

Powell County Fiscal Court
Regular Called Meeting
Date: June 13th, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Powell County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
33 Commerce Drive
Stanton, Kentucky 40380

Present: Judge Executive Eddie Barnes, Fiscal Court Clerk/Treasurer Connie Crabtree, Magistrate J.L. Bowen, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate Mike Lockard, Ambulance Director Nathan Hall, Dispatch Director Larry Hall, Assistant Dispatch Director Justin Rice, Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, County Attorney Robert King, CSEPP/EMA Director Kevin Babcock, Chief Deputy Jailer Neil Hamilton, Paramedic Nathan Zachary, Road Foreman Patrick McCoy, Rebecca Townsend, PVA Carmen Rogers and Sara Johnson

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer:

Members of the Fiscal Court stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
Dale Allen led us in prayer.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes ask the Clerk to call roll:

Magistrate J.L. Bowen - Present
Magistrate Dennis Combs - Present
Magistrate Mike Lockard - Present
Magistrate Brian McKinney - Present
Magistrate Chad Patton - Present

Public Comments:

Sarah Johnson - Air 8&8 owner

Sarah Johnson, a resident of Powell County and an Air B&B owner came to speak to members of the court about taxes on Air B&B's. Sarah said that she was advised by Stanton, Powell and Clay City board members that if she came out and spoke about this that it would hurt her husband's business which is Joker Business Solutions. Judge Barnes told her that this board works for the people of the county. If there is a problem, you can come to them, and they will try and fix it. She was advised by the Powell County Tourism Director Rita Shepherd on two occasions that the board members were speaking that she needed to shut her mouth. Judge Barnes asked her if she was here today about taxes on Air B&B's and if anybody says anything he brought it out. She told him yes that was the reason she was here. April 2022 Air B&B notified Host by message that they do not have to do anything at this time. They just needed to wait to see what happened. In December Host was notified by APP that as of January pt they are legally required to send payment for local transient tax and occupancy taxes on their behalf. In December and January, the tourism board said they are not receiving money, which is a problem for both. Sarah contacted Blake Steel with the Department of Revenue Excise Division by phone and spoke with Kentucky Tourism Commission Mike Malott. They both told her that legally she has the option to

pay local transient tax as of January 1, 2023. None of the hosts, including herself, are responsible for it and it's solely the responsibility of Air B&B. She is still waiting for a response from legislation, the Governor's office and the County Attorney's office. County Attorney Robert King told her if they were telling her that she doesn't have to pay for it he would need to see something saying they did not have to pay. She told him that she had emailed that to his secretary's email. Judge Barnes said that he did not know a lot about this. He asks her if she was saying that Frankfort, Air B&B or someone is supposed to be paying her taxes. He also asks her if she was contracted with them to rent out her cabins. She told him that she cannot walk away from Air B&B without paying a penalty. She also said that Air B&B are in works with the state and if you continue to pay there is no guarantee you will get your money back. Judge Barnes asked her to send all her information to them so they could check on this. Sarah said the tourism meetings are recorded but what is said after the recording is turned off is surprising. Debbie Tipton is a cabin owner here in Powell County. Sarah told members of the court that Debbie had they needed to tell Robert King to send a letter to the host scaring them into paying because they cannot wait until November to receive payment. Judge Barnes told her again to let them check on this and see what they could find out.

He also told her the only thing we have to do with tourism is for the County Treasurer deposit's the same deposits into account that was opened by the county that Rita Tolson deposits into their account. The County Treasurer prints a check for that total amount for the month and is then deposited into the tourism commission account.

Sarah mentioned the board appointments. Judge Barnes said that he can appoint two members to the board. The Food Handlers can appoint one or two, the Hotel/Motel Association can appoint one or two and the Chamber of Commerce can appoint one or two. Sarah told members that Debbie Tipton is on Powell County Tourism and Chamber of Commerce & Mendel Tipton is on the Clay City Tourism. She said she would love it if everyone would come together, and Judge Barnes agreed with her.

Judge Barnes told her that the whole fiscal court would have a say in who is appointed.

Sarah told members of the court that she would get all her information sent to them. They told her that they would try and let her know something by the next regular meeting.

Sarah also requested that they fix the boat ramp at Rosslyn. They told her that it was going to be repaired.

Lois Embry - Gritters Ridge Road

Lois Embry, a resident of Gritters Ridge Road was present for the meeting requesting that her road be reverted to her private driveway. She told them sometime in the 1960s or 1970's they discontinued the road that goes down through her property. They put a road straight over Tilman Hill. She thought the road that came down to her property reverted to the landowner but when Judge Anderson was in office, he told her that it did not. If it cannot be reverted, she asks that the county start maintaining it.

Judge Barnes told her that he, along with Road Foreman Patrick McCoy, went and looked at it. The road has not been maintained by the county since 1991.

The Road Foreman told her that last year they did check into rerouting the roadway through a portion of the natural forest. A study was never done, but he thought it would add approximately an extra 2 tenths of a mile to Gritters Ridge if they did reroute the roadway through the natural forest to get rid of Tilman Hill. The reason they were asked to do this is because Tilman Hill has a 21% grade. It becomes an issue not only for himself but his crew trying to maintain it as well as people driving 2-wheel vehicles trying to

access Air B&B rental. Patrick said in his opinion he did not think it would be feasible to do this. The cost to reroute this section of roadway would be around \$200,000.00 to \$400,000.00.

Patrick went on to say that Lois is correct that they have never maintained that portion of roadway that is going towards her home. He asks the County Attorney if there was a law that states that property is reverted to the landowner if it's not maintained in 15 years and no longer is a public passage. The County Attorney told him that this is correct. There are 3 different abandonment statues, but he would have to read them to refresh his memory.

Robert told her that the county could draft a deed for the road to her.

After discussion members of the court all agreed to table this until the next regular meeting so that they could check the statues to make sure what could be done.

Tabled until next meeting.

No action was taken.

PVA Carmen Rogers - Tax Appeal Board discussion

PVA Carmen Rogers was present for the meeting to make them aware that they are in the period of open inspection for their tax role which means people have the right to appeal their assessment on their property. As of right now there are no appeals.

Carmen told members of the court a board is needed to look at any appeals they received.

They will also be looking at her personal assessment along with assessments for any deputies that work in her office.

This board will consist of three (3) members. One of the members must be appointed by the Fiscal Court, one by the County Judge Executive and the third one by the Stanton Mayor.

This person must live in the county for at least 5 years, cannot have served on this board in the previous three (3) years, have knowledge of real estate values preferably real estate appraisals sales, management or construction. The inspection period ends June 26th and people have until June 27th to file their appeal with the County Clerk's office. The board then must meet within 15 days of them filing their appeal. The board will have to meet regardless to look at her personal assessment along with her deputies to make sure all is assessed correctly at fair market value.

Judge Barnes told her we would be having a special meeting at the end of June and the appointments could be made then. He asks her to get a package together so that members of the court could look over it so that they could decide on board appointments.

Paramedic Nathan Zachary: Approval for Critical Care Class

Paramedic Nathan Zachary was present for the meeting to ask for travel expenses for a class in Baltimore Maryland. The class will be July 16 - 29, 2023. Nathan has been employed with the Powell County EMS Service since December 27th, 2016. He worked both full and part time during that time. He has been a paramedic since August 2018 and began his tendered here as a EMT in December 2022. The course that he wishes to attend in July is a 14-day course in Baltimore Maryland. It is Critical Care Emergency Transport Class (CCEMPT). This class is put on by the University of Maryland.

Nathan told members of the court that he could bring the knowledge to teach classes to paramedics and EMT's. The tuition for this class is \$1,200.00. Judge Barnes asked what he thought the total amount would be for him to attend this class. Nathan said he was not asking the court to pay for the tuition of this course. He said he has managed to make some money teaching CPR classes.

The fuel for this trip would approximately be \$350.00, the costs of the books would be around \$400.00, food expense would be around \$20.00 a day and motel expenses for 14 nights would be around \$1400.00 to \$1,600.00. Nathan told members that he has estimated the total cost to be around \$4,000.00. Judge Barnes said that he feels if the court agrees to this, we should have Nathan sign a 1 ½ year educational contract saying that will stay employed with the Powell County EMS Service or he will be responsible for paying back the total amount that he receives for this class. Magistrate Chad Patton said that every continued educational class he has went to the person you are working for covers the cost of the class.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said that his request is worthy, and he wants anyone that works for us to have an educational opportunity to come back and make our workplace better.

Judge Barnes asked Nathan to prepare an itemized statement to include tuition, books, fuel, lodging and \$45.00 a day per diem. The Treasurer asked how they would pay Nathan for these expenses. Should we send a check to the University for the tuition? Judge Barnes told him to keep all receipts.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen ***to approve the total cost for Nathan Zachary to attend the class in Baltimore, Maryland to include tuition, books, fuel, lodging and \$45.00 a day per diem contingent that Nathan signs a 1 ½ year educational contract stating that he stays employed with the Powell County EMS Service and if for some reason he quits before the 1 ½ year contract is up he will be responsible for paying back the total amount for all expenses concerning this class. This motion was seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton. This motion also allows the Treasurer to use the county credit card to pay for the lodging and the costs of the books.***

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passes unanimously.

6-0

Meeting Minutes for the May 9th, 2023, regular meeting.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the regular meeting dated May 9th, 2023.

A motion ***to approve the meeting minutes for the regular meeting dated May 9th, 2023, was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton.***

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Meeting Minutes for the May 31st, 2023, special meeting:

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the special called meeting dated May 31st 2023.

A motion ***to approve the meeting minutes for the special meeting dated May 31st, 2023, was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by the Magistrate J.L. Bowen.***

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Bills Submitted for Payment:

The bills were submitted to members of the court for payment approval.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion ***to approve all bills submitted for payment.***

A motion to approve all bills submitted for payment was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Financial Statements: 5/1/23 - 5/31/23 Financial Statement and Cash Statements.

The Treasurer presented all the financial statements for court approval. Financials to include 5/1/23 - 5/31/23 financial statement and cash balance statements.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve all financial statements.

A motion to approve all financial statements including the 5/1/23 - 5/31/23 financial statement and cash statements was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Treasurer's Transfers:

The Treasurer presented the transfers for court approval. Transfers to include interfund transfers, cash transfers and budget transfers.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve all transfers.

A motion to approve the transfers to include interfund transfers, cash and budget transfers was made Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

2nd Reading Budget Amendment# 5:

The budget for the current fiscal year is amended to increase the receipts of the following funds to Include unbudgeted receipts from:

General, Jail, Ambulance and Road totaling \$840,216.00

1st reading of this budget amendment was held on May 9th, 2023, and then was signed by State Local Finance Officer Robert Brown on May 15th, 2023.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion ***to approve the 2nd reading of Budget Amendment #5.***

A motion to approve the 2nd reading of Budget Amendment #5 in the total amount of \$840,216.00. was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and Seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Old Business:

The County Treasurer asked for the County Attorney to prepare a summary of this ordinance so she can send it to the paper for publication.

Brief discussion on Rhonda Roe's house on Pine View Heights. Approximately fifteen years ago Rhonda turned this house back into FHA and as of now they still haven't got the house out of her name. The house is deteriorating, and storms are causing shingles and metal to blow which is a nuisance hazard. Judge Barnes contacted the PVA's office, and the house is still signed to Rhonda Roe.

County Attorney Robert King told members of the court that he would check and see if he could find out anything.

Judge Barnes let members of the court know about the new courthouse doors. He said the company said they are behind and do not have enough employees to come and install them at this time but will get to them as soon as they can.

Department Head Updates:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden:

Tim told members of the court that it would be around \$2,300.00 a load for the county to haul the cardboard off. The county can get a new tractor through a one-year lease program for around \$155,000.00 then could sell after the year is up. They are selling for around \$200,000.00.

We will also have to purchase a trailer if we decide to haul the cardboard ourselves. He said most used trailers cost around \$15,000.00. He is going to look at a couple of them. Hopefully he could purchase both for that amount.

Tim also let members of the court know that the county would be receiving the following grants for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

Composting Grant in the amount of \$278,576.79

Recycling Grant in the amount of \$249,912.23

Waste Tire Grant in the amount of \$24,000.00

These grants are a 75/25 match. Most of this can be done by in kind.

Judge Barnes discussed the agreement for the Waste Crumb Rubber/Tire-Derived Products Grant.

The grant is for 13 eight-foot park benches & 13 eight-foot wheelchair accessible picnic tables that will be put in public schools, city parks and the courthouse area.

Judge Barnes discussed the grant for the composting. The grant will be used for a bobcat loader, 14' dump trailer, 12' drum style towable chipper rock and vapor barrier, 144 concrete rock barriers, (6) 6 40 yd open tops, (2) slip in and out box containers, school education for (5) schools and county fair booth to hand out public info which totals \$278,576.79.

Judge Barnes discussed the Recycling Grant. This grant will be used for (20) 9yd containers, (3) vertical bailers, 18' enclosed box trailer, (10) 6x12 trailers w/ cages, (4) 20yd open top, Materials for program at (5) schools and County fair booth - recycling information totaling \$249,912.23.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to allow him to sign all paperwork/agreements concerning these grants.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton **to allow Judge Executive Eddie Barnes to sign all paperwork/agreements concerning the Composting, Recycling and the Waste Crumb Rubber-derived Products grants.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Judge Barnes and County Treasurer agreed that we should wait until the new fiscal year to purchase a semi-truck and trailer. Members of the court agreed to let Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden to spend up to \$15,000.00 for trailers.

Tim also talked about a 5-year land lease from Rose Hall. The lease payment would be \$5,000.00 yearly.

Magistrate Chad Patton told Tim that he did a great job on getting those grants for the county.

Road Foreman Patrick McCoy:

Patrick let members of the court know that things are going great as far as personnel. They have finished their first round of mowing. They are also working towards finishing the paving list. Patrick and Judge Barnes checked with Rural Municipal Aid and were told we are still good on the flex agreement which total \$453,000.00.

Patrick told members that we need to get something done for the discretionary monies. Patrick met with Craig Lindon to measure several roadways. The Magistrates had a list of quotes for several roads totaling around \$900,000.00. Patrick said he felt like this is a little high for discretionary funding. With the court's pleasure Patrick asks for the ability to allow him to protrude these documents and mileage points on these roads to try and reduce this to around \$750,000.00. He thinks we will see more of any approval rate at this cost.

Judge Barnes said he had talked to Patrick about Echo Hollow and Pine View Heights. He has talked to the property owners about resurfacing. Patrick told him that patching had already been approved for Echo Hollow in certain locations through the flex agreement that is still open. Pine View Heights is a narrow roadway. They are looking into getting it into the next flex submittal. You will get better approval rates when you get a wider or longer section of roadway. There are a total of 10 roadways on this list and was solely based on the need assessment. Magistrate Brian McKinney asked Patrick if it was the gravel or blacktop section on Barkers Branch. Patrick told him that the gravel section is probably muddy and is in Estill County. The blacktop part is the first section of South Fork Road and approximately .1 mile prior to pavement.

Patrick said that he had three roads that are in excess of 1 mile which were Lone Oak, Barker Branch and maybe Star Gap. Members of the court were given a list of roads for paving. The roads were the following: Lone Oak, Rose Lane, Silver Maple Lane, Wild Cherry Lane, Star Gap Road, Barker Branch Road, Old Winchester Road, Copperass Creek Road, Little Brushy Creek Road, and Oak Ridge Drive. Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the road list for paving and to give Road Foreman Patrick McCoy to the ability to reduce the total amount of the road list and to execute the discretionary agreement.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs **to approve the road list for paving and to also give Road Foreman Patrick McCoy the ability to reduce the total amount of the road list and to execute the discretionary agreement.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

6-0

Patrick also asks court members about the demo mower they were using from Kubota that attaches to the excavator. Patrick said he has found an alternative that can be purchased. It is a used one that was purchased for a machine that was too large. The mower has been demoed and is now at the county garage. They are asking \$5,250.00 for the mower. Patrick asks if the court would approve this purchase after July 1st. Judge Barnes said he went and looked at this mower and it looked brand new. Patrick will check and see if they will hold onto it until then and if not, could we discuss it at the special meeting at the end of the month. Judge Barnes said they would put it on the agenda just in case.

Patrick mentioned if he could get court approval to purchase a few things through his own personal Amazon account and get reimbursed by the county. Some of the items that he could save money on ordering through Amazon would be Milwaukee batteries for power tools and LED lights.

Magistrate J. L. Bowen asked about the county having an Amazon account. The state auditors have said in the past they would not advise it. The Treasurer said that they could make a motion to use the county credit card for these purchases.

After discussion a motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen **to allow use of the county credit card to purchase of batteries and led lights for the road department. Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.**

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Judge Barnes said that he would contact an auditor and ask them about opening an account with Amazon.

Patrick told members of the court that he had been looking into them attending pesticide training sometime during the fall. He will let them know when he finds out more about it.

Mechanic Derek Townsend:

Derek told members of the court that he had checked on getting a county credit card with Harbor Freight. They told him that they did not do this but had a membership awards program which would be tax exempt. He asks members if the county credit card could be used to sign up for the awards program. He said he would like the road department employees to have a tool kit in their trucks in case something breaks down, so they do not have to come back into the shop. This tool kit needs to consist of tools they would need. This would be better than buying a tool kit already put together because there are a lot of tools that would not be used. Magistrate Mike Lockard asked Derek to get a price for the tool kits.

Derek said he came to a meeting last year and discussed a software update on the scan tool. He did not do the update at that time. He called the Snap-On dealer and was told they would be looking at another update in a couple of months. Derek said there would be no sense in paying for an update and then must do it again in a couple of months. The latest update came out in May of this year.

Derek asks for court approval to allow the purchase of this update. The cost of this update is \$1,000.00. Members of the court told Derek to move forward with the update.

Derek said the road budget had a \$15,000.00 line for tools. They still have a balance of \$9,000.00 in it. Derek asks for court approval to purchase an AC machine for the road department shop so that he can work on equipment. Advance Auto only has 2 left in the county at this time. One of them was priced at \$6,000.00 and the other was \$4,370.00.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the purchase of an AC machine for the road department shop.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney to **approve the purchase of an AC machine in the amount of \$4,370.00.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Ambulance Director Nathan Hall:

Nathan told members about a year ago the fiscal court approved to purchase up to two new ambulances. As of now they cannot give a delivery date and have no idea of when a production date will begin. They do not have cabin chassis for the Chevrolet 3500's. Judge Barnes has looked online and found some. Nathan said he had talked to this guy and can get Chevrolet 4500 gasoline Ambulance's. The boxes are bigger than the last ones, but the price has increased. The price for a new ambulance is around \$215,000.00. They have not started production on these but should be able to get them in October. Magistrate Lockard asked if we could apply for a grant to help with the purchase of an ambulance. Nathan told him that he applied through rural development four or five years ago and it laid on Judge Anderson's desk for eighteen months.

Nathan said they are looking to purchase a new ambulance building and a new ambulance out of the ARPA money. His proposal would be to purchase one new ambulance, build the new ambulance building with furnishing out of ARPA funds. If there are any funds still available after this, they could purchase a second ambulance.

Nathan said he had talked to the guy, and he said we can cancel the prior 2 orders that were placed for two new ambulances due to them not being able to tell us a delivery date.

Magistrate Chad Patton ask when the new ambulance project was going to start. Judge Barnes said he had talked to Jim Cordell last week. Using the building on Elkins Street was going to cost around \$2.7 million but using the present ambulance building would be around\$ 1.6 to 1.7 million.

Judge Barnes said that he was like to see a medication lock box on the new ambulances. Once the contracts are signed, they will come in and go over what is wanted in the new ambulances. Ambulances are being built in North Carolina, but the service shop is in Shelbyville. Judge Barnes went on to say that he would like to visit the manufacturing facility at their expense.

Magistrate Brian McKinney asked if they had ruled out purchasing two new ambulances. Judge Barnes told him in his opinion he feels we should only purchase one ambulance at this time and build the ambulance building.

Judge Barnes said as far as the ambulance building Jim Codell has helped us on the estimation and drawing. We have not hired him to do anything, this is just to help.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to cancel the 2 orders that were placed for new ambulances.

A motion by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs to **cancel the contract (order) for the two new ambulances due to them not being able to give a delivery date. This motion also approves the order for a new ambulance.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Judge Barnes said before we placed the order, we need to have them come up so they can discuss what is wanted in a new ambulance and would like to visit their facility. He also suggested putting together an ambulance committee.

District Updates:

Magistrate Brian McKinney attended the Beech Fork Water Commission Board meeting recently. They talked about trying to get the beech fork reservoir fixed up nicer by having picnic tables, shelters and some way to filter out the water to make it clearer. The reservoir is jointly owned by Powell County, Stanton and Clay City. He said they would like to get all three tourism boards together as one project to push forward to make it a nicer tourist area. He said he was going to ask the other tourism boards to see what they thought about it.

Judge Barnes said they are also looking at upgrading the boat dock. They had asked if they brought the rock if the county could rock it for them.

Magistrate Chad Patton ask if anyone had contracted the inspection guys as far as paying taxes. Dispatcher Director Larry Hall said that would be Brinton Epperson question. Larry said that he had given Stephanie a list of companies, but he cannot speak for Brinton.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked if we could fix the boat ramp at Rosslyn. CSEPP/EMA Director said it was listed on the disaster grant for flooding, but it would be 3 to 4 weeks before they get starting on paperwork but should be done by fall. Magistrate Bowen suggested contacting fish and wildlife. Judge Barnes said based on what he has heard there was no rebar put in the concrete for support. Judge Barnes and Magistrate J.L. Bowen talked to Walker Construction and the state concerning the boat ramp in Stanton. They talked about making a road to the bottom and fixing a place to put kayaks in.

Magistrate Dennis Combs - Nothing currently.

Dispatch Director Larry Hall:

Larry told members of the court that part of the dispatch center went down totally yesterday. They are trying to get the phones upgrades. CSEPP/ EMA Director got approved for funding up to \$22,000.00 for phone upgrades. They have ordered a hard drive to get one side up and running. AT&T has the program to upgrade the center. Larry talked to Judge Barnes about doing 3 stations in case they took an additional dispatch center on. The cost of this upgrade is \$66,000.00.

Larry called Kim Rankin with AT&T. He put her on the speaker phone so that members of the court could hear her discuss what the package consists of.

Kim told members that they are working on trying to get new equipment. She said Powell County was one of the first to go hosted solution around 10 years ago. The equipment now is outdated, and we need to make sure the dispatcher center does not go down. The goal is to get the equipment refreshed and get all the new software and hardware. Judge Barnes asked Kim how Powell County was ranked as far as dispatch centers in the state of Kentucky as far as our equipment is concerned. She told him that refreshing should be done every 5 years and Powell County has held out the longest. Judge Barnes asked her if Powell County was one of the oldest in the state of Kentucky as far outdated equipment. Kim told him that was correct. Judge Barnes also asked her if she considered this an emergency. She told him at

this point absolutely and she would highly recommend getting new equipment because she does not want to see anyone fail.

Members of the court thanked Kim and the guys from AT&T.

Larry said that there was an extra system but Dave the radio guy had to take it out because there were cigarette ashes and pop spilled in it.

Kevin said that we are replacing all 3 stations with the expectation of the phones. Larry said they are waiting for approval for a grant to upgrade the CAD system. CIS was there today and hopefully we will get all the new computers, monitors and hardware. Larry told members of the court they took off an \$8,800.00 bill today that we should have never had for training.

The license is \$7,500.00 and with the new software it will go to \$10,000.00. Larry had them break it down into four different invoices. One to dispatch, one to Sheriff's office, one to the Stanton Police Department and one to the Clay City Police Department. These departments will be responsible for their own personal CAD's.

Judge Barnes asked if once we do the upgrade are we eligible to get more CMRS monies as far as an increase in monetary situation. Larry told him this was possible. It depends on their number of stations, how many people we have and their roles.

Magistrate Chad Patton said it makes him mad they are in this shape. They always got the impression everything was fine with dispatch. Since the new administration it has turned completely around. Larry also let members of the court know that they would be applying for a homeland security grant and there will be funding for offsite management. They would like Mike Johnson with Joker Solutions to be their offsite manager. Mike is always willing to help now and gets paid nothing.

The new phone system will also bring on board intergraded text 911 so that people text 911.

Judge Barnes said that he made a call to the Governor's office and asked them if they could help. The Governor's assistant Joe Williams said that he would push as hard as possible to help us out to get us some funding.

Judge Barnes said that he would call Greyson Evans with Bluegrass Area Development and see if we can use some money from the ARPA funds to help pay for this new equipment.

After discussion Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve using ARPA (Tribal) funds to pay for 3 new stations at our dispatch center.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate ***to approve using ARPA (Tribal) funds to help pay for 3 new stations at our dispatch. The cost of these stations will be \$66,000.00. CSEPP approved \$22,000.00 and the remaining balance would be \$44,000.00.***

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

CSEPP/EMA Director Kevin Babcock:

Magistrate Dennis Combs asked Kevin about sirens.

Kevin let members of the court know that they are still working with Estill County. FEMA wants Estill County to prove that they are not profiting from this. Madison County will try to sell us their equipment, but you cannot profit from FEMA funded monies. Jimmy has been working on the sirens that are still down and has also been working putting generators in the transmitter sites. He is waiting on parts to hook these generators up. Judge Watson in Estill County is all for Powell County to get the sirens.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked about the radios. Kevin told him that up and working. When the new equipment comes in, they are going to put four receivers in each of the tower sites. The road crew will then have the same coverage as the police and fire. We will have the fourth channel, which is the CSEPP and at some point, if we get this all working, he would like to give it to EMS so that they would have a channel also. We have been approved for the radio upgrades and everything has been ordered. The microwave system is eight to twelve weeks out, and the transmitters are six to ten weeks out. It will take four to eight weeks to install. David Roar is also working on the FCC license for mobile transmitters. Kevin said he will work with Judge Barnes to find out where the first two will go and if there is funding through CSEPP we can purchase another fourteen to fifteen of them but will depend on the price. Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked if the radios could reach Hollerwood. Kevin told him that Hollerwood was never on his radar and had never been up there to test it. Kevin told him that they could go up to Hollerwood and test it.

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes:

Judge Barnes let members of the court know that they had been working on several different grants. Last week there was a training class in Frankfort with the Community Development Block Grant Disaster recovery. The trips to Frankfort have been eventful and he has met a lot of contacts. Jennifer Peters is the Branch Manager for water & sewer. She is going to give us some ideas about getting upgrades as far as water and sewer in the Industrial Park. They have talked about getting everyone together as far as Stanton, Clay City, Beech Fork, Powell's Valley and the County. We need to be together so that we can talk about what's going on and talk about doing some grants together as a community. When Judge Barnes and Tim went to Governor's Brashear's office, they accepted our grants. That day they received \$24,000.00 for picnic tables but they also got \$245,000.00 for recreational trails that go up to Hollerwood. As additional grant will be coming in the amount of \$260,000.00.00 Judge Barnes told members that a resolution needs to be passed for this new grant. Billie Johnson told Judge Barnes that it was guaranteed that the county would receive it because no one else had asked for it.

We have also been working on the \$300,000.00 grant for fire trucks.

We have been approved to get the log jam removed in Clay City. One of the problems was the muscles in the river. Fish and Wildlife must do a study on them to see what impact it will have on them when the debris is removed. We also must find a place to take the debris. Rob Williams had told Judge Barnes that we could take it to his farm, but we found out we cannot do it because it's in a flood plain. The place we are now looking to take it is beside the animal shelter. We are looking into Red River Ranch or the Walker Company to remove the debris.

Approval for Danielle Rowland Townsend to receive her 40 hours of vacation time.

Judge Barnes told members of the court that when Danielle Rowland Townsend left the Powell County EMS a few years ago she did not get her 40 of vacation. The former administration said she did not leave on good terms but there is nothing in her personnel folder saying that. Dispatch Director Larry Hall said there is no record of her leaving on bad terms. Judge Barnes said that it was a shame that you do not take care of your employees. It sounds like someone had a personal issue with her and did her wrong. Judge Barnes entertained a motion to approve Danielle Rowland Townsend getting her 40 hours of vacation put back on her time.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton for *Danielle Rowland Townsend getting 40 hours of vacation put back on her time.*

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Resolution No. 2023-0001 Recreational Trails Program 2023 Application:

Whereas the Powell County Fiscal Court proposes to develop recreational resources to provide for the health and well-being of the general public, and whereas, the Powell County Fiscal Court intends to make application to the Department for Local Government for assistance under the Recreational Trail Program, and Whereas, The Recreational Trails Program is limited to funding a maximum of eighty Percent (80%) of proposed project costs estimated at \$270,000.00.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Powell County Fiscal Court hold in reserve twenty percent (20%) of the proposed project costs for the purpose of matching the Recreational Trails Program assistance, and Be it further resolved, that in the event a grant is awarded, the Powell County Fiscal Court understands that it will sign assurances to comply with all applicable Federal and State laws, rules and resolutions, especially Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act. After discussion Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the Recreational Trails Program 2023 Application/Resolution.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard to *approve the Recreational Trails Program Application/Resolution No. 2023-0002. This motion also authorizes Judge Executive Eddie Barnes to sign any paperwork concerning this application and resolution.*

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Resolution No. 2023-0002 Powell County Fiscal Court: Each Agency of Powell County shall Maintain all bank accounts in Whitaker Bank:

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes presented members of the court with and resolution that reads that each agency of Powell County shall maintain all bank accounts in Whitaker Bank of Stanton in order to provide more efficient and meaningful oversight of spending among the various agencies.

Judge Barnes said this will allow members of the court to see the accounts. He said this was recommended by KACO for accountability.

We will be getting a comment in our audit for the money that was borrowed for road projects because it was not paid within a fiscal year.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the Resolution No. 2023-0002

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton to *approve Resolution No. 2023-0002. Each agency of Powell County shall maintain all bank accounts in Whitaker Bank.*

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Acknowledgement of the Powell County Board of Health 2024 Tax Rates:

Members of the court were presented with a copy of the Powell County Board of Health 2024 Tax Rates for their acknowledgement.

8 cents per \$100 - Real Property

8 cents per \$100 - Personal Property

8 cents per \$100 - Motor Vehicle

County Insurance- Powell County Child Support Employees:

County Attorney Robert King told members of the court that several years ago child support employees were included in county insurance. He gets a budget to pay for these employees' insurance.

One of the employees asked him if the Fiscal Court would approve them to be included in the insurance group if it is cheaper than what they currently have. If this is approved, he would reimburse the county for their premium each month.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve this request to allow the Powell County child support employees to be included in the county's insurance.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton **to approve for Powell County child support employees to be included in the county's insurance group.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Reappointment of Connie Crabtree as County Treasurer for a 4 year - term. Term will commence July 1, 2023, and expire June 30th, 2027.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to reappoint Connie Crabtree as County Treasurer for a 4 year-term.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen **to reappoint Connie Crabtree as County Treasurer for a 4-year term. Term will commence July 1, 2023, and expire June 30th, 2027.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Request of \$2,000.00 from Powell County Soil Conservation to cover the bills for the month of June 2023.

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes received a request from Michelle Young on behalf of the Powell County Soil Conservation for funds in the amount of \$2,000.00 to cover the bills for the month of June 2023. Their office's annual budget for the district does not cover the cost of running this office.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the request in the amount of \$2,000.00 from the Powell County Soil Conservation.

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen **to approve the request from Powell County Soil Conservation for funds in the amount of \$2,000.00 to cover the bills**

for the month of June 2023. Their office's annual budget for the district does not cover the cost of running the office.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

5 Year Land Lease for Composting: Between Powell County Fiscal Court and Rose Lynn Hall:

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve a land lease between Powell County Fiscal Court and Rose Lynn Hall. Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden is going to ask County Attorney Robert King to prepare the lease. This land adjoins the Powell County Transfer Station. The Composting grant is a 75/25 match. Tim let members of the court know that he can use this lease towards the 25% in-kind match.

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen **to approve a 5-year land lease for composting between Powell County Fiscal Court and Rose Lynn Hall. This will be a 5-year lease at a cost of \$5,000.00 yearly. This motion also authorizes Judge Executive Eddie Barnes to sign all necessary paperwork concerning this land lease agreement.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All Magistrates agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

2nd Reading of the 2023/2024 Budget: KRS67.077 & 68.260

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve the 2nd reading of the 2023/2024 Budget. The budget was submitted on 5/15/2023.

Approved as to Form and Classification and signed by the State Local Finance Officer on 5/17/2023.

2nd Reading was held on 6/13/2023.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen **to approve the 2nd reading of the 2023/2024 budget.**

Judge Barnes asks those in favor of by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

County Insurance for the new Fiscal Year 2023/2024:

Assured Partners and KACO submitted insurance quotes for the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

KACO quoted (Anthem) and had a better plan which includes the vision for employee only.

Assured Partners had two insurance cards that the employee would have to use.

Over the past few months when the county solicited bids for insurance our current insurance agent stopped helping people. We contacted Anthem to tell them what was going on. Anthem contacted them to let them know that they are to help until June 30th.

Dispatch Director Larry Hall asked Judge Barnes if the new hires would have the 90-day probation period. Eddie told him that he feels we can do better than that. He seems this was the agent discretionary.

Larry asks if the person would be eligible in July or August, can they sign up now. Eddie told him that they could sign up with the new insurance company.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked if the increase was figured into the budget. The county Treasurer told him that a 10 percent increase was figured into the budget. A 10 percent increase is what we have done in the past. There is no way to know what the insurance rate increase will be when working on the budget. The rates usually do not come in until the budget is approved. The budget must be sent to the Department for Local Government on a timely basis.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to go with KACO as our agent and Anthem for insurance. This coverage will be the same as we have currently. They also will offer the buy-up plan, dental, vision, additional life.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton to go with KACO as our agent and Anthem as our insurance for health, vision, dental and life for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. The cost of the basic insurance plan in the amount of \$674.25 per employee per month will be covered by the county. If the employee chooses to take the buy up health plan or any additional insurance they will be responsible for the difference.

Vision, dental, and additional life will be offered at the employees' cost.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members of the court agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Drug Testing: Clay City Pediatric & Primary Care:

Currently we have Ensite doing our drug screening. They charge around \$135.00 per person to test. Judge Barnes talked to Clay City Pediatric & Primary Care about doing the testing. Instead of doing a urine test they will do a 16-panel mouth swab. They will come out to the site for testing.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to approve Clay City Pediatric & Primary Care for drug testing for county employees of the Powell County Fiscal Court.

A motion to was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton to go with Clay City Pediatric & Primary Care for county drug testing.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:36

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes entertained a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard.

Judge Barnes asks those in favor by signifying I.

All members agreed by signifying I.

Motion passed unanimously.

6-0

ELOBS

Eddie Barnes

JLB

J.L. Bowen

DC

Dennis Combs

ML

Mike Lockard

Brian McKinney

Brian McKinney

CP

Chad Paton