

**POWELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR CALLED MEETING**

Date: February 13th, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Powell County Emergency Operations Center
33 Commerce Drive
Stanton, Kentucky 40380

A G E N D A

- I. Invocation
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Clerk's Report (Meeting Minutes) of Last Meeting
- VI. Bills Submitted for Payment
- VII. Approval Treasurer's Financial Statement
- VIII. Approval Treasurer's Transfers/Amendments
- IX. Old Business
- X. Department Head Updates
- XI. District Updates
- XII. New Business

Items to be discussed:

- Red Cross
- Brandon Farmer – Powell Patriot Newspaper
- Ian Morton – Tasers Sheriff's Department
- **KRS 64.140** Motion to approve Powell County Sheriffs Advancement
- Motion to approve Resolution Clay City Floodplain Management System
- **House Bill 1** Motion to approve Resolution and Grant Paperwork for Jail Arraignment equipment.
- SAP Counselor Kim Banks – Probation Expiration Date
- **KRS 64.5275 (6)** Motion to approve 2024 Incentive Hours for Mike Lockard
- **KRS 64.5275 (6)** Motion to approve 2024 Incentive Hours for Dennis Combs
- Opioid Settlement Funding
- Beechfork Board Appointment
- Closed Session **61.810 Subsection (1) (F) and 61.810 Subsection (1) (C)**

- XIII. Motion to Adjourn
- XIV. Next Meeting March 12th, 2024

Powell County Fiscal Court

Regular Called Meeting

Date: February 13th, 2024

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, Deputy Judge Dale Allen, Magistrate J.L. Bowen, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Magistrate Mike Lockard, Dispatch Director Larry Hall, Assistant Dispatch Director/Mapping Officer Justin Rice, Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy, Ambulance Director Nathan Hall, Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel, Chief Deputy Jailer Neal Hamilton, Brandon Farmer, Powell County Patriot Paper, Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, Joey Casey and Sasha Bowlby, Stanton Tourism, Jailer Teddy lacy, Alan Halsey, Swift Creek Newspaper, County Attorney Robert King, Ian Morton, Darrell and Jennifer Billings, Rob Williams, Earl Moore and Crystal Elam, American Red Cross.

County Judge Eddie Barnes called the meeting to order:

Deputy Judge Dale Allen offered the prayer.

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called for the following members:

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes - Present

Magistrate J.L. Bowen - Present

Magistrate Dennis Combs - Present

Magistrate Brian McKinney - Present

Magistrate Mike Lockard - Present

Magistrate Chad Patton - Present

Public Comments:

Meeting Minutes for the January 9th, 2024, meeting:

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving the meeting minutes of the January 9th, 2024, regular meeting.

Motion passes unanimously.

Bills Submitted for Payment:

Magistrate Brian McKinney questioned a couple of duplicate bills made payable to Ace Hardware. The Finance Officer will make the needed changes before payment is submitted.

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

Treasurer's Transfers: Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers:

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

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving all interfund, cash and budget transfers.

Motion passed unanimously.

Financials:

The Treasurer presented the financials for court approval. Financials to include 1/1/24 – 1/31/24 financial statement and cash balance statement.

A motion was made Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving all financials to include the 1/1/24 – 1/31/24 financial statement, and cash balance statement.

Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

Darrell Billings was present for the meeting to let members of the court that he is currently running for State Representative in the 91st District which encumbrances Powell, Estill and 11 precincts in Madison counties. He had spent the day in Madison County. The Madison County Sheriff introduced him around 69 deputies. Madison County has a 7-million-dollar budget for their sheriff's department. Darrell told members of the court it had been 53 years since we have had a state representation in Powell County. If we are going to continue to progress with all the beauty and all the things, we have in this community we are going to need a seat at the table down there to get more things. We are not going to build this community any stronger, better or quicker without significant dollars. Darrell said the only thing he can promise if he is supported in this election when he goes to Frankfort, he will take each one of them with him. He will give them his personal cell phone number so that he can be contacted anytime someone may need him with any concerns. He will take 25 years of knowledge that he has of building relationships in Frankfort, Powell, Estill and Madison counties. The job of a state representative is to bring dollars back to the community.

Earl Moore was present for the meeting mainly to observe what goes on and to thank our road crew for the job they do. Earl lives on Neal Silva Road. There are around 28 families that live on the road. When it snows it would be hard for any emergency people to get in there. Earl said he would like to thank the road crew for the job they have been doing with grading the road. He said most of the time it's better than a state highway road when it snows.

Crystal Elam with American Red Cross:

Ms. Elam made members of the court aware that she was present at the meeting representing American Red Cross. She is a community volunteer, and her family is from Clay City. In the last year the Red Cross has served over 11 families in the county which adds up to around \$6,600.00. They also did the smoke alarms program here in the county. They go into the home and make sure they have at least 2 working smoke alarms. They also are trying to start a program for children ages

through 5th grade called The Pillow Project. She ask the Fiscal Court if they would consider making a contribution in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the American Red Cross this year. A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of the contribution in the \$2,500.00 to the American Red Cross. Motion passes unanimously.

Sasha Bowlby and Joey Casey with Stanton Tourism:

Ms.Bowlby told members of the court that she along with Joey wanted to come to the meeting to introduce themselves. She has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board for the Stanton Tourism. They have a new group of board members which want to work together with the folks to do great things for our community.

She said she would like permission from the fiscal court to utilize the lot in front of the depot. They have some folks such as the pretzel truck and other vendors wanting to sit up in the lot from time to time.

Joey said he would like to thank Judge Barnes for letting them speak this evening. Joey said they have attended several meetings such as the Park and Recreation and Lions Club. They got lots of positive feedback when they attended.

The biggest thing is our local business. They have talked with Jennifer and Darrell Billings about the tournaments that come in for the kids at Stanton City Park. They are also looking into getting the field at the Lions Club revamped so that it can be used. Joey said he would also like to thank Teddy Lacy and Neal Hamilton for sending out the inmates to help in the community. The tourism is also trying to plan an Ice-Skating Rink sometime in December. They invited members of the court to a tourism meeting this Tuesday at 6:30. Judge Barnes told both that they were doing a great job and that he liked the valentine decorations that were put around the city. He asks members of the court if they had any discussion about the use of the lot across from the depot (Burke, Parson, Bowlby building)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of allowing the Stanton Tourism to use the lot across from the depot.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ian Morton – Discussion of Tasers

Ian presented a grant application and resolution from The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for for Taser Equipment.

16 Taser 7 - \$31,152.00

32 Taser Cartridges - \$1,288.00

16 Taser Batteries - \$1,897.72

Total Amount Requested - \$34,337.72

Ian told members of the court that he had spoken with Sheriff Danny Rogers and due to some infrastructure on the taser manufacture they are no longer making two of the variants . He is working with Danny in getting a grant proposal through the Leap Program with Homeland Security. He is asking that the fiscal court grant Judge Eddie Barnes permission to sign the grant paperwork and resolution. The total project amount will be \$50,303.41 and the total amount requested is \$34,337.72 This will be for 16 tasers, 7 cartridges and 7 batteries. The sheriff's office has agreed

to pay the remaining balance which will be around \$16,000.00. This is a reimbursable grant to the county.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving all paperwork for the grant through the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for the purchase of 7 tasers, 7 cartridges and 7 batteries . Judge Executive Eddie Barnes is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security to execute any documents which are deemed necessary by KOHS to facilitate and administer the project.

Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business:

Discussion of courthouse doors: Moving Forward with the legal process of getting our money back:

Magistrate Mike Lockard asks about the status on the courthouse doors. The company keeps making excuses about returning our money. A check was written for half of the cost when the doors were ordered.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of granting the county attorney permission to move forward in starting the legal process in getting our money back.

Department Head Updates:

Jailer Teddy Lacy and Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton told members of the court they are continuing to lose state inmates. When you lose population it affects the phone commission, commissary etc. Our jail has a 100 bed SAP facility which is completely currently full. When level 1 and 2 inmates graduate from the SAP Program is how they fill the RCC.

Each inmate that graduates is \$1,000.00 for the facility. Jailer Teddy Lacy told members of the court that they are looking into housing federal inmates.

Neal told members of the court that Susie Combs Allen had been working for the jail since 2011. She is the backbone of the jail as far as the financials go. Back in 2018 she lost her spouse and at that time she had to take a pay cut because of the widows pension she would be collecting. She went to a part-time status due to not being able to make a certain amount of money. She and the previous administration had an understanding when she turned 66 and lost that pension, they would get her pay back up to cover this loss.

Neal wrote up a request for Susie to get a pay increase to where it needs to be so that she can make a livable wage. Magistrate Brian McKinney asked if this fit in with the salary schedule that was approved. Neal told him that it was not, that was just for deputies.

Susie told members of the court that she would continue to do her job the same no matter if she works 3 or 5 days a week. She would like to have a certain amount of money for 3 days a week versus making \$41,000 working 5 days a week.

Currently she is making \$16.00 per hour working 24 hours per week.

The request and suggestion for Susie is Full-time at the rate of \$18.00 per hour -\$37,400.00 per year plus benefits or Salary - \$28,704.00 (part-time status) with no benefits.

Judge Barnes asked if we could do a \$2.00 per hour at this time and then do the additional \$2.00 per hour in the next budget.

After discussion a motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of increasing Susie Combs Allen rate of pay to \$23.00 per hour as a part-time employee working 24 hours a week and no greater than 100-hours per month.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Southern Health Partners:

Judge Barnes let members of the court know that back in 2023 we noticed that we were getting large bills from Southern Health Partners adding up to around \$67,000.00 per month. After looking into it they noticed the contract had not been renewed since 2011.

After looking into it Judge Barnes said they came up with a new contract. The current contract runs from March to March. We would like to extend this contract from March to July so that we can get it in a budget year.

Back in 2011 they had 120 inmates but if anything over 120 they would charge \$1.48 per day per inmate. There was a \$30,000.00 cost pull and anything over this the county had to pay.

When the new jail was built it went from 120 to 130 and currently 240.

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Deputy Judge Dale Allen Judge Barnes and Paula from Southern Health Partners got together and discussed putting together a new contract.

We do not want to amend the old contract we want a new one.

They talked about amending the old contract until July 1st and at that time we will agree to the new contract or find someone else.

It has gotten some better we went from \$1.48 per day to \$1.00 per day. The daily population went from 130 inmates to 240 inmates and our cost pull went from \$30,000.00 up to \$100,000.00 per month. Our overall cost with everything combined is going to cost around \$32,000.00 per month which will save around 100,000.00 if it continues to go the way it should. Anything at the end of the year that is left in the cost pull can be rolled over to the next year.

Judge J.L. Bowen said since this contract runs until July this will still give us the option to shop around for another company. Judge Barnes told him with the contract we will have a 60-day grace period so that we have the option to opt out if needed.

Neal said if the court ever decided to opt out of the contract, he would like to talk to them first so that they know what Southern Health Partners do. Judge Barnes said they do plan to reach out with other companies just to see what they can offer but based on what he has heard Southern Health Partners is a good company.

This new contract will go into effect on July 1, 2024. We will be paying \$32,000.00 per month for inmate health care. We will be saving \$120,000.00 per year with this new contract. Now until July 1st we will be paying \$32,075.00 per month.

After discussion a motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of extending the old contract with new prices until July 1, 2024.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of SAP Counselor Kim Banks: Probation Expiration:

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton let members of the court know that when a counselor position is hired for the SAP Program, they must have a bachelor's degree to have this position. The rate of pay for this position is \$20.00 per hour.

Sap Counselor Kim Banks was hired on August 11th, 2023, on a 6-month probational basis.

She was hired at the hourly rate of \$18.00 per hour instead of the \$20.00 per hour. They do this to let the new hire know that if they are in good standing after their 6-month probation they will then be increased to \$19.00 per hour and after 1 year in good standing they will go up to the SAP Counselor rate of \$20.00 per hour.

6-month Effective Pay rate February 2nd, 2023

1 Year Effective Pay Rate August 2nd, 2024

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of increasing SAP Counselor Kim Banks rate of pay from \$18.00 per hour to \$19.00 per hour.

Motion passed unanimously.

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy:

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy let members of the court know that this is a busy time for the road crew. He would like to thank Red River Ranch and Blaze Trucking for donating some salt.

With the last storm they have been working on some stopped up culverts.

Patrick also let members of the court know that former employee Ryland Ledford would like to come back to work on a part-time as need bases. In the computer system he is labeled as terminated but it was his understanding with the previous administration there was an agreement to stay on as a part-time or a seasonal laborer to assist Patrick when needed. Patrick told Ryland that he would have to reapply for the part-time position. Ryland can assist with heavy equipment. Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked him how the truck was doing that we just purchased. Patrick told him they were not fully outfitted at this time. One of the trucks that had a transmission issue is being reevaluated. He thinks he has found a replacement transmission for \$500.00.

The road department now has 7 employees. Judge Barnes said when he first took office the road department only had 1 CDL driver. Currently, we now have a total of 4. We have a program where we want to get 2 per year until we get a fully staffed department with CDL's. The first two to receive their CDL's were Patrick McCoy and Steven Haddix. Judge Barnes said that he would like to commend them on taking the extra time to get their CDL's. Our road department does a great job. They take pride and ownership of what they have and what they do. Judge Barnes said all employees do an excellent job.

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden let members of the court know that he still had around \$200,000.00 left in the recycling grant and compost grants left to spend. He presented two bids that were part of the composting grant. He did not get a chance to get these on the vendor claim list, so he is asking for court approval to issue payment. One if from Midnight Oil for two mulch

boxes for the flatbeds and the fabric that we use on the compost. The other is from Interstate Fence Company.

He also asks for court approval to pay OptimoRoute Inc. for the new curbside recycling software. This software routes from A to B. The OptimoRoute Pro License which covers 1 driver and unlimited users and dispatchers for 12 months will be \$529.20 per year.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving the payment in the amount of \$529.20 to OptimoRoute Inc. for the license which covers 1 driver and unlimited users/dispatchers for 12 months.

Motion passes unanimously.

Hiring Timothy Blake Snowden as the IT person:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden asked for court approval to hire Timothy Blake Snowden as the IT person. He will be helping Tim with any computer issues he may have at the transfer station and the new curbside recycling program.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of hiring Timothy Blake Snowden for a part-time position rate of \$12.00 per hour working 10 per month.

Motion passes unanimously.

Judge Barnes asked Tim to go over the grants that he has received this year. The total cost of the grants was around \$700,000.00.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen asked Tim to explained how the recycling program is going to work. Tim said when he rents a dumpster, they will go through it and get out anything that can be recycled which will make the county money. They have several businesses that have dumpsters at their location which also makes the county money.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen also told Tim that Thyme Savor Off the Beaten Path in Bowen wants a dumpster at their location.

Tim thanked members of the court for allowing the lunches for the inmates.

Ambulance Director Nathan Hall:

Ambulance Director Nathan Hall let members of the court know him along with Judge Eddie Barnes and a couple of others went to North Carolina to pick up the new ambulance. He is in the process of getting it into the KBEAMS system. Some of the paperwork was not correct so he had to send it back for correction.

One of the architects came out to check the building out, so hopefully this means it is getting closer starting on the new building.

Once they start the demolition of the new building the ambulance service will have to relocate until it is complete. Nathan asks for court approval for the ambulance service to move into the Stanton Fire Department until the new building is completed. The contract says it will take 6 to 8 months but could take a few months longer. The fire department agreed to rent them the space for \$1,300 per month.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of allowing the request for the ambulance service to move into the Stanton Fire Department until the new ambulance building is completed. The rent for the space will be \$1,300.00 per month.
Motion passed unanimously.

Nathan asks Brandon with the Powell Patriot newspaper to take pictures of the new ambulance whenever he can.

Judge Barnes said that we saved around \$100,000.00 on the ambulance because a new one is around \$250,000.00.

The prior administration purchased a piece of property on Elkins Steet to put a new ambulance building on it which was going to cost 2.7 million dollars. The plan now is to demo the front part of our ambulance service (56 Atkinson Street) and leave the bays, which will cost around \$ 1.6 million which will be paid out of ARPA monies.

Judge Barnes said he is glad Brandon from the newspaper is here to let the public know that our directors of the ambulance, dispatch, solid waste and road are saving the county money.

Mapping Officer Justin Rice:

Justin told members of the court they have talked before about getting away from Bluegrass Add and going out on their own. Justin received a quote from Mike Johnson to build a new computer. This quote is not set and stone and does not include the software. Justin is waiting for the state to get back with him on the cost of the software.

Magistrate Brian McKinney asked if we could buy the computer out of the cyber security grant.

Judge Barnes let members of the court know what we received a reward letter from Kentucky Homeland Cyber Security saying the county is going to get a cyber security grant in the amount of \$94,000.00. This is pay for an IT person along with purchasing new computers.

Dispatch Director Larry Hall:

Dispatch Director Larry Hall gave members of the court an overall view of what went on in 2023 at the dispatch. Back in the beginning of 2023 the dispatch center had one certified dispatcher and one that was delinquent. As of today, all the dispatchers except for one have their academy trained through DOCJT. The one that is not is waiting for a date so that they can attend.

Larry asks everyone to do a walk through the dispatch before leaving the meeting to see the new equipment and ask Brandon with Powell Patriot newspaper if he would take some pictures.

The dispatch now has a new CAD system from CIS. This system was at no cost to the county. This was a grant that was written from the 911 service board. This grant brought all new monitors, keyboards, hardware. Mike Johnson installed the equipment for the dispatch. The dispatch center now has a training officer on site so we no longer must get CIS to come do training.

In the month of January there were 999 CADS made from these two stations. 124 of the calls were from the Clay City Police Department, 235 calls were from Stanton Police Department, 299 calls were from the Powell County Sheriff's Department, 33 calls were from Clay City Fire Department, 41 calls were from Stanton Fire Department, 18 calls were from Middlefork Fire Department, 39 calls were Animal Control related, and 2 calls were search and rescue related.

Before the new administration dispatchers were making \$10.00 per hour and at this time dispatchers' starting rate is \$12.00 per hour. Larry said he cannot say enough good things about the dispatchers we now have. The new phone system is paid for. CSEPP paid \$22,000.00 and the county funded \$44,000.00.

Larry said himself along with Justin is going to start attending city council meetings to see if they can start helping with funding. With CSEPP going away next year it's going to put a financial burden on the county. They got an estimate from Mike Johnson to maintain their computers system. This cost will be put in the upcoming new budget.

Larry asks for the court's approval to move an employee from a part-time position to a full-time position once they complete the phases and they will be by the one-year contract. A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving the request to move this employee from a part-time position to a full-time position once they complete the phases and they will be by the one-year contract. This employee will make \$13.00 per hour, after completing the academy will get the \$1.00 increase and after the 6-month probation they will get a .50 cent increase. Motion passes unanimously.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said that tourism is a great deal to the county but with this comes a great strain. During the last snowstorm search and rescue, state police, road department, ambulance service along with himself along with Judge Barnes and other volunteers were all tied up the whole day with tourism. Magistrate Bowen talked about a cabin issue that was a wreck. You could not get side by side up the road. There were a couple of cars that went over an embankment. We were so lucky no one was killed. There were several people stuck in the cabin that could not get out. If you counted all the people that were working that day, it would have been close to \$400,000.00 for that day.

Judge Barnes said that are a couple of people that we forget about. Connie, Stephanie and Kevin are important and are very much appreciated.

Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel:

Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel gave an update to members of the court on what was collected for business licenses. As of 2/13/2024 245 records were collected totaling \$49,725.00. He has also recovered over \$9,000.00 in occupational taxes. In quarter one, occupational taxes we received \$15,000.00, in the 2nd quarter we received a little over \$22,000.00, in the 3rd quarter we received a little over \$44,000.00 and currently waiting for the 4th quarter to come in.

Magistrate Brian McKinney: Update on Animal Shelter:

Magistrate Brian McKinney let members of the court know the animal shelter's new flooring is completed, all new gates are up and a new animal box was purchased for the truck. It used to take the inmates around two hours to clean the cages and they can do it in thirty minutes. We also have a new part-time animal person which is working out great. There was no grant funding available to make these purchases or upgrades. All of it was funded by the county.

Judge Barnes said the upgrades were around \$16,000.00, the box for the truck was around \$10,000.00 but it was all worth it.

District Updates:

Magistrate Chad Patton – No update. Road Crew does a good job.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen – No Update. Wants to commend the road department and he appreciates animal shelter.

Magistrate Dennis Combs – No Update – Has talked to Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy about a couple of things.

Magistrate Brian McKinney – No Update

Magistrate Mike Lockard – No Update – Has talked to Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy about Derickson Lane.

Judge Eddie Barnes Update: Year-end Review

Judge Barnes said the past year has been great. He is not trying to disrespect the prior administration when we talk about the upgrades, we are just proud of the things we have accomplished.

When Judge Barnes first came into the office the dispatch computers were operating on windows 7 and the office computers were also windows 7. Now all the office computers with fire walls have been upgraded.

Judge Barnes had a meeting with Governor Beshear and Rocky Adkins to discuss the Clay City Industrial Park. Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Stanton City Mayor, Clay City Mayor and Judge Barnes stood in the park and ride parking lot and talked to the Governor. He was very supportive of the Clay City Industrial Park.

We have put in an ARC grant of \$600,000.00 and a KDBI state grant for \$319,000.00.

We did receive the KDBI grant for \$319,000.00. We received a letter from the Governor's office that announced our preliminary ARC grant is going to a full grant, so they want us to apply.

Judge Barnes said the Clay City Industrial Park is a go which will be around one million dollars.

We have received \$94,000.00 cyber security grant and \$15,600.00 on the 911 grant.

They also talked to the Governor about upgrading Reed Court to Sons Road from a two lane to a three lane which will give better access to the Stanton Industrial Park.

The discussion of a new health department also took place. The governor told them what they need to get is CDBG block grants.

Judge Barnes said we are working for the people and that is the main thing.

He said he also wants to thank County Attorney Robert King for always giving him legal advice and all that he does for the county. Robert is working on getting us some funds back from the airport project.

Brandon Farmer: Designating Powell Patriot as the legal newspaper for Powell County:

Brandon let members of the court know that starting 1/23/24 they launched a .25 cent charge for the paper which was a requirement.

Brandon asks members of the court if they would consider designated Powell Patriot as the legal newspaper for Powell County.

Before the court made a motion to approve for the county to use Powell Patriot Alan Halsey spoke up and asked that he be aloud of speak. Alan requested that The Swift Creek Courier be designated as the legal newspaper for Powell County. He said that the paper meets all qualifications to serve under the provisions of KRS 424.120. Alan said he feels the Powell Patriot needs more time. He thanked the court for allowing him to speak.

A motion was made Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of designating the Powell Patriot as the legal newspaper for Powell County.

Motion passed unanimously.

Special Bond of Sheriff for Repayment of Advancement:

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members in favor voting in favor of approving the Special Bond of Sheriff for Repayment of Advancement.

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: Clay City Floodplain Management System Project:

Adoption of a resolution of the Powell County Fiscal Court authorizing the filing of a Kentucky Local Match Participation Program Project Proposal/Grant application for up to \$105,000.00 in local match participation program (LMPP) funds with the Department for Local Government (DLG) Powell County desires to promote and carry out flood control planning and mitigation activities on behalf of the residents of the County by supporting the Clay City Floodplain Management System Project.

That a Project Proposal/Grant Application on behalf of the County for LMPP monies up to \$105,000 for Clay City Floodplain Management System Project shall be submitted to DLG the County shall provide such additional information and furnish such documentation as may be required, and the County Judge/Executive shall act as the authorized correspondent for the Project.

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving the Resolution for the Clay City Floodplain Management System Project and authorize and direct the Powell County Judge Executive to execute any documentation which are deemed necessary by DLG to carry this Project.

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: House Bill 1 Jail Arraignment Equipment Phase 1 and 11 and Memorandum of Agreement Contracts.

Adoption of a Resolution of the Powell County Fiscal Court authoring the filing of a Kentucky House Bill I Jail Arraignment Equipment Phase I & II Grant Application up to \$99,616.00 in HB I Project Funds with the Department for Local Government. Breakdown cost: \$55,598.00 and \$44,018.00.

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the Resolution and Contracts. This motion authorizes and directs the Powell County Judge Executive to execute any documentation which are deemed necessary by DLG to carry out for the House Bill I Jail Arraignment Equipment Phase I & II.

Motion passes unanimously.

Mike Lockard: Calendar Year 2024 Incentive Approval:

A letter was received from the Department of Local Government congratulating Mike Lockard for the completion of his calendar year 2024 incentive hours.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving incentive payment to Mike Lockard in the total amount of \$5,152.68 for calendar year 2024.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Combs: Calendar Year 2024 Incentive Approval:

A letter was received from the Department of Local Government congratulating Dennis Combs for the completion of his calendar year 2024 incentive hours.

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving incentive payment to Dennis Combs in the total amount of \$5,152.68 for calendar year 2024.

Motion passed unanimously.

Opioid Settlement Funding:

Magistrate Brian McKinney made members of the court aware that KACO has hired a person to advise counties on how to spend these funds. Judge Barnes said he has talked to Russ Coleman about this, and he has hired two people to help with deal with these funds.

There has been a committee started which consists of Judge Barnes, Magistrate Brain McKinney, Stacy Crase with the Health Department, Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton, Doug Brewer with the Powell County School System and Leandra Knox with Home Health . They will be discussing putting together a budget to spend the opioid funds. It must be exclusive for the treatment of opioid addictions. If these funds are not spent correctly the pharmaceutical companies can sue and you will have to pay the funds back. All the counties in Kentucky are scared to spend any of the opioid funds. There is no one that will give you the ok to do so. This is why it is important to us that KACO now has an advisor to direct us on what to do.

Beechfork Water Commission Board Appointment:

Judge Barnes received a letter requesting that the Fiscal Court make an appointment to the Beechfork Water Commission Board.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of appointing Mike Skidmore to the Beechfork Water Commission Board.

Motion passes unanimously.

Dispatch Director Larry Hall asks that everyone tour the dispatch to see all the upgrades.

Closed Session: KRS 61.810 Subsection(1) (F) and 61.810 Subsection (1) (C):

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of going into closed session.

Motion passes unanimously.

Court Resumes:

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

Motion passes unanimously.

Judge Barnes made it known that there was no action taken during the closed session.

Dispatch Director Larry Hall said that there was a previous employee that is now a certified telecommunicator from another agency who applied to work at our dispatch. Larry said with court approval he would like to grant another opportunity for this person to work at our dispatch center granted there is no legal standpoint to the agency that sent him to the academy and no other obligation this county would have to this agency. This person would be hired at a full-time rate of \$14.00 per hour.

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of hiring this person back to work at the Powell County Dispatch contingent that there is no legal standpoint to the agency that sent him to the academy and no other obligations this county would have to this agency. This person will be hired as a full-time employee at a rate of \$14.00 per hour.

Motion passed unanimously.

Interstate Fence Supply Inc. Invoice:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden presented an invoice from Interstate Fence Supply Inc.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving the invoice to Interstate Fence Supply invoice for (10) rolls of 12 ½ x 432 Woven Fabric in the amount of \$3,800.00.

Motion passed unanimously.

Midnight Oil Co:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden presented an invoice from Midnight Oil Co.

After looking at the invoice it said he was a bid, so members of the court all agreed to table paying this until an invoice is submitted and find exactly what it is for.

No Action taken.

Hiring of Ryland Ledford as a part-time employee:

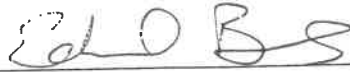
A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of hiring Ryland Ledford as a part-time mechanic at a rate of \$20.00 per hour.

Motion passed unanimously.

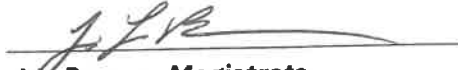
Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor or adjourning. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.



Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive



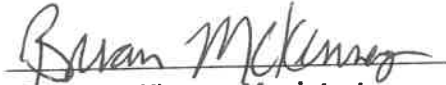
J.L. Bowen, Magistrate



Dennis Combs, Magistrate



Mike Lockard, Magistrate



Brian McKinney, Magistrate



Chad Patton, Magistrate