

**KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
KENTON CHAMBERS
1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington, KY 41011**

MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2020

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann

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 June 23, 2020.

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.

General Business

A. Claims List - Dated July 10, 2020 .

There were no questions on the Claims List.

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

Judge Knochelmann stated that Senator McDaniel has been State Senator since 2012. He has become an expert on anything pension and budgetary.

Senator McDaniel discussed numerous bills that were worked on at the Legislative Session.

Commissioner Draud asked if there is any discussion with the caucus to consider reigning in some of the Executive privileges that the Governor is exercising right now?

Senator McDaniel answered that will probably be the single biggest item that gets addressed when they go back, because once April 15th rolls around in the Commonwealth the General Assembly has very little authority to check anything that the Executive does. So, there are a number of competing proposals floating around right now. Some involve revising his powers under the statute. He has a bill that basically says that anytime there is an Executive Order or compilation of Executive Orders that exceed thirty days during the interim, the General Assembly is automatically called back into session by Constitution to consider the Executive Orders. He thinks that one of the biggest things this session will actually be de-conflicting all of these proposals.

Commissioner Draud then asked if there is any effort to try to build some kind of consensus for a gas tax? We need additional revenue in this road fund, and he knows that there are several key legislators that support the idea. Somebody needs to have enough courage to do the right thing.

Senator McDaniel answered that there was some movement in the beginning of the session on this, but when the overall nature of the crisis hit and people began to see folks get laid off it got pushed aside. He believes there will be more of a push, because the amount that people are driving is off dramatically. Also, we largely rely on toll revenues for federal projects based off of some old credits that will be expiring. There will be a pretty dramatic hit to the road fund, and if there is going to be any consideration at all it shouldn't be before there is a consideration of the modern vehicle and a recognition of the way the formulas of distribution work. They are disproportionately skewed to the rural areas of the state. By statute, we lose out. There has to be some changes to the way we distribute to the urban areas.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Senator McDaniel for always staying engaged with us, and for all of his hard work.

C. Request approval of the offer from Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to reconstruct portions of Richardson Rd.

Nick Hendrix stated that this is simply a reconsideration of an action that the court already approved in March for some temporary easements along Richardson Rd. This is just brought on by a redesign of the storm drainage system. There is no monetary consideration, the Cabinet is asking that the easement is granted. They are temporary.

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.

Resolutions

**A. Resolution No. 20-01L
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year
2020-2021 Budget Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustment is for \$8,000 for gasoline purchases due to the pumps being doing at Fleet.

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.

**B. Resolution No. 20-20
A Resolution authorizing and approving an interlocal agreement for the collection of assessments under Kenton County's Energy Project Assessment District as created by Ordinance 950.89.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is for the EPAD agreement.

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.

C. Resolution No. 20-21

A Resolution authorizing the removal or relocation of abandoned graves at the Benjamin and Elizabeth Rice Family Cemetery, New Buffington Road, Kenton County, Kentucky.

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. Resolution No. 20-22

A Resolution of the County of Kenton, Kentucky directing the County Engineer to publish and post notices of its intent to close Lynn Street in Unincorporated Kenton County, to view the road with two disinterested viewers appointed herein and to report their findings to the Fiscal Court pursuant to KRS 178.070.

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. 950.89 - Second Reading

An Ordinance creating an Energy Project Assessment District (EPAD) within the County pursuant to the provisions of KRS 65.205-209 and establishing a program to advance conservation and efficient use of energy and water resources.

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. Ordinance No. 924.60 - Second Reading

An Ordinance adopting the recommendations of the Kenton County Planning Commission approving the Amended Stage 1 Development Plan for 2323 Anderson Road in Unincorporated Kenton County.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is next to PeeWees, and was on recommendation of the Planning Commission that this be approved.

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.

C. Ordinance No. 150.6 - First Reading

An Ordinance of the Fiscal Court of the County of Kenton, Kentucky, relating to the amendment of Ordinances 150.3, 150.4, and 150.5 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Board

Commissioner Nienaber stated that Covington didn't have a permanent seat on the Dispatch Board, and this gives them that. They already had someone who was voted in each term, but this is a permanent seat.

Consent Agenda

A. Exhibit No. 20-95

Request approval of the funding contract between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI).

- B. **Exhibit No. 20-96**
Request approval to surplus a chain link fence on the perimeter of the Fox Run Golf Course.
- C. **Exhibit No. 20-97**
Request approval of the FEMA Public Assistance Grant for the Kenton County Emergency Management Department.
- D. **Exhibit No. 20-98**
Request approval to reject all the bids from the 2020 salt reverse auction, and extend the contract with Compass Minerals America, Inc. for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- E. **Exhibit No. 20-99**
Request approval of a lease renewal between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Kenton County Attorney's Office, Child Support Division.
- F. **Exhibit No. 20-100**
Request approval to reject all bids and rebid for the tree/brush removal services for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- G. **Exhibit No. 20-101**
Request approval to award the electrostatic sprayers and chemicals bid to City Wide Maintenance of Cincinnati for the Kenton County Detention Center.

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 4-0.

Executive Orders

- A. **Executive Order 20-53**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the Order of Affiliation for the Kenton County Government and the Kentucky Search Dog Association.

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. **Executive Order 20-54**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving an Order of Affiliation between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Northern Kentucky Technical Rescue Team.

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. **Executive Order 20-55**
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.

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.

D. Executive Order 20-56

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Martha Mertes as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Kenton County Animal Services 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.

E. Executive Order 20-57

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the retirement of Gary Holbrook as a Dispatcher for the Kenton County Emergency Communications 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.

F. Executive Order 20-58

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Richard Norfleet as a Police Officer for the Kenton County Police Department.

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

G. Executive Order 20-59

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Robert Vogelpohl as a part-time Courier for the Kenton County Treasury 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.

H. Executive Order 20-60

An Executive Order of the Judge/Executive of the County of Kenton, Kentucky providing that the County Treasurer, Roy Cox, is hereby directed to proceed in the close out of the Sheriff's Books and making preparation for the issuance of a Quietus.

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.

I. Executive Order 20-61

An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the retirement of Sandy Judd as a Dispatcher 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.

Administrative Reporting

Emergency Management

Steve Hensley thanked the Fiscal Court for the approval of their affiliation agreements. They have responded to a couple of missing persons calls, and they utilized the search dog teams to assist in those searches. Getting into the COVID realm, they have been working with all of the local city, county and state agencies as they continue to travel this path. There have been a lot of conversations with schools about their return in the fall. They have been able to get an inventory of the no-touch thermometers to each of the school districts. Also, they continue to push out the PPE and probably have given out at 300,000 individual pieces such as masks, hand sanitizer, etc. Their biggest task recently has been the drive-thru testing initiative that they have been partnering with the State and Kroger on, and that started again this week. It will run for the next three weeks at Summit-View Academy, and you can register at the COVID Governor's website or the Kroger Little Clinic site. They tested 416 people today, and that will continue on each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Police Department

Chief Jones stated that this month they were asked to provide fingerprinting services for St. Elizabeth's health care workers in Edgewood. Their prints were needed so that their staff could complete the required background checks in order to maintain their ability to provide their services as medical first responders. They were pleased to be able to partner with them for this service. Their patrol and investigative staff underwent de-escalation training in June and July. They had one of the team members trained in a train the trainer class, and were able to start holding the training. On July 8th, he was invited to participate in a pod-cast with Lexington Police Chief Lawrence Weathers, retired State Chief, Alecia Webb-Edgington and Chief Scott Smith to discuss the national state of affairs as it concerns policing. They felt that they all received very positive feedback. They continued their work with Director Hensley at the COVID testing sites, and will continue to provide security for those sites. Also, he asked everyone to stop by the back lot on the way out tonight to look at the new special investigations van that was purchased through asset forfeiture funds. This replaces the previous van that was purchased in 1994. It is considerably more advanced. Lastly, August will mark his five year anniversary as the Kenton County Police Chief, and it has been such a blessing.

Technology Services

Judge Knochelmann thanked Darrin Gilvin for stepping in and helping while Jessica Ramsey is on maternity leave.

Darrin Gilvin stated that they have been busy for the last few months transitioning employees to working at home and then back to the office. They have been reorganizing some offices to help with social distancing. They will be resuming their Windows 10 updates, and the Office 2016 updates. Invitations will be sent out tomorrow to schedule these updates. Now that we are in a new fiscal year, they will be starting with the replacement of hardware again. They are working on getting bids. The new PVA website should be launched next month. Also, the COLA comparative report is finished.

County Attorney 's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

Commissioners ' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud stated that if Senator McDaniel is waiting for the formula to be changed before we can get a gas tax, there won't be one in his lifetime. Also, he was curious about the schedule on the radio project. Where is that right now?

County Administrator Joe Shriver answered that Dan Mathew could give much more details, because he has been going through some training. In late July, we are going to start to cut over Boone County first, then Kenton County gets cut over on August 4th and then mid-August Campbell County gets cut over. It is on target to finish this summer.

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 continue to work on the cold shelter project and the Health Department project. There are good plans, and good work moving forward on that. We had a meeting with the Health Department building committee, and the project has been continuing.

Executive Session

A. Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (b), discussion of sale or acquisition of property.

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.

Judge Knochelmann asked for approval to cancel the agreement with CBRE for the Kenton County Golf Course.

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.

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 July 14, 2020.

Sue Kaiser

Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk