

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

**October 8, 2019**  
**5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the October 8, 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 September 24, 2019.**

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.

**Citizens Address**

No citizens came before the court at this time.

**General Business**

**A. Claims Lists -Dated September 6, 2019.**

There were no questions on the Claims List.

**B. Presentation of a Service Award to Brandon Wiethorn for his Eagle Scout Project at Latonia Lakes.**

Assistant County Administrator Scott Gunning introduced Brandon Wiethorn, and explained that he cleaned up the lake at Latonia Lakes and installed benches for his Eagle Scout Project. He congratulated Mr. Wiethorn on all of his hard work. Mr. Wiethorn raised the money on his own for the project, and has really beautified the area.

Judge Knochelmann presented the Service Award to Mr. Wiethorn, and thanked him for all of his work.

Brandon Wiethorn stated that he wanted to clean up the lake for all the children and the community.

**C. Discussion regarding the new Administration Building.**  
**1. Request to approve the Contractor 's Application for Payment #25.**

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 asked if we are still holding back money?

Mr. Shriver answered that yes we are holding back money.

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.

**Resolutions**

**A. Resolution No. 19-01M**  
**A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustment was for \$9,320 for the FEMA project, and would like permission to pay the invoice of \$23,885 for a grant project that is 87% reimbursed.

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. 19-23**  
**A Resolution authorizing, adopting, approving, accepting and ratifying the execution of grant agreements between the granting authority and the County of Kenton, Kentucky, and the Kenton County Airport Board that may be received pertaining to Fiscal Years 2019-2021 federal, state or local grant funding for the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.**

Rob Ziegler from the Airport stated that this is an upcoming grant. The grants come at the very last minute, and there will be another one at the end of October.

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.

**C. Resolution No. 19-24**  
**A Resolution to implement a Kentucky Community Development Public Services Block Grant (KCDBG), and implement a number of HUD/CDBG program requirements to further the work of Recovery Kentucky, particularly Transitions, Inc.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that this is an annual renewal of a grant. This is a pass through grant.

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.

## Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 19-127**  
**Request approval to renew the lease for eight spaces in the Kenton County Parking Garage for the Commonwealth Attorney, and eight spaces in the Kenton County Parking Garage for the Public Advocacy.**

Commissioner Draud asked what this is for?

County Administrator Joe Shriver answered that this is for Rob Sander's office.

- B. Exhibit No. 19-128**  
**Request approval to ratify the contract for Facility Management Services at the Kenton County Administration Building from Meridian Management.**
- C. Exhibit No. 19-129**  
**Request approval to surplus various computer equipment and accessories for the Kenton County Fiscal Court.**
- D. Exhibit No. 19-130**  
**Request approval to surplus a Stanley HP1 Compact Power Unit, a Stanley PD45 Post Driver and a Stanley PP10 Post Puller for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**
- E. Exhibit No. 19-131**  
**Request approval to award the heating and air split system unit bid to Independence Mechanical for the banquet room at the Kenton County Golf Course.**

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 19-107**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the discretionary increases for 2019-2020.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is a departmental listing, and the department heads have made the recommendations for the increases after evaluations. This money was set aside in a pool from the budget.

Mr. Shriver stated that they then meet with all the department head and discuss, and decide the increases.

Commissioner Draud asked if this is the time of year that this is normally done?

Mr. Shriver answered that it is done one meeting from the October 1<sup>st</sup> date.

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.

- B. Executive Order 19-108**

**An Executive Order relating to the Judge/Executive issuing an emergency burn ban for Kenton County.**

No action was needed by the Fiscal Court.

**C. Executive Order 19-109**

**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the retirement of Jim Gilpin as a Captain for the Kenton County Police Department.**

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.

**D. Executive Order 19-110**

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

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.

**E. Executive Order 19-111**

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

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.

**F. Executive Order 19-112**

**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Wanda Bedard as an Animal Control Sergeant for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

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.

**G. Executive Order 19-113**

**An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Michael Hammons to the Ethics Commission, with the term expiring on October 14, 2022.**

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.

**Administrative Reporting**

**Emergency Communications**

Dan Mathew handed out his monthly statistics. He then recognized Hayley Williams, Carla Dietz and for an event with a police chase in September. They did an excellent job, and should be commended.

Commissioner Draud asked if the statistics read that standard response time is ten seconds, and ours is about five seconds?

Mr. Mathew answered that this is correct. The standard is based on a national organization called The National Emergency Number Association.

Commissioner Draud asked what Mr. Mathew's goal is for his department?

Mr. Mathew answered that their goal is to answer the calls as quickly as possible.

### **Police Department**

Chief Jones congratulated Captain Gilpin on his retirement, and stated that he will be greatly missed. He also stated that Steve Hensley did a great job coordinating the Ludlow/Bromley incident.

Chief Jones then gave the statistics for the enforcement effort on I-75. On day one they gave citations for the following: 88 for speeding, 1 DUI, 13 for improper lane use, 20 for failure to pull over for an emergency vehicle, 42 no insurance or proof of insurance, 9 for texting and driving, 17 for expired registrations, 20 suspended operator's license, 10 for reckless driving, 7 improper signaling, 4 for disregarding traffic regulations, 3 expired driver's license, 9 for tailgating, 11 for not wearing a seatbelt, 3 for improper passing, 1 failure to notify DOT and other citations from motor vehicle officers stopping semi-trucks was 15. This is just in one day. These kind of enforcements are reducing the number of accidents on this section of the highway. This project was funded by the Department of Highway Safety.

Chief Jones then stated that they have run 106 cases for the Internet Crimes Against Children, they served 150 subpoenas, served 65 search warrants, arrested seven out of state travelers, and made 20 arrests from the area. These are the statistics from the last two years, and they are the one team in Kenton County that is doing this. All those numbers are due to Brian Jones, who is on the force, working very hard.

### **Parks/Buildings and Grounds/Golf Course**

Scott Gunning stated that the RFP for the management or operation of the golf courses closed this past Friday. We received seven bids, with a few of them consisting of lease agreements and some being management type agreements. We are currently in the process of reviewing them, and should have a recommendation on how to proceed at our next meeting. In regards to the property analysis study, yesterday we hosted a kickoff meeting with CBRE and conducted a tour of the course for their staff. The process is moving forward and he will make sure the court stays updated as it progresses.

Mr. Gunning then reminded everyone that we are hosting our annual haunted trail at Mills Park on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 7-10. Then on the following day, we have our non-scary Character Trail for the little kids from 1-4 PM. We started the non-scary trail a few years ago to make sure all ages had an event that they could attend. He thanked the park staff, as they do a great job with these. The last weekend for shelter house rentals this year is October 20<sup>th</sup>, with the restrooms being scheduled to be closed on approximately the first weekend of November for the winter months.

Lastly with Building and Grounds, the painting project has started at this building. If we continue to have nice weather, it should be complete in the next two weeks.

Commissioner Draud asked when the renewal is set for the golf course contract?

Judge Knochelmann answered that it is December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Director of External Affairs**

John Stanton stated that this coming week we are going to renew the partnership that we have with NKU by inviting legislators to Northern Kentucky. Senator and Majority Caucus Chair Julie Raque-Adams will be here, and it has been a good partnership with NKU. He credited Adam Caswell and his staff for being incredibly helpful in the process.

Mr. Stanton then stated that we have added two additional members to the Bourbon Line Tourism initiative. We have had an incredible array of restaurants and bars that have started joining. A related project is a recreation of the trip of bourbon being shipped through rivers, and they are working on getting a kayak and canoe trail that will cover the distance that Jacob Spears used to ship his bourbon to New Orleans. The target is to have this by 2021.

Finally, Mr. Stanton stated that the state put out all the test scores for the schools. The test scores were largely consistent with prior years. He congratulated Beechwood High School for being the second ranked high school in the Commonwealth, and the School District was the number one ranked school district in the Commonwealth.

Commissioner Draud stated that he would like to have a letter sent to Beechwood Schools congratulating them on their success.

### **Treasurer**

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the September, 2019, financial reports have been submitted.

### **County Attorney 's Report**

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

### **Commissioners ' Reports**

#### **Commissioner Beth Sewell**

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report

#### **Commissioner Jon Draud**

Commissioner Draud stated that he loves seeing the Kentucky sign on the new building at night. It makes him very proud.

#### **Commissioner Joe Nienaber**

Commissioner Nienaber complimented Chief Jones and Steve Hensley for always doing a top notch job.

### **Judge/Executive 's Report**

Judge Knochelmann had nothing to report.

Ralph Bailey reminded everyone that BLINK is coming this weekend. There will be a lot of equipment on the top floors of the County Garage.

### **Executive Session**

**A. Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (C) pending litigation regarding Bell vs. Kenton County.**

Commissioner Draud 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.

Request approval to settle the case of Bell vs. Kenton County in the amount of \$144,000 for a workers compensation case.

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.

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 October 8, 2019.

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Sue J. Kaiser  
Fiscal Court Clerk