

**Powell County Fiscal Court**

**Regular Called Meeting**

**Date: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Time: 6:00 p.m.**

**Location: Powell County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**

**33 Commerce Drive**

**Stanton, Kentucky 40380**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call Meeting to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Invocation**
- V. Approval of Clerk's Report (February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**
- VI. Approval of Bills Submitted for Payment**
- VII. Approval of Treasurer's Financial Statement**
- VIII. Approval of Treasurer's Transfers**
- IX. Old Business**
- X. Department Head Updates**
- XI. Magistrate District Updates**
- XII. Public Comments**

**Items to be discussed**

- Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman – Excess Fees & Final Quarterly Report
- Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson
- Paul Nesbitt – Clay City Industrial Park
- Brian McKinney – 2026 Incentive Pay KRS 64.5275(6)
- Resolution/Agreement – Cleaner Water Program
- KRS 441.215 Submit Proposed 2026/2027 Jail Budget to Fiscal Court
- TEBCO 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Payment
- Open Sealed Bids for Incinerator
- Closed Session 61.810 (C) (F)

- XIII. Other**
- XIV. Next Regular Meeting, Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.**
- XIV. Adjournment**

**Powell County Fiscal Court****Regular Called Meeting****Date: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026****Time: 6:00 p.m.****Location: Powell County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)****33 Commerce Drive****Stanton, Kentucky 40380**

Presiding: Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive

Present: Connie Crabtree, Fiscal Court Clerk, Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate J.L. Bowen, Magistrate Brian McKinney, EMS Director William Puckett, Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel, Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy, E911 Director Justin Rice, CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock, EM Director John Koontz, Ruth Jones, Keith and Amanda Mason, Enoch Thomas, Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman, Neal Hamilton, Jessica Faulkner Noon, Opioid Abatement Liaison LeAndre Knox, Road Laborer Billy Hood, Ms. Turley, Tina Epperson, K Gross, County Attorney Robert King, Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson, Jerry Dire (FAHE) and Haley Hall (FAHE)

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes called the meeting to order:

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen led the prayer

Roll Call for the following members: A quorum was established:

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes

Magistrate J.L. Bowen – Present

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Present

Magistrate Mike Lockard – Present

Magistrate Brian McKinney – Present

Magistrate Chad Patton – Present

**Meeting Minutes of February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting:**

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving the meeting minutes of February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Motion passed unanimously

**Claims Submitted for Payment:**

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor approving all claims submitted for payment.

Motion passed unanimously

331

**Treasurers Transfers: Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers:**

The Treasurer presented all transfers to members of the court for approval.

**Interfund Transfers:**

01-1000 Transfer to Ambulance - \$60,000.00  
01-4909 Transfer to Ambulance - \$60,000.00  
09-1000 Transfer from General - \$60,000.00  
09-4910 Transfer from General - \$60,000.00

01-1000 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00  
01-4909 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00  
09-1000 Transfer from General - \$25,000.00  
09-4910 Transfer from General - \$25,000.00

01-1000 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00  
01-4910 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00  
09-1000 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00  
09-4910 Transfer to Ambulance - \$25,000.00

01-1000 Transfer to Ambulance - \$50,000.00  
01-4910 Transfer to Ambulance - \$50,000.00  
09-1000 Transfer from General - \$50,000.00  
09-4910 Transfer from General - \$50,000.00

01-1000 Transfer to Dispatch - \$25,000.00  
01-4910 Transfer to Dispatch - \$25,000.00  
85-1000 Transfer from General - \$25,000.00  
85-4910 Transfer from General - \$25,000.00

**Budget Transfer:**

04-9200-999 LGEA Reserve for Transfer  
04-5120-121- Middlefork Fire Department Contribution

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers.

Motion passed unanimously

**2/1/26 – 2/28/26 Financial Statement & Cash Balance Summary:**

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving the 2/1/26 – 2/26/26 Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary.

Motion passed unanimously

**Old Business:**

No Discussion

**Department Head Updates:****EMS Director William Puckett:**

EMS Director William Puckett let members of the court know himself along with the EMS employees would like to thank them for approving the purchase of their new monitor. They have been working on a few issues with the new building. They would like to get the issues resolved so they can set a date to have an open house so that the public can come to see the building.

He also let them know the EMT classes are going well, and they have some students starting their ride time. The new ambulance had a wire that shorted out but is now fixed.

**E911 Director Justin Rice:**

E911 Director Justin Rice presented the calls that came into the dispatch center for the month of February.

Clay City Fire Department – 56	Powell County Coroner's Office – 1
Clay City Police Department – 163	Powell County Sheriff's Office - 301
Middle Fork Fire Department – 31	Powell County SAR – 1
Powell County EMS – 224	Stanton Fire Department - 33
Powell County Animal Control – 40	Stanton Police Department - 249
	Total CAD – 1,099

**E911 Director Justin Rice:**

E911 Director Justin Rice presented two quotes from Applied Digital Solutions Inc. The quotes are for their recording systems. In the past CSEPP maintained the cost upgrades for these systems. The software for the windows server will be outdated soon which is a big issue due to not getting updates. The server they have now is six or seven years old and constantly runs.

The quote received in the amount of \$20,011.45 included everything such as the new hardware, recorder server with 4U Chassis, window server 2022, Intel 8-Core Processor, 32GB RAM RAID1 2x2TB Hot Swap hard drives, Hot Swap Redundant PS, MYSQL & MS SQL 2022 and on-site installation and configuration. The quote received in the amount of \$6,934.49 includes Upgrade NiCE Inform Professional r9 to r11. Upgrade existing MS OD 2016 to MS OS 2022 and installation and configuration.

Justin said he feels we just need to upgrade the software right now and not the server at this time. Tabled until the next meeting

No Action was taken.

333

333

**Resignation Letter from Kaitlyn Hinds: Resigning from the Powell County E911**

**Dispatch Center:**

E911 Director Justin Rice let members of the court know Kaitlyn Hinds sent in a letter of resignation resigning from the Powell County E911 Center. The letter states her last day would be February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting to accept Kaitlyn Hinds letter of resignation.

Motion passed unanimously

**Hiring of Austin Horn for the Powell County E911 Dispatch Center:**

E911 Director Justin Rice asks members of the court to hire Austin Horn as a full-time dispatcher for the Powell County E911 Dispatch Center. Austin has five years of experience and is already certified.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor approving the hire of Austin Horn as a full-time dispatcher at the E911 Powell County E911 Center.

Motion passed unanimously

**E911 Director Justin Rice asks members of the court to approve the following policies. Powell County 911 Dispatch Disciplinary Policy and the LINK/NCIC IT Security Policy Guide for CJIS Security Compliance for the Powell County 911 Center.**

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton approving the Powell County 911 Dispatch Disciplinary Policy and the LINK/NCIC IT Security Policy. A Guide to CJIS Security Compliance. Both policies are for the Powell County E911 Center and are effective immediately.

( A copy of both policies will follow meeting minutes).

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes – Aye

Magistrate J.L. Bowen – Aye

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Aye

Magistrate Mike Lockard – Abstained

Magistrate Brian McKinney – Aye

Magistrate Chad Patton – Aye

Motion passed

**CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock:**

CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock lets members know FEMA is part of the Department of Homeland Security, so the funding is being held up. He has not had any contact with them for the last fourteen or fifteen days. All the paperwork has been submitted. We have received funding for the 4860 Project (Cow Creek) but are still waiting on funds for Star Gap and the 4864 Project (storm from last year). 4711 Project is still open( Popular Bluff and the boat ramp at Rosslyn).

Sirens are good and he encourages everyone to sign up for CODERED.

**Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden:**

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden let it be known they are giving away compost at the transfer station. Everyone is allowed one free bucket per day.

Free dump days will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup> through April 24<sup>th</sup>. This year you will be required to get a voucher from Tim or one of the transfer station employees. You will then take it to Rumpke in Montgomery or Estill County and dispose of your trash there. Doing it this way cuts expenses at our transfer station.

**(Approval of Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden to attend SWACK meeting)**

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden asked for court approval to attend this year's SWACK meeting in Henderson County. The meeting will be held in April.

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden lodging and registration fee for him to attend the April SWACK meeting in Henderson County.

Motion passed unanimously

Tim has currently been working on the composting and recycling grants. We should receive around \$500,000.00 in total for both grants.

**(Approval of Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, Rick Townsend and Andrew Bailey to go to Arkansas to look at a food composting machine)**

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden said he would like to check on a food composting machine. Currently it costs around \$1,000.00 per month to dispose of food from the jail.

He is asking for court approval to allow him along with Rick Townsend and Andrew Bailey to go to Arkansas to look at a food composting machine. He would like to see how the machine operates before making a purchase.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor approving lodging and meals for Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, Ricky Townsend and Andrew Bailey to go to Arkansas to look at a food composting machine.

Motion passed unanimously

**Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy:**

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy let members of the court know they have been working on culvert replacements, ditches and base failures. Some of the repairs are needed on Chop Chestnut and Eagle Trace.

**(Approval to purchase a drag box for the Powell County Road Department)**

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy asks for court approval to purchase a paving drag box. This box would be great for smaller repairs and laying gravel at a specific depth.

335

335

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving the purchase of a paving drag box from Boyd Cat in the amount of \$9,000.00 for the Powell County Road Department.

Motion passed unanimously

***Approval to amend the County Administrative Code Manual allowing overtime pay at a minimum of two hours for county employees when called out for emergencies.***

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy told members of the court he would like to address overtime pay for emergency call outs. He told them most of the road department's overtime is due to them being called out for emergencies. These emergencies are unplanned and it cannot be predicted such as a tree falling blocking the road or a snowy event happening on the weekend.

When road employees get called out in emergencies, they must change their plans, and they are away from their family. The issue is when there is a holiday during a work week and they have an unplanned call out. They are only getting paid regular time per our policy and procedures manual.

Patrick is asking members of the court to amend our administrative code to allow the road department employees when called out get paid overtime when there is a holiday in that period.

Sick or vacation days would not be allowed in these incidents.

Judge Barnes said he feels anytime they are called out in an emergency they should get paid time and a half.

Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel said this also affects our animal control officers.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor to amend the County Administrative Code manual to reflect overtime pay at a minimum of 2 (two) hours for county employees when called out for emergencies.

Motion passed unanimously

Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel: No discussion

***Opioid Liaison LeAndre Knox:***

Opioid Liaison LeAndre Knox let members of the court know they were no fatal overdoses for the months of January and February.

The reporting period for the Opioid Abatement will be opening soon. We are required to report to the state on expenditures we made. Reporting must be in by the end of August.

The Kentucky Opioid Abatement Commission Dashboard will be opening soon. This board will show all reports for counties and cities regarding opioid abatement money.

LeAndre let members know the courthouse now has a drug disposal box and the plan is to have them at other locations here in the county.

LeAndre told members of the court there was a request for a budget line for opioid abatement grant expenditure in the amount of 15,000.00.

**Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman: Approving Quarterly Report and Annual Settlement for Calendar Year 2025.**

Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman presented her final Quarterly Report and Annual Settlement for Calendar Year 2025: She let members know per Auditors request the fiscal court needs to approve her final quarterly report.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman's Final Quarterly Report and Annual Settlement for Calendar Year 2025.

Motion passed unanimously

Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman let it be known to those that don't know or understand that her office is a fee office. She starts every year out with a zero balance and opens a new account. The fees collected from vehicles and delinquent property taxes pay the state fees, city, county, school, library and extension. It is also used for payroll and benefits. The Clerks office has a motor vehicle and fee audit every year. By the end of March of the next year, the clerk then turns over any excess fees to the county.

**Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman: Check for Excess Fees:**

Powell County Clerk Jackie Everman made members of the court aware that she would be turning over a check to the county in the amount of \$42,448.74 for excess fees.

**Magistrate District Updates:**

**Magistrate Chad Patton:** Things have been quiet. The road department has been doing some coal patching.

**Magistrate J.L. Bowen;** Has some roads needing gravel. Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy told him they cannot get gravel at Hinkle right now but should be able to soon.

**Magistrate Brian McKinney:** The Local Emergency Planning Committee is doing a mock crash of a car crash versus a school bus on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The training is for our entire county. They will have fire trucks, police officers, the coroner, ambulances and a helicopter there. Dispatch will be involved also.

LEPC received a grant that can be used for signage for the county, a laptop, a printer, and a vinal sign cutter.

Prince Auto will be doing the decals for county vehicles.

Our county website has been updated. The company that did our update said we are one of three counties that have an outdated system. They are working on a price quote for a new website. Brian reached out about getting county wide emails for everyone. The cost would be \$5.00 per county employee per month. Department heads and county officials would be around \$100.00 per month

331

and if we use office 365 it would cost 6.00 per month. All of this will be done through the website we currently have.

Brain also lets members of the court know there is a possibility the county could get a land and water conservation grant from the National Parks Service to improve the Beech Fork Reservoir.

**Magistrate Dennis Combs:** Talked to Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy about road projects that were held over from last year. Patrick told him whether permitting them should get started soon.

**Magistrate Mike Lockard:** Presented quotes for a new generator for the EMS building and the detention center. The quotes submitted were over \$40,000.00 so we would need to advertise RFPs.  
No Action Taken

Magistrate Mike Lockard asked Judge Barnes what steps we need to take to get the road behind the courthouse closed off. The Administration Office of the Courts and the Judges are requesting we close the part of Breckenridge Street between the courthouse and detention center. This would allow for a barrier or fence to be installed so that when they walk inmates from the detention center to the courthouse they would not be coming out of an unsecured area. This would then allow us to put in some designated parking spaces for our Judges for safety purposes.

Judge Barnes said he is sure that Breckenridge Street is a state street. We will have to petition the state to see if we can close it. With the court's pleasure he said he would contract Corbitt Caudill to see what we need to do to start the process.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes: Been going to Frankfort asking for money for our county. In this budget cycle we have asked for 42 million dollars for different projects.

10 million for Beech Fork Water, 6 to 8 million for Powell's Valley Water, 2 million for Red River Wastewater Authority, 10 million for a new health department, 2.4 million for three new fire trucks, 6 million to improve Natural Bridge Hoe Down Island, 1.6 million for the Powell County Food Bank along with a new farmers market, 4 million for Clay City Industrial Park and 4.5 million for congressional spending.

We need around \$500,000.00 for a new building for solid waste.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said Cow Creek Road is in desperate need of repairs. Judge Barnes said we could ask the state for funding.

Our infrastructure as far as Beech Fork Water is pumping at capacity. The amount for this project is around 9,762,500.00. We are hoping to break ground for the new Industrial Park sometime this summer.

Judge Barnes said he would like to clear up some rumors going around. The rumor is the county is 3 million short in funds. He said this rumor is not true. The major thing the county owes other than re-occurring expense is prior to this fiscal court. The county owes 2 million dollars for the courthouse heating and air unit, 3.6 million for the jail construction project and 1.6 million for Hollerwood. The county has purchased a grader, salt truck, a truck for solid waste, updated animal control, 3 new ambulances, 3 refurbished mini pumpers, added on an extra person at E911, all

sirens have been revamped and increased pay for departments. The county currently does not owe on our ambulances or fire trucks.

When Judge Barnes first came into office there was a little over 2 million dollars in our general fund.

As of 3/3/26 the general fund has 3,254,723.15 so the rumor that is being spread is false.

Judge Barnes said if anyone has any questions, please contact him or come into the office.

***Public Comments:***

Jessica Faulkner Noon was present for the meeting to touch base with members of the court regarding townhall zoning meeting. Jessica, along with Magistrate McKinney, had been talking about the second town hall zoning meeting at the courthouse on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Lydon Smith plans on speaking again. Everyone is welcome to attend to ask questions or concerns they may have. She plans on informing people of the meeting on WSKV. The Powell Patriot fell to put it in their paper. She also plans to hang flyers in Clay City and ask members if they knew of any more avenues to make people aware of the meeting. Judge Barnes said we could put it on the county government's page.

Magistrate Bowen said he would like to plan the meeting at Middlefork sometime at the end of April and would like it to be held on a Saturday. He feels it would be a better turnout for doing this.

***(Approval of Application Fee for the Powell County Food Bank and Farmers Market new Building)***

Jerry Dire and Haley Hall with FAHE were present at the meeting to discuss the plans for a new food bank.

They have been working with Community Partners for around one year to get funding to build a building for our food bank. They have also talked about putting some USDA money into getting a permanent location for our farmers' market. She explained the funding for this project.

They are asking for 1.6 million dollars through our senate. There is 250,000.00 from USDA that is waiting to be requested for a farmers' market, and they can put in up to 850,000.00 in a community block grant for this project.

Late last year RFPs were submitted. The only company interested was FAHE. There was a personnel change with Mr. Brooks, so we were waiting to see what was going to happen. After talking to him and Jerry we would like to move forward with this project. Judge Barnes said the main question is what it is going to cost the county if we approve them to come in and manage this grant. Ms. Dire's told him the only fee that is not currently covered would be the application fee which is around \$10,000.00. If this is the direction we would like to take CDBG has money built in for administration.

The location for this new building will be where Dr Cecil's used to be on Washington Street.

Per Ms. Cecil Noss the old building can be torn down. She is willing to sign a lease but does not want to sell the property. Ms. Dires went over the plans with the court as far as the building and parking lot. She told them they should be able to put the packet together so that the county will not be out any match money.

339

After discussion a motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor approving the application fee in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Powell County Food Bank new building project. This motion also authorizes Judge Executive Eddie Barnes and Treasurer Connie Crabtree to sign all necessary paperwork regarding this project.

Motion passed unanimously

***Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson:***

Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson let members of the court know they are now fully staffed at the Visitor's Center and just hired a new assistant director. The center is already getting very busy with people coming in from different states.

Pete went to Frankfort last week to attend the Destination Frankfort event. He met Senator Smith and spoke about the current budget.

Pete plans on going to Harlan for the Kentucky Association of Business Bureau's quarterly meeting. He will be at the Kentucky Traveler's Association Orientation. He got asked to do a presentation on Outdoor Recreation and Adventure Tourism. His assistant Jill also plans to attend. She is in the Certified Kentucky Tourism Professional Program.

Pete got asked to sit on a panel for the Bluegrass Green Source in April.

The Wildlife Event will be held April 17<sup>th</sup> through April 19<sup>th</sup> and Herbology weekend will be May 1<sup>st</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Members of the court thanked Pete for coming this evening with updates and for doing a great job as our Powell County Tourism Director.

***Payment Approval: Brian McKinney 2026 Incentive: Pursuant to KRS 64.5275(6)  
Brain McKinney completed 40-hour training unit for calendar year 2026. Pursuant to  
KRS 64.5275(6). The total amount due is \$5,445.28.***

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving payment in the amount of \$5,445.28 for Brian McKinney's 2026 incentive.

Motion passed unanimously

***Resolution and Agreement: Exhibit 4 Resolution – Cleaner Water Program:***

The Kentucky general Assembly has appropriated funds for infrastructure projects in House Bill 1 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly for the Cleaner Water Program.

Tabled Until later date:

340

**(Court approval to pay TEBCO their final payment)**

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Dennis, seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor approving payment in the amount \$22,602.57 for the final payment to TEBCO.

Motion passed unanimously

**Sealed bids for new Incinerator:**

Judge Barnes let it be known that only one bid was submitted for a new incinerator. The bid was received on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 2:55 p.m.

Judge Barnes opened the sealed bid submitted from Mountain State Equipment.

The bid was for a Fire Lake Model A850X Mobile Incinerator with a 27 cubic foot chamber in the amount of \$76,900.00. This incinerator will be paid for by the recycling grant.

27 Cubic Foot Chamber.

- Fully Contained diesel fired 120 Volt Incinerator on Trailer
- Steel cased, refractory lined chambers and stainless stacks, SC1 Afterburner, stainless cap, digital timed start, auto stop, one temperature control, autoflow piping with filters for diesel to burners, generator.
- Two burners
- Incinerator will be assembled, tested and packaged for shipment.

**Other Features:**

- Burn Chamber Volume: As noted above
- Balanced load door with 21x27 opening
- Front Ash Door
- Burn stack test data available
- Approximate Burn Rate of 45 LBS per hour.

Judge Barnes said he feels like we need to get a change of command in place so that we are following all guidelines when using the incinerator. They will be required to sign a log sheet.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor approving the sealed bid received from Mountain State Equipment for a Fire Lake Model A850X Mobile Incinerator with a 27 cubic foot chamber in the amount of \$76,900.00

Motion passed unanimously

**Proposed Jail Fund Budget to Fiscal Court by April 1 KRS 441.215:**

The Treasurer presented the 2026/2027 Proposed Jail Fund Budget to members of the fiscal court. KRS 441.215.

3A1

***(Discussion of Hollerwood Lease being advertised)***

Judge Barnes asked County Attorney Robert King to explain about advertising leases. Do we have to advertise them? Robert said the short answer is no. We do not have to advertise leases. The P3 for Agreement for Hollerwood was required by law to be advertised. This only applies when there is a requirement for advertising which there were not. This comes from the person that drafted the lease itself, and it was checked though the Department for Local Government which has repeatedly said the lease is not required to be advertised. The court did agree to advertise so that everyone had a chance to submit a proposal.

Judge Barnes said if we did not put it on our social media page and Hollerwood's page someone would have said something about it. The court felt this was the right thing to do.

There have not been any decisions made at this time. The deadline for proposals is Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. The fiscal court will call a special meeting to go over the leases and do what they need to do to accept a person or people for this lease. Judge Barnes said they are not crooks like people are saying on social media. Magistrate Bowen said this is why we took the extra step and let the Department of Local Government look over the lease. Magistrate Dennis Combs said he had heard people saying we promised to run it twice and we didn't.

Fiscal Court Clerk Connie Crabtree told members of the court they made copies of the lease for anyone that requested it.

***(Keith Mason discussion of Hollerwood)***

Keith Mason said he would like to take a moment to correct some records. He spoke out of frustration and said something he should've said. He would like to apologize for the statement of any distraction or offense that it may cause. It was caused out of anger not a true statement. He and his wife love this area and are passionate about our community. He is not a politician. He is a blue-collared working man that knows how to get things done and make people happy. In knowing where Hollerwood Park would be now is the main reason they are still standing here this evening. Keith said their names have been drugged through the mud multiple times and they have been lied about. They were called thieves by simply investing in the park. We have offered more than any other contractors should or would have. They ask members of the court to consider them as a lessee when they turn in their bid. He said he spoke on public record that they probably could not afford to come back and run the park, but the man upstairs has given them almost \$200,000.00 to invest. Keith said he was done wrong by some people in this county.

Judge Barnes said we will accept everyone's applications. We have not made any decisions and will not until next week. Amanda said they do appreciate the transparency, and they have done their due diligence in giving people time to speak up and willing to do what's best.

Keith asks members if a private entity leases the park will the county help with writing grants for the property. Robert said there is no quick answer to this. This interminable time that we have been waiting for an answer from Frankfort focuses solely on those grant monies. We were told by Frankfort that we do not have any grant money anyways. Robert told them just to take the grant money out because we don't have it. If you take care of money and start handing it to private individuals it creates a big mess. This question has never been answered by The Department for Local Government and may never be.

**Closed Session: KRS 61.810 (C) (F)**

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of going into closed session 61.810 (C) (F).

Motion passed unanimously

**Court Resumes:**

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of resuming the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Amendment #00000002**

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of budget amendment # 00000008 Increasing General, Road, Grants, Opioid and Ambulance Funds totaling \$1,062,320.09.

**Revenues:**

Grants 78-4510-179 Cert - \$7,645.09  
 Opioid Funds – 88-4510 - State Grants – Salary for QTR Coordinator - \$27,040.00  
 Ambulance – 09-4799-A -Other Receipts/EMT Classes - \$5,400.00  
 General – 01-4912C – Governmental Leasing Receipts - \$148,460.00  
 General – 01-4912B – Governmental Leasing Receipts - \$190,650.00  
 General – 01-4912B - Governmental Leasing Receipts - \$253,614.00  
 Road – 02-4912 - Governmental Leasing Receipts - \$197,625.00  
 Road – 02-4912 - Governmental Leasing Receipts - \$231,886.00  
 Total – 1,062,320.09

**Appropriation:**

Grants – 78-5130-446-179 Function Specific Equip & supplies - \$7,645.00  
 Ambulance – 09-5140-550-01 EMS Supplies – EMT Classes - \$5,400.00  
 General – 01-5210-441 -Landfill Machinery & Equipment - \$148,460.00  
 General – 01-5210-441 Landfill Machinery & Equipment - \$190,650.00  
 Road – 02-6105-441 – Road Maxhinery & Equipment - \$197,625.00  
 General – 01-7700-606 – 2025 Mack Truck Payment - \$253,614.00  
 Road – 02-7700-602 – 2025 Mack Truck Lease Payment - \$231,886.00  
 Opioid Funds – 88-9100-179 – QTR Coordinator - \$27,040.00  
 Total - \$1,062,320.09

Motion passed unanimously

**Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.**

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of adjourning the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously

Next Regular Meeting will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

343



**Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive**



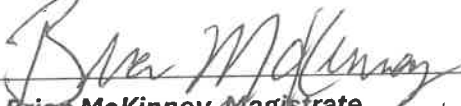
**J.L. Bowen, Magistrate**



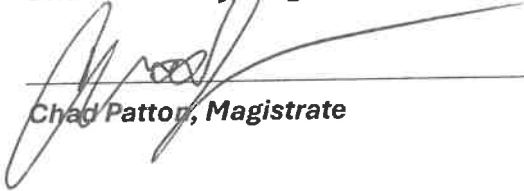
**Dennis Combs, Magistrate**



**Mike Lockard, Magistrate**



**Brian McKinney, Magistrate**



**Chad Patton, Magistrate**