

**KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT**  
**Historic Kenton County Courthouse**  
**5272 Madison Pike**  
**Independence, KY 41051**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**May 10, 2022**

**5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Commissioner Beth Sewell called to order the May 10, 2022, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Treasurer Roy Cox led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Commissioner Beth Sewell, District 1  
Commissioner Jon Draud, District 2  
Commissioner Joe Nienaber, District 3  
County Attorney, Stacy Tapke

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 25, 2022.**

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

**Citizens Address**

No citizens came before the Fiscal Court.

**General Business**

**A. Presentation of Resolutions recognizing the Western Kentucky First Responders from the weather event in December of 2021.**

Steve Hensley thanked State Representatives Kimberly Moser and Adam Koenig for recognizing these dedicated first responders. He then explained that during the late evening of Friday, December 10, 2021, a violent, long tracked tornado moved across Western Kentucky, producing severe to catastrophic damage in numerous towns including Mayfield, Princeton and Dawson Springs. Crossing through eleven counties regions during its lifespan, the tornado was exceptionally long-tracked, traveling 165.6 miles. It was determined to be the deadliest and longest-tracked tornado in an outbreak that produced numerous strong tornadoes in several states. There were 57 fatalities confirmed in the tornado.

Mr. Hensley then stated that shortly after this event impacted/ devastated the Western Kentucky area, Kentucky Emergency Management, requested Incident Management Team "IMT" assistance from across the commonwealth, and surrounding States. On December 13th, we deployed a team from Northern Kentucky Incident Management to Western KY to assist with

“IMT” operations within their established Emergency operations center. The first day of operations, our NKY team members worked alongside the Western Kentucky “IMT” members , which had been managing the event nonstop since it occurred on the evening of December 10th. After being briefed, as a result of the standardized ICS/IMT training, the NKY- IMT members assumed control of operations, until they were relieved by a New York “IMT” team on December 21st.

Mr. Hensley then stated that after receiving the request for assistance, without hesitation the dedicated members of our NKY-IMT team prepared to deploy. In preparation for this deployment, they packed sleeping bags, cots, food and water, as often times during these deployments, you find yourselves sleeping on the floors, in an adjacent office with limited access to food, water or other essential items that we take for granted during our daily lives.

Representative Moser then presented the dedicated “IMT” members that made the response Dec 13-21<sup>st</sup> with a Citation showing everyone’s appreciation for all of their dedication. The “IMT” members included: Assistant Chief Mike Bloemer, Covington Fire Department, Public Works foreman, Rick Buster Kenton County Public Works, Captain Gary Helton, Kenton County Police Department, Chief Andrew Schierberg, Fort Mitchell Police Department, Deputy Director Ron Becker, Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management and Deputy Director Todd Schulkers, Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management. She thanked all of them for all of their hard work.

**B. Presentation of a Proclamation declaring the week of May 15-21, 2022, as Public Works Week.**

Commissioner Sewell presented Nick Hendrix with the proclamation, and thanked his team for all that they do. She stated that it is an honor to serve with them.

**C. Presentation of a Proclamation declaring the week of May 1-May 7, 2022, as Corrections Officer Week.**

Commissioner Sewell presented Jailer Marc Fields with the proclamation, and congratulated his team.

**D. Presentation of a Proclamation declaring the week of May 15-May 21, 2022, as Police Week.**

Commissioner Sewell presented Chief Jones with the proclamation.

Commissioner Draud stated that it is an honor to be associated with the police in Northern Kentucky. Each of the organizations honored tonight are vital to our society, and Northern Kentucky has been very fortunate to have good protection from the various agencies. That is not always true in other parts of the country. Northern Kentucky is still a very civilized and good place to live. He congratulated all of the groups, and stated that he appreciates all of their efforts.

Commissioner Nienaber stated that he echoes everything that Dr. Draud said, and he believes that across Northern Kentucky the leadership is second to none throughout the region and the country. He appreciates all the agencies for their dedication.

**E. Claims List dated May 6, 2022.**

There were no questions on the Claims List.

**Resolutions**

**A. Resolution No. 22-011  
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year Budget Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$8,000 for uniforms for newly hired Police Officers, \$2,500 to cover uniform cleaning expenses, \$5,000 for spay and neuter expenses for Animal Services, \$1,130,000 for construction for the new Police Auxiliary Building (bringing this forward from the 2023 budget because of project timing), \$15,000 for the Richardson Rd. Tennis/Pickleball Courts reconstruction and \$47,000 to cover the NKODCP and Addiction Helpline contribution.

Commissioner Draud asked where the pickleball courts will be?

Assistant County Administrator Scott Gunning answered that it will be a Richardson Rd.

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

**B. Resolution No. 22-09  
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, 2022, 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.**

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

**C. Resolution No. 22-10  
A Resolution of the Fiscal Court of the County of Kenton, Kentucky, acknowledging and approving the request of County Judge Executive Kris Knochelmann that he be and is hereby directed to proceed in the payment of payroll, insurances, utility bills, poll workers, postage, bond payments, CDBG grant payments, sales tax and refund payments as a standing order for FY 2022-2023.**

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

**D. Resolution No. 22-11  
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning shift differential pay for all hours worked from 3:00 pm. To 7:00 a.m. at the Kenton County Detention Center.**

County Administrator Joe Shriver explained that this Resolution and the next one grew out of our budget meetings this year. We had talked about a number of opportunities to retain or attract Deputies. It was determined that we could start these programs in the current budget, and it would still be sustainable. This Resolution and the next one have been verified by the Treasurer's Office. We want to start these as quickly as we can.

Commissioner Draud asked when this is starting?

Mr. Shriver answered that it will start as soon as this is approved. The second Resolution has a look back period based on hours worked. That wouldn't come out until a later date.

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

**E. Resolution No. 22-12**

**A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving attendance incentives of \$2,000.00 per annum for all hourly full time Kenton County Detention Center employees who work 2,080 hours annually in 2023, or 1,912 hours annually if the employee is also actively serving in the military.**

Mr. Shriver stated that this is an incentive for retention of employees.

Commissioner Draud asked what they have to do to earn the \$2,000?

Mr. Shriver answered that because we had a situation of folks being on leave, we need to have a minimum staff out there. We are attempting to incentivize the hours worked. To hit the 2,080 mark is not hard, as they work a lot of overtime. This is recognition of all of the hours the employees are working.

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

**Ordinances**

**A. Ordinance 971.19 - Second 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).**

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that these are the Ordinances that Jeremy Worley from Tri-Ed spoke about at the last meeting.

Commissioner Draud asked if these are created in order to recruit?

Mr. Shriver answered that these are for expansions of existing companies, and this will create new jobs.

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

**B. Ordinance 971.20 - Second 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).**

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

**C. Ordinance 971.21 - Second 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).

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this is always audited, so we collect our current full rate on employees. Then we go back and look back in order to credit only for the new jobs.

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

**D. Ordinance 226.03 - First Reading**  
**An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the approval and adoption of the Kenton County Fiscal Court budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that everyone received a copy of the budget, and what has been changed since the original meeting. He thanked all of the department heads for all of the work they do, and how much better they are getting with their budgets each year.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Exhibit No. 22-54**  
Request approval of a proposal from Thoroughbred Engineering for special inspections for the construction of the Auxiliary Building at the Kenton County Police Department.
- B. Exhibit No. 22-55**  
Request approval of a lease agreement between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for the use of office space at the Kenton County Government Center in Covington.
- C. Exhibit No. 22-56**  
Request approval of a bid from Perkins-Carmack for the construction of the Police Auxiliary Building and request authorization for the Judge/Executive to execute all necessary documents related to the project
- D. Exhibit No. 22-57**  
Request approval of an agreement to implement a Bridge to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder program at the Kenton County Detention Center.
- E. Exhibit No. 22-58**  
Request approval of an agreement for substance abuse and addiction treatment for the Kenton County Detention Center.
- F. Exhibit No. 22-59**  
Request approval of a vehicle lease covered by a grant for the QRT Officer for the Kenton County Police Department.
- G. Exhibit No. 22-60**  
Request approval to surplus a 2018 Dodge Charger for the Kenton County Police Department.

- H. **Exhibit No. 22-61**  
**Request approval to purchase a replacement vehicle for the Kenton County Police Department**
- I. **Exhibit No. 22-62**  
**Request approval to award the Concrete bid to Boone Ready Mix for the Kenton County Public Works Department and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.**
- J. **Exhibit No. 22-63**  
**Request approval to accept the bid from Tennis Technology for renovations of the tennis/pickle ball and basketball courts at Richardson Road Park.**

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

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

### **Executive Orders**

- A. **Executive Order 22-55**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Pat Cook to the Independence Fire District Board.**

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

- B. **Executive Order 22-56**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Missy Andress to the Elsmere Fire District Board.**

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

- C. **Executive Order 22-57**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the retirement of Dennis Mobley as a Fleet Service Technician for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**

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

- D. **Executive Order 22-58**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Rickey Vickers as a Fleet Services Technician for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**

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

- E. **Executive Order 22-59**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Ryan Daff as an Animal Control Officer for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

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

- F. Executive Order 22-60**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jeremy Sheehan as a Dispatcher for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

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

- G. Executive Order 22-61**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Anadia Rockey as a Dispatcher for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

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

- H. Executive Order 22-62**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jeri Branstutter as the Officer Manager for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

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

- I. Executive Order 22-63**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Taylor Estes as an Animal Control Officer for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

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

- J. Executive Order 22-64**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the termination (deceased) of Shana Holtkamp as Accounts Payable for the Kenton County Treasury Department.**

Commissioner Sewell stated that she is sure we would all like to say what a beloved friend and co-worker Shana was. We send our prayers and condolences to her family.

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

- K. Executive Order 22-65**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Jacob Salatin as a recruit for the Kenton County Police Department.**

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

### **Administrative Reporting**

## **Emergency Communications**

Assistant Director David Leonard stated that they recently were audited by the International Standards Organization (ISO). Their purpose is to set insurance rating prices with cities with fire service, etc. Out of a possible ten points that they could have received, they received 9.9 points. The .1 that did not receive was because they did not have an in house redundant notification system. They have two vendors, but do not have the system. That did not fall under the ISO's guidelines. That is the best score they have received in quite some time.

Commissioner Draud stated that he called the Dispatch Center recently, and the operator did a great job, but did speak to fast, which made it hard for him to understand. He just wanted to pass along the comment.

Mr. Leonard stated that he would look into this for him.

Commissioner Nienaber congratulated them on an excellent audit.

## **Detention Center**

Jailer Fields stated that he would like to thank the Fiscal Court for approving the Resolutions tonight. He believes it will do a lot for the hard working deputies. Last Monday, they had the honor of hosting the Denver, Colorado County Sheriff and the City of Denver Public Safety Executive Director to the Detention Center to see how they do their medically assisted treatment. It went very well. For a City like that to come in here to our small town to see what we are doing is amazing. What is being done in our Detention Center is nationally recognized. The Sheriff of Denver, Elias Diggins, was also one of the former Presidents of the American Jail Association. He commented that he had been to jails from one end of the country to the other, and was very impressed with what he saw inside our jail. These men and women work hard every day, and it is seen and appreciated, and the thanks the Fiscal Court for all of their support.

## **Police Department**

Chief Jones stated that he would like to thank the Fiscal Court for the very kind acknowledgement of Police Week here in Kenton County. This is a very special time of the year for all of us involved in law enforcement, and the support means the world to them. Also, he is very pleased to report that their two lateral officers have started, and are in the field training phase currently. They are optimistic that each of these officers will be on solo patrol within the next few weeks.

Chief Jones then stated that he would like to mention their QRT Officer Michael Richman. Mike took over as the QRT Specialist a few months ago, and at that time he advised him that they needed something more in Kenton County than what QRT had traditionally been. He is satisfied to report that Mike has certainly done just that. Mike has, and is continuing to develop a treatment and recovery network with a multitude of resources. He has become their own QRT Rolodex and they could not be happier with what he has developed. He would like to have Officer Richman come to a Fiscal Court meeting to report sometime soon.

## **Treasury**

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the April 2022, Financial Reports have been submitted.

## **County Attorney 's Report**

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

## **Commissioners ' Reports**

### **Commissioner Jon Draud**

Commissioner Draud asked Joe Shriver to bring them up to date on the new software for the realtors?

County Administrator Joe Shriver answered that they did meet with the City of Crestview Hills today. He knows they are in beta testing, and we still have end users giving us feedback on the structure of that.

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that it is very far along, and we are in the testing phase. We want to make sure it is correct and easy to use before it is used.

Commissioner Draud stated that he has told people that it would be finished in two months.

Mr. Shriver stated that he believes we are still very close to that date.

### **Commissioner Joe Nienaber**

Commissioner Nienaber thanked Commissioner Draud for his continued pressure on the highway department, and Nick Hendrix help in getting Dixie Highway resurfaced through Ft. Mitchell. He appreciates that this will eventually be done. Also, he appreciates everyone who was recognized tonight. He grew up in a family full of public servants, and has done everything except the Police side of all of this. He knows the dedication it takes, especially the ones who went down to Western Kentucky after catastrophic events. Lastly, for anyone on the ballot for Tuesday, as someone who has done this for a long time, it is something that is not taken lightly. He wishes everyone luck.

Commissioner Sewell stated that early voting starts Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and continues on Friday and Saturday.

### **Commissioner Beth Sewell**

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

## **Executive Session**

### **A. Discussion per KRS 61.810 (B) pertaining to the potential acquisition or sale of real estate.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval of Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Commissioner Sewell called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval to return from the Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Commissioner Sewell called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

## **Adjournment**

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Commissioner Sewell 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 May 10, 2022.

*Sue Kaiser*

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Sue J. Kaiser/Fiscal Court Clerk

DRAFT