

# KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT

## VIRTUAL MEETING

<http://www.tbnk.org/togo2>

### MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2020

5:30 P.M.

#### Call to Order

Judge/Executive Knochelmann called to order the October 13, 2020, virtual 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  
County Attorney Stacy Tapke

Staff: Joe Shriver, County Administrator  
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 September 22, 2020.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

#### Citizens Address

No citizens sent any questions to the Fiscal Court.

#### General Business

##### **A. Presentation of a Resolution by Transitions regarding the Mary Gandy Travis Residential Treatment Center.**

Jim Beiting introduced Debbie Brooks, who is the Transitions Board Secretary. Ms. Brooks read the Resolution in appreciation of the Kenton County Fiscal Court for their instrumental role in the Mary Gandy Travis Residential Treatment Center.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Ms. Brooks and Mr. Beiting for that recognition. He believes that it is pretty impressive work that they have done. Anybody walking through the building can see the improvement, not just in that facility, but the entire Transitions operation. They are really helping move this community forward, and very selflessly doing so. He wanted to thank all three of the

Commissioners for supporting this program. They were supportive of this from day one, and we didn't get pushback from any of them.

Commissioner Draud stated that he is proud to have been a small part of the fact that any addict has an opportunity for a bed to be available at any time. He appreciates the good job that leadership has done to help Transitions.

Commissioner Sewell stated that she just can't say enough about the continued partnerships that are happening throughout our community with our Detention Center, Transitions and certainly with Life Learning Center. The public probably isn't aware of all that is going on in the partnerships. She appreciates Judge Knochelmann's continued passion and effort for this.

Judge Knochelmann stated that he wanted to give a shout out to Jim Beiting as well, because he thinks that the amount of work he did in making a way that's not only treating people but putting the organization in such a good financial position is phenomenal. They provide greater services, and should be commended and used as a model. He thanked everybody else on their team, and asked for them to share that appreciation with them from all of us.

**B. Request approval of the Kenton County Detention Center's Policy and Procedures Manual.**

This item was tabled.

**C. Claims Lists - Date October 9, 2020.**

There were no questions on the claims list

**Resolutions**

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

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that we've got the two budget adjustments. The first one is a \$275,000 adjustment into special projects. This is actually to pay back St. Elizabeth healthcare. When they paid us for the Royal Dr. building, they actually paid us \$275,000 too much. So we've decided that we are going to give them the money back. The other adjustment is for \$150,000. This is from the road fund for contracts with government agencies. This is pass through money, so basically we are going to be reimbursed from the City of Taylor Mill and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Commissioner Draud asked how St. Elizabeth paid us too much?

Mr. Cox answered that they paid exactly what the title company told them too, but the title company forgot to take out the value of the land that was traded to us.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**B. Resolution No. 20-3 3**

**A Resolution of the County of Kenton, Kentucky authorizing the Kenton County Attorney to pursue the forfeiture of unclaimed personal property in the possession of the Kenton County Police Department.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**C. Resolution No. 20-34  
A Resolution recognizing the 2020 Pioneer Award honorees.**

John Stanton stated that there were 12 nominees for this award, and these nominees were given to the Ethics Commission. We usually only do four awards, but there was a consensus by the Ethics Commission that we should do five. So these are the five submitted by the ethics commission to the fiscal court for consideration and approval.

Commissioner Draud asked that we recognize these individuals once we go back to in person meetings.

Mr. Stanton stated that we do have a draft news release that will go out that Sara Sgantas is preparing. He then stated that Sue Kaiser and Sara Sgantas did phenomenal work during this entire process. It was obviously difficult not being able to bring the committee together in person to review the 12 nominees and come to the five individuals, but Sue and Sara did phenomenal work with that. The Pioneer Award Honorees are William Funke, Bill Goetz, Arnold Simpson, Garren Colvin and Burr Travis.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**Ordinances**

**A. Ordinance No. 121.42 - First Reading  
An Ordinance amending the Kenton County, Kentucky Code of Ordinances re:  
Kenton County Policy Manual and County Administrative Code.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that this is for the administrative code. The purchasing section of the admin administrative code will up the project level, which is currently at \$20,000 up to \$30,000. This is just following in the footsteps of what the State of Kentucky did last year. It's also going to correct a couple of what we will call scrivener's errors. Our professional services typically don't have to be built out, and that was not in our administrative manual. The other thing that was in there that we wanted to include is that we are allowed to purchase things on state contracts, because they've already done the bidding and awarded the contracts. So, we just piggyback onto that. But in our administrative manual, we had never included that. The services could be allowed to be purchased on the contract. So that's the third and final change.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this Ordinance essentially cleans up the administrative code to match the current state laws.

## Consent Agenda

- A. **Exhibit No. 20- 128**  
Request approval to ratify the amendment of the original evaluation agreement between the University of Kentucky Research Foundation, and the Kenton County Detention Center .
- B. **Exhibit No. 20- 129**  
Request approval to surplus various items for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.
- C. **Exhibit No. 20-1 30**  
Request approval of the drainage pipe replacement at Pioneer Park for the Kenton County Parks Department.
- D. **Exhibit No. 20-131**  
Request approval to execute an agreement with Enrollment Management Services (EMS) for insurance purposes.
- E. **Exhibit No. 20-132**  
Request approval to execute an agreement with RX Help Centers for insurance purposes.
- F. **Exhibit No. 20-133**  
Request approval of a modified FY20 Police Duty Vehicle surplus list.
- G. **Exhibit No. 20-134**  
Request approval to surplus various Motorola Radios and Magellan GPS for the Kenton County Police Department.
- H. **Exhibit No. 20-135**  
Request approval to award the Tree/Brush Removal Services bid to MTM Enterprises for the Kenton County Public Works Department and the Kenton County Fiscal Court.

All 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 roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

## Executive Orders

- A. **Executive Order 20- 83**  
An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Dr. Mike Stava, and the appointment of Amber Constantino as Deputy Coroner for the Kenton County Coroner 's Office.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Dr. Stava for his work as the Deputy Coroner.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**B. Executive Order 20- 84**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the Homeland Security and Emergency Operations Plan and Support Plans.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**C. Executive Order 20- 85**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the promotions and pay rates for the Kenton County Police Department.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**D. Executive Order 20-86**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Penny Day as a part time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant for the Kenton County Administration Department .**

Judge Knochelmann thanked Penny Day for her work for the Administration Department, and he wishes her well.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**E. Executive Order 20-87**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the resignation of Kandace Ridgley as an Animal Technician for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**F. Executive Order 20-88**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the promotions and pay rates for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**G. Executive Order 20-89**  
**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court rescinding the burn**

## **ban in Kenton County, KY.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

### **H. Executive Order 20-90**

**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Harold Williams as a Public Services Tech I for the Kenton County Public Works Department.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

### **I. Executive Order 20-91**

**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Stephanie Williams as a Dispatcher I, G5-1 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

### **J. Executive Order 20-92**

**An Executive Order relating to the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Jeremy Sheehan as a Dispatcher I, G5-1 for the Kenton County Emergency Communications Department.**

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes and Judge Knochelmann, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

## **Administrative Reporting**

### **Emergency Management**

Steve Hensley stated that as of 4:00 p.m. today, there are 776 new cases of COVID in Kentucky, 14 new deaths, 81,691 total positive, 13,615 total recovered, 1,706,551 tested, 1,253 deaths and a 4.59% positivity rate. Kenton County numbers show there are 401 active cases, 1,775 have recovered and 46 deaths. Drive-thru testing continues to go well. The testing is taking place at 25 Atlantic Ave., Erlanger M-F 0830-2:30. They are currently scheduled through the month of October. They are testing between 200 and 250 people each day.

Mr. Hensley then stated that his department picked up and delivered PPE to the County Clerk to support the upcoming election process. This included hand sanitizer, surface face shields, masks and gloves.

Lastly, Mr. Hensley stated that he and the Judge participated in a Zoom meeting today with the NKY Homeless Shelter Working Group. It was a good discussion to plan for the upcoming winter season.

### **External Affairs**

John Stanton stated that there's been an uptick in the number of meetings going on in the community and the number of folks wanting meeting. So I think that's a good sign for people navigating the situation. In addition, Stacey Tapke mentioned that we had nearly 1,800 people who voted today in Independence and Covington. We, had a long line waiting at the building before it opened up at seven o'clock. We've also had over 10,000 ballots received through absentee voting so far, and Gabe has placed another drop box outside of the Independence Senior Center. She's doing a fantastic job making voting as accessible to people who want to vote as she possibly can.

Mr. Stanton then stated that a lot of work is being done on site readiness and, in particular, he wanted to pass along a thanks to Sharmili Reddy. She is still a fairly new leader over at PDS, and she and her staff are doing great work in terms of providing us with data and information. Regarding some of the site readiness for industry and manufacturing that we're working on here in Kenton County, on the broadband front he believes everyone is aware that we saw some financial assistance on a regional basis from the Commonwealth for broadband. We were not given that assistance for a variety of reasons. The reasons were mostly regulatory in nature, concerning our eligibility, but we are continuing to pursue that. The library has been a great partner in that process so far, alone with former Commissioner Dan Humbert. So, he thinks that with an unlikely prospect of state funding for the near future, we're going to continue to work on a county basis to look for potential resources and solutions there.

Finally, Mr. Stanton stated that we've completed all the paperwork on the Licking River appropriation from the Commonwealth, and we are still awaiting the check. In the next 30 days we should be getting that appropriation given to the county.

Commissioner Draud asked why don't we have internet service in the southern end of the county? How's that going with the school situation?

Mr. Stanton answered that we've had conversations with Henry Webb about that, and he has designated Rob Haney, who's the Chief Operating Officer for the Kenton County School District, as their point of contact to work with us on the broadband effort. Everyone has an individual story about how they're navigating those issues, but as Commissioner Sewell has I been involved in some of these issues we've seen, the concept of internet has gone from a perceived luxury to a necessity. So, he would suspect that as long as we're continuing to work here in the county, broadband access is going to be a major part of our work portfolio.

### **Police Department**

Chief Jones stated that they are very happy to announce that they are going to be offering a recruit test in November of this year. Generally they give this test every two years during the month of July, but the COVID-19 situation that we are all dealing with has caused them to modify the plans this year. They are actively recruiting young, prospective police officers to come and work with them at the Kenton County Police.

Chief Jones then stated that he would like to share with the Fiscal Court another example of our officers saving a life in the performance of their duty. He received a letter from Paramedic Lt. Ken Harney of the Independence Fire District. Lt. Harney points out that our officers and their medical

training made the difference in giving one of our County's residence a second chance at life. He read excerpts from the letter below.

Chief Jones,

I wanted to bring to your attention the actions of at least two of your police officers at an auto accident that KCPD and IFD worked together. The accident occurred at 878 Walton Nicholson Pk and involved a single vehicle accident due to a medical emergency. Officer Taylor and Sargent Schihl were first on scene of the auto accident in which they found a subject not breathing and no pulse. Both officers worked the patient performing chest compressions, assisting ventilations, and applying an AED. From what I understand, the patient was defibrillated at least one time by your officers before EMS arrived. Once EMS arrived we took over care finding the patient still pulseless and not breathing. However, after one round of medications and chest compressions the patient regained his pulse. The subject was found to be having a massive heart attack called the "widow-maker."

Prior to leaving the scene the patient had fully regained a strong pulse and eventually would start to breathe on his own. Just before arriving at the hospital, the patient started to respond by blinking and moving his arms. Recent studies and practices adopted by the Independence Fire District have concluded that early adequate CPR and early defibrillation are paramount in patient resuscitation. Without these things, patient survival can be less than 1%.

With that being said, I feel that Officer Taylor and Sargent Schihl should be proud to know that the actions they performed for the patient drastically improved his chances for a favorable outcome. Without the quick and efficient CPR along with defibrillation performed by your officers, I fear the patient's heart would have been too far gone to revive as every second counts. I would also like to recognize yourself and your entire staff for taking EMS training seriously and providing all your officers with the tools to succeed during medical emergencies. Thanks Chief Jones and I look forward to continually working with KCPD officers in the field.

Kenny Harney  
Lieutenant / Paramedic  
Independence Fire District

Chief Jones then stated that most people are aware that there was a road rage incident this past Friday that went a little further than it ever should have. Our evidence collection unit, as well as our investigators were able to assist the Ft. Wright police department. There was a successful resolution of the events and what occurred. This is still an active investigation, so he couldn't go too far into the details. However, we are very glad that we were able to assist, and we had the appropriate and proper equipment. Thanks again to the Fiscal Court for making sure our department has all of the proper equipment.

### Emergency Communications

Dan Mathew stated that he would like to thank the Judge and Commissioners for their affirmative votes for the promotions in his department. The hirings also makes things a lot easier on his department. He emailed his monthly statistics, and noted that the month of September saw a decrease in cost for service and incidents. This is a good thing for the citizens of Kenton County. Other than that, not a whole lot of great interest to report in there.

Mr. Mathew then stated that he would like to recognize Dave Leonard. Yesterday, Dave sat for an exam for his emergency numbers professional certification. This is a test essentially that encompasses a very broad body of information related to 911, Next Generation 911, telephone

systems and services and things of that nature. Dave successfully passed that exam yesterday. This is exciting for him, as he has studied long and hard to achieve this goal. It is surprising to find very few 911 centers that have members that have achieved that certification, and we now have two with Dave being one and Ashley Hawks being the other. We're very proud of him for this achievement.

Commissioner Draud asked if there any kind of financial incentive for that kind of achievement, as far as the salary schedule or anything with your group?

Mr. Mathew answered that they did revamp their pay scale to encourage people to achieve certain milestones in their career. This emerging number of professional certifications is relatively new. We did not include that. That is definitely something that in the future we would look forward to.

Commissioner Draud stated that there should be some kind of financial reward for this.

### **Treasury**

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the September, 2020, financial reports have been submitted.

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

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

### **Commissioners ' Reports**

#### **Commissioner Jon Draud**

Commissioner Draud had nothing to report.

#### **Commissioner Beth Sewell**

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

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

Judge Knochelmann had nothing to report.

### **Executive Session**

#### **A. Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(b) Discussions on the future acquisition or sale of real property.**

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 3-0.

Commissioner Draud 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 3-0.

## **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 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 October 13, 2020.

---

Sue J. Kaiser  
Fiscal Court Clerk