
1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington, KY 41011

MEETING MINUTES

April 25, 2022

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge Knochelmann called to order the April 25, 2022, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Judge Knochelmann 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
Assistant County Attorney, Chris Nordloh

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 the meeting of April 12, 2022.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive 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. Request approval to amend the Fiscal Court meeting schedule, moving the July 12, 2022, meeting to July 14, 2022.

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

B. Request approval to Issue a Claims List on June 24, 2022, and issue checks June 27, 2022, issue a Claims List on July 8, 2022, and issue checks on July 11, 2022 and issue a Claims List on October 26, 2022 and issue checks on October 27, 2022.

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

C. Claims List dated April 22, 2022.

Commissioner Sewell asked if they typically list the health expenses of all the jail inmates?

Treasurer Roy Cox answered that they had problems with the billing, so this is just getting caught up on the bills.

Resolutions

A. Resolution No. 22-01H

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

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that Nick Hendrix is asking that an item needs to be added to the budget adjustments. He would like to move up a couple of projects from the 2023 budget to the 2022 budget. The time right now to order these trucks has at least a year of lead time. To pay for them in the next year's budget we have to order them now. We can't order them now without a line item to encumber those. One is for \$65,000 for the brine tanks, and the money will come out of the salt line item. The other one is for three single axle dump trucks, and \$430,000 will be taken out of the major road projects and another \$80,000 out of the salt account.

Judge Knochelmann stated that they need to approve adding Nick Hendrix budget adjustment to the Resolution.

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

Treasurer Roy Cox then explained that the budget adjustments were for the following: \$435,000 for the landscape and roof project at the Historic Independence Courthouse and \$15,000 to cover additional expenses paid for with forfeited fund.

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

B. Resolution No. 22-08

A Resolution relating to the request by the County of Kenton, Kentucky for the issuance by the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority of revenue bonds to refinance costs incurred by the Masonic Homes of Kentucky obligated group in constructing and acquiring certain health care and health-related facilities in the county.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this is just refinancing current debt. The city was willing to do it with acceptable language.

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

Ordinances

A. Ordinance 971.19 - First Reading

An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court, Kentucky, providing for a credit of its occupational license fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by Signode Industrial Group, LLC under the Kentucky Business Investment Program (KRS 154.32-010 -KRS 154.32-100).

Jeremy Worley from Tri-Ed stated that this is one previously approved by the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA). Now it is time for the Fiscal Court to enact the Ordinance that allows for the occupational tax to kick in and participate in the KEDFA program. This project has received preliminary approval. That is why they have all three Ordinances ready tonight, so that they can go for final approval.

Judge Knochelmann asked what all of these Ordinances are, and why would it be good for Kenton County to support all of them?

Mr. Worley answered that it is job creation. All three of the projects are part of Tri-Ed's target industries. That target industry study is something that they had done earlier this year to align with the economy in Northern Kentucky. They want to diversify away from being too heavy in one sector, and these type of jobs tend to stick around. Another benefit for all three of these projects is that they are expansion projects. These companies were already located here, and they are continuing to invest in their buildings, equipment and expanding employment for Northern Kentuckians. There will be 126 new, full time Kentucky resident positions, and additional job creation as well.

B. Ordinance 971.20 - First Reading

An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court, Kentucky, providing for a credit of its occupational license fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by R.A. Jones and Co. under the Kentucky Business Investment Program (KRS 154.32-010 -KRS 154.32-100).

C. Ordinance 971.21 - First Reading

An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court, Kentucky, providing for a credit of its occupational license fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by Regal Beloit America, Inc. DBA Regal Beloit-Power Transmission Solutions under the Kentucky Business Investment Program (KRS 154.32-010-KRS 154.32-100).

Judge Knochelmann stated that no action is needed tonight.

Consent Agenda

A. Exhibit No. 22-48

Request approval of a modification to the FY22 Roadway Maintenance Agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

B. Exhibit No. 22-49

Request approval to terminate the lease agreement between the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

C. Exhibit No. 22-50

Request approval of a proposal from CT Consultants to develop exhibits for County owned property adjacent to James Simpson Way and Kavanaugh Street in Covington.

D. Exhibit No. 22-51

Request approval of the Kenton County Clerk 's calculation for motor vehicle and boat bills for 2022.

E. Exhibit No. 22-52

Request approval to accept the bid from Century Construction for Phase 3 of the Historic Kenton County Courthouse Renovations.

F. Exhibit No. 22-53

Request to accept bid from A &A Lawn care & Landscape for landscaping renovations at the Historic Kenton County Courthouse.

Commissioner Nienaber asked that Exhibit No. 22-53 be voted on separately, as he does business with this company.

Judge Knochelmann asked for a vote on Exhibit No. 22-53.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0 with Commissioner Nienaber present not voting.

All other items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

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

Executive Orders

A. Executive Order 22-46

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Matt Zeck to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

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

B. Executive Order 22-47

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Steve Gessner as an Animal Control Officer for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.

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

C. Executive Order 22-48

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Michael Stork as a Capital Improvement Program Manager for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

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

D. Executive Order 22-49

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jim Noel as a Seasonal Public Services Technician for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

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

E. Executive Order 22-50
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Trenton Bailey as a Seasonal Public Services Technician for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

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

F. Executive Order 22-51
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jason McKinney as a Seasonal Public Services Technician for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

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

G. Executive Order 22-52
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the completion of the Co-op program by Rickey Vickers for the Kenton County Public Works Department.

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

H. Executive Order 22-53
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Jill Stulz as a Senior Police Officer for the Kenton County Police Department.

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

I. Executive Order 22-54
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Zachary Stewart as a Police Officer II for the Kenton County Police Department.

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

Administrative Reporting

Animal Services

Kelsey Maccombs stated that on Sunday they will be starting the first of the trapping for their TNR project initiative. There are four surgery dates, with the first one being with 17 cats. This is helping the community cats program. They are working on a few different proposals to alleviate some of the short staffing issues. Lastly, their volunteer program is being examined to help find opportunities to help with staffing. They are also breaking out what type of trainings would be suitable for the volunteers.

External Affairs

John Stanton stated that Senator McDaniel will be coming to a meeting to talk about school investment in Kenton County at a later date. He is happy to report that the budget included \$15 million for the life sciences development in Covington, and \$13 million for site readiness development. He believes this is the most significant non-road and non-school capital investment

in Kenton County since the convention center. It is nice to have the Chair of A and R from Kenton County.

Mr. Stanton then stated that the Jacob Spears Distillery has been stuck in planning and zoning litigation in Bourbon County for years now. He got a report last week that they are looking at least another year of litigation. So, we are probably going to pivot on how we spend the remainder of the original appropriation for the Jacob Spears Trail. Lastly, they were able to have their first in person event last week at NKU regarding the Randolph Project for cohorts of students to spend the day at NKU and the UK Medical School.

Public Works

Nick Hendrix stated that it was the best Road Program that has come out of Frankfort since he has been in Northern Kentucky. There is a section of Dixie Highway that Commissioner Draud is familiar with that Senator McDaniel got about \$10 million dollars allocated for reconstruction of that section from Buttermilk Pike to I-75. Another really big win is KY536, and this session it will see \$4 million in design funding. Another project is Wolf Rd. Senator McDaniel also worked with Representative Santoro to get the money in there to take care of this issue.

Commissioner Draud asked when Bromley/Crescent Springs Rd. will be completed?

Mr. Hendrix answered that the completion date is still October of this year. The phased reopening has fallen behind a bit due to weather. The cabinet doesn't have an updated schedule from the contractor for the full reopening.

Mr. Hendrix then stated that the spring cleanup is this weekend. On Friday, it will be at their location and Piner Elementary from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Saturday it will be at 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at their facility, and 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Piner. They don't accept anything that has had a title like old boats or cars. Normally they will go through about 20-25 dumpsters. He then thanked the Fiscal Court for bringing in the seasonal employees to help with snow and ice. He also thanked the Fiscal Court for the Fleet Co-op and the Grant Manager. He apologized for the late budget adjustment as well.

Technology Services

Jessica Ramsey stated that as we move into the summer and post tax season, they plan a lot of projects to not impact offices too much. They will be replacing a lot of assets for the Sheriff's Office, and will kick off their server upgrades. They have 22 servers they have to upgrade over the course of the next year. They are taking down a few servers at a time to reduce down time.

Parks and Recreation/Buildings and Grounds/Golf Course

Scott Gunning stated that he wanted to say thank you for approving the third phase of the renovations at the Historic Courthouse. The Fiscal Court has put a significant amount of investment in preserving and protecting that building, and it doesn't go unnoticed. At this building, the Transportation Cabinet opened up their Regional Real ID office today on the 2nd floor in the old driver's license spot. They are doing a soft opening over the next couple of days, with the formal announcement going out later this week.

Mr. Gunning then stated that regarding the Parks, it's that time of year when the locations are getting busy again, and they are getting back into the full swing of things. The shelter house reservations started a couple weeks ago, the sports fields are being utilized with lots of practices and games, they are hosting programs with people getting out and just enjoying the warmer weather.

Mr. Gunning then stated that when it comes to projects, the RFP for the tennis and pickle ball courts at Richardson Road Park is scheduled to close next Thursday. They are also participating in the NKY Senior games on May 3 through the 20th. This is the 40th Anniversary of the games, with it being hosted at various sites around Northern Kentucky. Lastly, on the golf course, the place looks great. The good news is that they received notification that the Special Olympics and Macy's are coming back this year. Both of these are larger events.

County Attorney 's Report

Assistant County Attorney Chris Nordloh 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 that he wanted to congratulate Joe Shriver on his Achievement Award from Thomas More University. Also, the County has had a couple of family losses. He acknowledged that Shaun Lauderman's father passed away, Chief Jeff Wendt lost his mother and then Todd Schulkers lost his stepson and son as well. He wanted them to know that they are in our prayers.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive 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 25, 2022.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk