

Powell County Fiscal Court

Regular Called Meeting

Date: April 8th, 2025

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. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Roll Call**
- IV. Public Comments-**
- V. Clerk's Report (March 11th, 2025, March 14th, 2025, March 24th, 2025)**
- VI. 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. District Updates**
- XII. New Business**

Items to be discussed

- Windstream Kinetic – County Right of Way Accommodation
- Payroll Date Change
- Motion to approve Job Estimate for Sealing, Cleaning and Stripping Courthouse Parking Lot
- Ordinance – Side by Side on Roadways
- 1st Reading Amending Insurance Premium Tax Ordinance
- 1st Reading Amending Occupational Tax Ordinance
- 1st Reading 911 Service Fee
- Motion to approve Appointment to the Library Board of Trustees
- Closed Session KRS 61.810 (C) (F)

- XIV Motion to Adjourn**
- XIII. Next Meeting May 13th, 2025**

**Powell County Fiscal Court
Regular Called Meeting
Date: April 8th, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.**

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

Presiding: Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive

Present: Connie Crabtree, Fiscal Court Clerk, Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen, Magistrate J.L. Bowen, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Magistrate Mike Lockard, Richard and Norma Rogers, Darrell Billings, Animal Control Officer Justin Wright, Brandon Farmer, Powell Patriot, Dean Cviticovis, Micheal Whitehurst, Robbie Campbell (wife), Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson, Eric Hubbard, Ruth Jones, E911 Director Larry Hall, Assistant E911 Director/Mapping Officer Justin Rice, Assistant Ambulance Director Arlene Rogers, CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock, Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy, Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, County Attorney Robert King, Jeremiah Kenetic, Kristina Everman, Billy and Ashley Hood, EM Director John Knootz and Matthew Buckland.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes called the meeting to order:

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen offered the prayer:

Roll Call for the following members: A Quorum was established

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes – Present

Magistrate J.L. Bowen – Present

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Present

Magistrate Mike Lockard – Present

Magistrate Brian McKinney – Present

Magistrate Chad Patton – Present

Public Comments:

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy did a presentation to the public and members of the court. Patrick said he would like to bring something to the attention of all in attendance tonight and to those who were not able to attend in person. Powell County has a problem. A problem with securing funds for resurfacing paved roads. There are two state funded programs the county uses to gain access to funds for paving roadways. The Flex Fund is a cost share program that incurs only 20% of the total cost for paving roads to the County. The second program we use to gain funds is the County Priority Program, which is a fully state funded program where no monetary contribution is required by the County. Powell County was just approved for \$258,000.00 to pave only two roadways. Patrick said he would like it to be known that this is a minuscule amount in comparison to what the Powell County Fiscal Court requested. The total amount requested by this Fiscal Court was \$1,088,000.00. Last year Powell County received ZERO dollars from the CPP Program, formally the

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FD-39 program. This year the same list was submitted in hopes of getting nine roads paved. Only two roads were chosen to be funded by legislature.

Sadly, the roads chosen were not the ones included in the request that were in the worst repair.

Patrick said he would like to know how the legislation came to choose these two roads. He was told they must rank as a 10 to be considered.

Patrick laid pieces of paper on the tile floor which had road names written on them. This

demonstration related to an episode of South Park where the legislative process was dramatized.

To decide, one legislator slaughtered a chicken and cast it onto the tile floor. (Patrick demonstrated by throwing a toy chicken onto the floor). Wherever the chicken came to rest was the decision or

outcome that was chosen. The road listed were Lone Oak Road (\$165,500.00), Barker Branch Road

(\$317,000.00), Rose Lane (\$30,200.00), Old Winchester Road (\$106,000.00) Copperas Creek Road

(\$152,000.00), Little Brush Creek Road (\$42,500.00), Oak Ridge Drive (\$77,500.00), Silver Maple

Lane (\$32,100.00), Wild Cherry Lane (\$32,500.00) and Star Gap Road (\$132,700.00). Star Gap has

four sites that have road breaks. This road continued to settle even after the repairs were

completed. This road needs resurfacing badly because it is posing a severe hazard to people

driving on it. Patrick has no communication with legislature regarding these roads. There are a lot of

surrounding counties that got a lot more funding than Powell County.

Patrick, along with the Fiscal Court, the County Judge Executive and the Magistrates are trying but

requests are being denied. In conclusion Patrick said he would try to answer any questions as

accurately and concisely as possible, but more than likely he would have to refer them to Mr. Bill

Wesley, our State Representative as he is the one that decided.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said he would like to personally thank Patrick and his road crew for the great job they had done during the recent flooding event.

Dean Cviticovis (Speaking on behalf of Woody Ware Road Regarding Flooding)

Dean Cviticovis along with his wife Cindy, resides on Woody Ware Rd. He let members of the court

know himself, along with his wife has been a member of this community for twenty-five years. They

have lived in different places, but they have had the best experience here in Powell County. This

community is one of the best they have ever lived in.

Dean was present at this meeting to speak about the flooding that occurs on Woody Ware Road.

Ms. Willoughby has got a petition together with 213 names, 45 of the names being residents of

Woody Ware Road. When it floods on this road, they are unable to get out. John Saylers was nice

enough to him to let him and a few other residents go onto his property to get out. If they had an

emergency such as a fire, medical emergency or domestic dispute no one would be able to get out.

Woody Ware Road is approximately 2 miles. There is orange marking when this road flooded. He

knows the flooding is going to create a problem or a possible lawsuit.

Dean said he was going to propose a simple solution. There are 1056 feet and two places (2 tenths

of a mile in both) is where the road floods. There is another problem on the road that is impassable.

Dean suggested raising the two places in the road and while that is being done, put some geotextile

paper down, number four rock and some dense grade. Doing this would save money and help 45

families.

Magistrate Dennis Combs asked Kristina Everman if she would come to this meeting and speak about access for emergency vehicles through their property. Dean told Magistrate Dennis this would be rough to get out accessing through her property.

Dean has another issue. He pulled a tractor on Spectrum's cable and then it flooded. He is going to put the cable back, but they are not getting back onto their property until everything is repaired.

The road crew ditched along Woody Ware Road, but after this flooding the ditch was ruined.

Kristina Everman approached members of the court. She said when they redone the bridge a smaller culvert was put in, which does not make any sense.

She said she has never seen Woody Ware flood this much pass the bridge.

Until a solution is resolved she said they would have no problem cutting the fence, allowing Emergency Vehicles to come through to get to the residents.

Judge Barnes told Dean they would investigate a couple of alternatives. They have been looking into John Saylers farm, and he has made kind of an agreement. Right beside his farm there is a road that goes from Brian Morton's property to Ronnie and Sharon Knox's property. We are not sure if it's a county road. Magistrate Chad Patton said he did not think Brian cared for this idea.

Kristina said again they have a deed that says it's a county access road. Judge Barnes said he would check on this road.

Richard Rogers – Speaking on behalf of the flooding that Caudill Road:

Richard passed out some pictures to members of the court. He is here this evening to address the flooding on Caudill Road, which has been going on for over ten years.

During a past flood a neighboring ditch caused water to get into their church which destroyed the flooring. It cost them \$15,000.00 to replace it.

Richard said an 18-to-20-inch culvert needs to be put beside the one at the church.

A neighbor put a culvert in his front yard which is not big enough to carry water loads plus it's not ditched.

Richard said he feels they should not have to keep raising their property to prevent this issue. The only option he has is to shut the culvert off at the church and raise the road 4 to 5 foot. They had to cover their whole parking lot to help prevent water going into the church.

Judge Barnes said he knows they have done a lot of work to try and fix this issue.

Richard said to solve the problem another culvert needs to be put in at the church's lot that is tied into the creek down below it. The neighbor Mr. John Caulders keeps saying it's their ditch that's needs fixing, but this is not the case.

Judge Barnes said he would go talk to Mr. John Caulders in the next week or so. Paint marks could be put down to show where the county road starts and ends.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen suggested a couple of magistrates and the county attorney get together and research the deeds regarding the county road and property.

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Norma Rogers – Speaking on behalf of the flooding that occurs on Caudill Road:

Norma Rogers wife of Richard Rogers also spoke about the flooding that occurs on Caudill Road. Norma told members of the court she has lived on Hatton Creek, now called Caudill Road, all her life. The water is running off Buzzer Roost where the double wide sits. There are trees that come off the mountain. Two of the trees go into Danny's Pond and one comes in between the double wide and past a cabin. She used to live where the double wide now sits, and the water had never done this before. The water is coming down by the church and almost going into it. Norma and Richard have transformed the church into their home.

Judge Barnes said he would go and talk to Mr. Caulders. Norma said she does not want to start a war and wants no one mad at each other.

Norma said she appreciates members of the court listening to her. She also wants to thank the road crew for what they have done.

Jeremiah Stinson – Kinetic by Windstream

Jeremiah Stinson the Utility Project Coordinator for Kinetic was present to speak on behalf of Kinetic by Windstream. He serves as a liaison between entities and Kinetic's engineering/construction teams. He talked about the upcoming fiber optic projects Kinetic has in Powell County as part of the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Program. They would need to utilize Powell County right-of-way for placement of buried fiber optics and pedestals in some instances. This would affect most roadways in District 4. The roads affected would be Hall Hill Road, Ashley Lease Road, Cow Creek Road, Bakers Estates, Gritters Ridge Road, Sand Lick Road and Three Forks Road.

Magistrate Dennis Combs asks how deep they are supposed to be. Mr. Stinson told him the boxes vary from 1 foot deep and 2 feet out of ground. Magistrate Mike Lockard asks if they fixed what would be torn up. He told him they did. Magistrate Chad Patton ask what internet company they were. He told him it was Kinetic by Windstream. Magistrate J.L. Bowen told him he would be taking pictures of before and after. Magistrate Mike Lockard also ask if they would have flagmen on their work crew. He told him they would have flagmen on this job. Judge Barnes asked him if they did sub-contracting work or just contracting work, and would they have a field representative with them as they are working. Jeremiah told him they typically have a Forman on sight but if needed they could also have a field representative there. Judge Barnes asks him for the names along with contact information, in case something goes wrong, they will have someone to contact. Jeremiah told him he would get him this information and a map of places they will be working in and send it over to Connie.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of allowing Kinetic by Windstream to utilize Powell County right-of-way for placement of buried fiber optics and pedestals in some instances contingent everything is put back in its nature presences. The roads affected would be Hall Hill Road, Ashley Lease Road, Cow Creek Road, Bakers Estate Road, Gritters Ridge Road, Sand Lick Road and Three Forks Rd. Motion passes unanimously.

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Ben and Angie Clowers Owners of Riders Ranch Campground – Asking about purchasing land from Hollerwood Park to expand their campground:

Ben Flowers approached the court to ask members of the court if Hollerwood ATV Park would be interested in selling any property so they can expand the Riders Ranch Campground located at 1036 Barker Branch by Hollerwood ATV Park. He has done some research on the surrounding property which is owned by Ms. Ledford. Ben spoke with her, and she told him the county was looking into purchasing the park. After he talked to her, he noticed some surveyors on the property. Magistrate Dennis Combs told him his request to purchase property to expand his campground is something he would have to be brought before the board.

Magistrate Brian McKinney asked Ben if he had spoken with Tony Tipton about this request. Tony said it may be possible, but he would have to ask members of the court.

Ben asks how you go about serving on the Hollerwood board. Magistrate Dennis Combs told him to give his information to him, and he would let him know when the next board meeting would be but currently the board is full, and we are not sure what's going to happen with the P3 Agreement. Once it finalizes there may be some changes to the board.

Magistrate Brian McKinney said he would like to see him get some property because there is a need for more parking and camping. Members of the court told Ben he is doing a good job.

Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson:

Powell County Tourism Director Pete Fingerson was present at the meeting to give members of the court a recap since he attended the last meeting.

Himself, along with his assistant and crew picked up garbage within a 2 mile stretch of Adopt of Highway last week. They also are planning another cleanup for the county on Sunday May 18th. Hopefully this will get more people involved. Last time we did this there were around 40 people that participated.

He will be hosting a conference in June which will be held at Natural Bridge. Pete is part of an organization called KABVB(Kentucky Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus). It is an organization of Tourism Directors throughout the state.

There will be around 50 to 60 Tourism Directors coming into the county.

Pete would like members of the court to come and introduce themselves.

The Red River Gorge Visitors Center at Slade is extremely busy. They will be extending their visiting hours beginning this week. They will be open 7 days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except on Sunday it will be 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

They have a promotion at the center where you can take a picture of yourself picking up trash anywhere in the Red River Gorge area or any area in the county. You will receive a free Ale 8 when you present your picture.

Back in 2018 there was a Red River Gorge tourism Coalition called the Fellowship of the Gorge.

They are reviving the coalition to be more cohesive. This gives them more of an opportunity to receive more grant funding. It will be made up of Powell, Estill, Lee, Wolfe, Menifee counties and Stanton.

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Red River Gorge Farmers Market will be starting on May 3rd. It will be every Saturday at the Sky Lift and will go on from May to October. This is great for the community and tourists. Members of the court thanked Pete for attending the meeting and doing a good job as the Powell County Tourism Director.

Nick Rose – Not present at this meeting. Magistrate Brian McKinney spoke on his behalf.

Nick Rose built an Air B&B off Darrell Randall Road. He is having some water lines issues. He is asking members of the court for permission to use the county-right-way to install a water line on the property.

County Attorney Robert King said he did not think the county could not allow this.

He thinks the county can grant access to an easement for public service entities but not private.

Judge Barnes said 15 ft from the center line goes over to the county and after that it takes permission from the property owner. He said from what he sees they are not getting permission and doing a lot of damage to the property. Magistrate Brian McKinney said they did have permission from the property owner, it was just not in the right spot. Nick wants to stay within the county easement.

Robert said he would advise against this. He said the county could grant an easement to Powell's Valley Water to run a line where each individual property owner can tap on a meter that is on their property, but Powell's Valley would need to come to fiscal court and ask permission to do so.

Robert said he does not think the county can say a private individual has the right to use county-right-of-way for utilities.

Judge Barnes said Nick would need to get with the property owner and ask to install a water line.

Robert told him it's his understanding that Nick had already done that.

Magistrate Brian McKinney said Ms. Barker said she did not think that Nick had dug in the correct stop because it messed up her yard. Nick is trying to avoid her and now wants to use the county right – of- way. Robert said this would open county issues because we do not have the authority to do this.

Executive Director Eric Hubbard – Backroads Appalachia

County to opt in or opt out of Senate Bill 63:

Eric explained Senate Bill 63 to members of the court

Resolution of the Powell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Operation of Street-Legal Special Purpose Vehicles on Designated Public Roadways within Powell County Pursuant to Senate Bill 63.

Executive Director Eric Hubbard was present to meeting to present a Resolution authorizing the operation of street legal special purpose vehicles on designated public roadways within Powell County pursuant to Senate Bill 63:

Eric explained Senate Bill 63 to members of the court. Senate Bill 63 is the ability to opt in for the counties to allow local citizens to be able to tag and legally have their side by side. Vehicles must

be equipped with all safety features required by Senate Bill 63, including but not limited to headlights, brake lights, mirrors, turn signals, windshield (or driver eye protection), roll bars, seat belts and appropriate tires. Vehicles must be registered, insured and have passed the necessary inspections as mandated by Senate Bill 63 limited to headlights.

Eric said out of state people can come here in the county and ride side by side on state roads and there is nothing that can be done for them, but our local people are not allowed. He said he has a problem with this. Thanks to the legislators we were able to pass this bill which gives us the same opportunity as West Virginia, Ohio and Tennessee. This is a positive thing for the county and city. Eric said they do 24-hour Appalachia and raised over \$87,000.00 through navigational routes and were told that in Kentucky they cannot bring in their side by sides because of public access roads. They changed the law at 3 a.m. before this was voted where counties will have to opt in or opt out. Eric is going to different counties taking about bill. Magistrate Brian McKinney asked if there was an age limit. Eric told him they must be 16 and have a license.

Magistrate Chad Patton made a motion to opt in. County Attorney said he was confused and wanted to know if there was an Ordinance. The court would first have to approve it.

Robert asks if this was passed by law. He was told it would be in July and was bill became law 3/26/25. There are other counties that are going to vote on the resolution for them to opt in, but Powell County would be the first to county do so. Robert asks if there was a resolution.

Robert said we would need an Ordinance a resolution would not get us to where we need to be and wished he would have heard about it before this meeting. Eric said a Resolution would need to be passed not an Ordinance. Magistrate J.L. Bowen said since this is already state law, we do not need an Ordinance. Robert said they could pass the resolution contingent on giving him the opportunity to make sure this is all we need. Eric read the resolution he had to members of the court.

Whereas, The Kentucky General Assembly has enacted Senate Bill 63, permitting the operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on public roadways under certain conditions: and Legislative Research Commission. Executive Director Eric Hubbard with Backroads Appalachia

Whereas Senate Bill 63 requires local government to pass a resolution to allow such vehicles to operate on highways within their jurisdiction, and Kentucky Senate Legislative research Commission

Whereas the Powell County Fiscal Court recognizes the potential benefits of allowing street-Legal special purpose vehicles, including enhanced transportation options, support for rural economies, and promotion of adventure tourism, and Legislative Research Commission Kentucky Senate. Authorization: The operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles is hereby authorized on public roadways within Powell County, subject to the conditions set forth in Senate Bill 63 and any additional regulations established by this resolution.

This discussion was tabled until later in the meeting to give time for the resolution to be printed.

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Minutes of March 11th, 2025, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving the minutes of the March 11th, 2025 , meeting.
Motion passed unanimously

Minutes of March 14th, 2025, Special Meeting:

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the minutes of the March 14th, 2025 ,special meeting.
Motion passed unanimously

Minutes of March 28th, 2025, Special Meeting:

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of approving the minutes of the March 28th, 2025, special meeting.
Motion passed unanimously

Bills Submitted for Payment:

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of approving all bills submitted for payment.
Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer Transfers: Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers:

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

Interfund Transfers

Transfer from General Fund to Dispatch Fund - \$25,000.00

Transfer from General Fund to Grant (DES) fund - \$15,000.00

Budget transfers to balance 3rd Quarter report totaling - \$1,168,725.00

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor approving all Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers.
Motion passed unanimously

Financials 3/1/25 – 3/31/25: Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary:

The Treasurer presented the 3/1/25 -3/31/25 Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary for court approval.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving the 3/1/25-3/3/25 Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary.
Motion passed unanimously

Old Business: No Old Business for discussion

Department Head Updates:

Animal Control Officer Justin Wright:

Animal Control Officer Justin Wright told members of the court they were able to help Wolfe County Animal Shelter during the flood event.

Justin asked for court approval to purchase an annual shelter management program software in the amount of \$395.00. It will give them twelve months' access to a shelter-based program which can be accessed from any computer. This will allow them to make all records digital.

Justin let members of the court know there have been recent breakouts at the shelter. Some of the dogs are digging under the fence and getting out.

They have discussed putting some kind of footer in to help this.

Justin will work on getting some quotes on how much it would cost.

Members of the court made a motion to approve Justin's request for the annual shelter management program software.

(Approval to purchase annual Shelter Management Program Software)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad with all members present voting in favor of approving the annual shelter management program software from Shelter manager Ltd Company in the amount of \$395.00.

Motion passed unanimously.

Members of the court tabled the discussion regarding pouring concrete at the animal shelter to help keep the animals from escaping. Justin is going to get some quotes for the repairs.

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy:

Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy told members of the court as a result from three separate flash flood events and overland surface flooding that occurred here in the county last week caused some damage to our county roads.

There was a road break on Star Gap Road which will cost around \$55,000 to \$75,000 to repair.

There was also a mud slide on Star Gap Road that's not probable it's going to happen.

Patrick, along with the road crew, Judge Barnes and EM Director John Knootz, felt the need to knock on the doors to make people aware of this personally. They had some Air B&B groups that decided to cancel their bookings for the next week or so. Patrick said they have been motoring and it's still moving. They estimate it to be around 1000 cubic yards of material that is moving. If we do have another flash flood type event and the 1000 cubic yards of material move at once into the roadway it could be around a week before they could reopen the road.

There is another road break on Neal Silva Road which is much larger than the one on Star Gap Road. Patrick said he estimates it will cost around \$100,000.00 to repair.

Patrick will be working with Em Director John Koontz and CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock to see what can be done.

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The gravel roads cannot withstand flash flooding as well as roadways. There is a lot of culvert damage and stopped-up pipes, ditch lines filled with leaves as well as some shoulder work needing done on some paved roads. They are monitoring the entirety county road system but it's going to take some time to recoup.

We also suffered some damage to the bridge on Rose Lane. This is one of the roadway Patrick requested new pavement, which was denied twice. There were some guardrails damages also. Patrick said they continue to get phone calls regarding damaged roads they did not know we had. They must triage road issues right now. We can't justify going out and grading a road with a pothole when we have parts of roadways missing.

One last thing Patrick said per Judge Barnes blessing they will be going back to a 14-hour schedule. They will be off this Friday and start the 4-10 schedule on Monday.

E911 Assistant Director Justin Rice:

Justin had no discussion at this time

EM Director John Knootz:

Em Director John Knootz let members of the court know they will be starting Survey 123. This is how we get our FEMA Funding. They are meeting in the morning with the State EM and FEMA. There is another slide on Cow Creek. The homeowners had to evaluate at this time. The slide is 8 feet from their house. They measured around 80 ft x 350 ft. There currently are 40 to 50 animals at that location. John said he is unsure what to do with them.

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton:

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton let members of the court know the current population of the Detention Center is 230 residents. 176 are state inmates and 46 are Powell County inmates. They were able to get a female to help Chelsea at the Animal Shelter. Neal said he can get a transport person to bring inmates in to help if needed.

If someone needs help with cleaning up due to the flooding events they can contact Neal. They can take crews out to help with manpower so that our road crew can do repairs.

EM Director John Knootz said he would like to thank Neal and the inmates for filling sandbags.

Neal along with Magistrate Dennis Combs delivered them to businesses and residents.

Darrell Billings asked what the policy was on inmates coming onto private property for agricultural flood damage.

Neal said inmates cannot get on private property unless the Judge declares a county emergency if not, they can only go 15 ft from the center of the county road.

Darrell said he had miles and miles of farmland with damaged fence rolls. He said it's going to cost thousands of dollars to clean and repair them.

Judge Barnes said they had declared a county emergency. Neal told Darrell that the inmates could help with the area of damaged fence lines.

E911 Assistant Director Arlene Rogers:

E911 Assistant Director Arlene Rogers requested that three (3) part-time paramedics move to a full-time position.

The three paramedics are Amy Jones, Gerald Beavers and Justin Shryock.

(Paramedic Amy Jones moved to full-time position)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of moving Paramedic Amy Jones from a part-time position to a full-time position.

Motion passed unanimously.

(Paramedic Gerald Beavers moved to full-time position)

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of moving Paramedic Gerald Beavers from a part-time position to a full-time position.

Motion passed unanimously

(Paramedic Justin Shryock moved to a full-time position)

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of moving Justin Shryock from a part-time position to a full-time position.

Motion passed unanimously

E911 Director Larry Hall:

E911 Director Larry Hall made members of the court aware of the calls that came into the dispatch center for the month of March 2025

Powell County Sheriff's office – 394

Stanton Police Department – 291

Clay City Police Department – 121

Clay City Fire Department – 91

Stanton Fire Department – 77

Middle Fork Fire Department – 46

Search & Rescue – 4

Powell County EMS – 44

Larry said Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Chad Patton, Magistrate J.L. Bowen and fire departments were good about calling in during the flooding events.

Larry made members of the court aware that Dispatcher Kathleen Hinds had graduated from the academy.

Larry told members of the court the radio systems need to be looked at. David Roark cannot find anything wrong with them.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said he was out with Robbie Campbell one night during the flooding and it was like two repeaters were coming in. It may be a programming issue. Judge Barnes said radios are not going to work 100 percent.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen ask how they would go about getting a mobile repeater for Middle Fork Fire Department. CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock said they did not have any extra mobile repeaters. Depending on the model you purchased it would cost \$8,000.00 to \$12,000.00 for the repeater and having it installed.

Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen:

Dale had no discussion at this time

County Attorney Robert King:

Robert had no discussion at this time

Middlefork Fire Chief Robbie Campbell asked where all the mobile repeaters were. CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock said they were put into police vehicles and Em Directors vehicles.

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden called Blaze Enterprises and Rumpke regarding dumpsters. Blaze Enterprises priced 40-yard dumpsters at \$5.00 rent per day and \$200.00 per day to haul it off. Rumpke was \$275.00 per day but there is no charge for dumpsters.

Tim said Blaze Enterprises is local and he likes that, but Rumpke has been good to the county.

Judge Barnes said Bobby needed one at the Museum and one at the Veterans' Park.

Tim is not sure if we can get grant funding to help with the cleanup due to the flooding events.

He said he got the ok to put a dumpster by Charlie Smith's store. Magistrate Chad Patton said he thinks this would not be a good idea. Tim mentioned the free dump day in May. When we helped Rumpke pick up curbside garbage that gave us 140 tons of free garbage. They asked if we wanted to use it for the cleanup and he said no we would use it for the free dump days.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of accepting Rumpke but if they cannot get to the dumpsters then go with Blaze Enterprises.

Motion passed unanimously.

District Updates:

Magistrate Chad Patton ask Judge Barnes when we would get the paving funding. Judge Barnes said he did not know for sure when we would get it. Chad said Old Winchester Road has been on the list forever. He would like to get it fixed so it would have time to settle. Judge Barnes said he would call Bobbi Joe about this.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen bragged on the road crew during the flooding events.

We need to recognize our 911 dispatchers next week for Telecommunications Week.

They also done an amazing job during the flooding events. We should be very proud of them.

Magistrate Brian McKinney said he went through our county website and has a list of changes to be made. He will contact our website person to get it updated.

Broadband Update: Crystal Broadband has started the fiber installation on Hardwick's Creek. They are predicting the first phase should be done by July.

Mtn. Telephone is continuing installation around North Bend. There are three companies putting in for broadband grants. The state has over 1 billion dollars to give to counties for broadband expansions.

Magistrate Dennis Combs ask EM Director John Knootz to let him know in the future about any meetings that would pertain to his district. He is not a first responder but does a lot for his district so he should be included.

EM Director John Knootz let members of the court know about the new Powell County Emergency Management page for the public.

Payroll Date Changes for Powell County Jail: Dates will now be Sunday through Saturday

Judge Barnes asked if we were going to change payroll dates for everyone or just the jail.

Connie told Judge Barnes that Stephanie wanted to change it for everyone.

Neal said the reason they wanted to change was because the jail is on a 12-hour rotation. The way it currently is now there are 20 hours overtime per pay period. He does not understand why the current payroll dates are Friday to Thursday.

If the payroll dates are changed to Sunday through Saturday, it would eliminate the 20 hours of overtime. The detention center currently has more employees than any other department and they are there every day of the week.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of changing the jail's payroll dates to Sunday through Saturday. This change is to take effect immediately.

Motion passed unanimously

David Bailey – Job Estimate for Cleaning, Sealing, Stripping and repairing place where water stands on the North/East Corner side of the Courthouse Parking Lot:

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving the Job Estimate submitted from David Bailey in the amount of \$9,700.00 for cleaning, sealing and stripping the courthouse parking lot. This motion also approves partial payments to be made if supplies and materials are needed.

Motion passed unanimously

1st Reading Insurance Premium Tax Ordinance No. 2025-06: Amending Ordinance No.

11-7-1

Amending the Insurance Premium Tax Ordinance would go from 5% to 10%, which would match the City of Stanton and the City of Clay City rates. Amending this tax would not go into effect until July 2026. The revenue from this tax will help with the expenses of the EOC Center once our CSEPP Program is closed out. Increasing the rate should generate around \$500,000.00.

The license fee imposed upon each insurance company which issues life insurance policies on the lives of people residing within the corporate limits of Powell County shall be 10% of the first year's premium collected within each calendar quarter by reason of the insurance of such policies.

1st Reading Occupational Premium Tax Ordinance No. 2025-07: Amending Ordinance No. 08-06-24

Currently Powell County has the lowest rate for the Occupational Premium tax. The recommendation would be to go from 1.25% to 1.75%.

The revenue from the increase will help with the expense of the EOC Center once our CSEPP Program is closed out. Increasing the rate should generate around \$600,000.00.

Currently the City of Stanton or the City of Clay City have not obliged themselves to help with any of the expenses.

1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-08

An Ordinance of the Powell County Fiscal Court Establishing a System for Financial Support of 911 Communications.

The revenue from this 911 fee will go to our Dispatch.

The Powell County Fiscal Court that there is established, imposed and implemented a service fee on active water services provided to occupied households, business and agribusinesses in Powell County, Kentucky, calculated at \$5.00 per month for each individual residential/household unit and each individual commercial unit which receives billing for water service located upon each parcel of real property located within the territorial limits of Powell County as determined from the records of the Powell County Property Valuation Administrator's office.

The revenue from this fee should generate around \$ 300,000.00.

Ruth Jones asks if this was going to be per gallon fee or hook up fee. Judge Barnes told her it was a flat fee of \$60.00 per year. Deputy Dale Allen explained to her about our CSEPP program going away soon. She said she did understand this. The county has spent around \$338,000.00 keeping this building up. Magistrate J.L. Bowen said we just discussed problems with the radios, and we do not have the funding to purchase or repair them. In twenty-five years CSEPP has put in over one million dollars into our ambulance service.

Ruth said she thinks they are misunderstanding her question. She wants to know if this fee is for every hook up. Is large apartment complex going to be charged \$5.00 and individual homeowners will pay the same amount?

Judge Barnes said the only other option would be to go on property taxes.

Ashley Hood is employed with Powells Valley Water. She told members of the court that if the owner of the apartment complex pays the water bill, then they will get charged one fee but if the tenant put the water bill in their name, then each tenant pays the fee.

Ruth said since the apartment building complex is already set up with the water company, they would pay the same as her and she has a problem with this. Magistrate Patton agreed with her.

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden suggested doing a commercial and residential rate.

Ashley said they have a \$4.00 flat fee on apartment complexes.

Darrell Billings said how much more burden can you put on the folks in your office to track this.

Most are already doing two or three jobs. Ruth said she agrees with this, but she wants fairness for homeowners verses a business.

Judge Barnes suggested maybe doing \$5.00 per residential and a different rate for businesses.

Magistrate Brian McKinney said he did not want to charge businesses more.

Judge Barnes said he does not want to raise anything, but we have too. Everything is going up. We must do something to take care of our employees and our county.

Politicians in the past did not raise taxes and now it is showing. If they had made some small increments, it would have been better. Now we are trying to solve the problem. It's at the point now that something must be done to keep our 911 service.

Darrell Billings said if we want our kids and grandkids to have a proper education if they so desire.

We have got to pay for what we want. He knows this is tough on everyone but if we want to continue to thrive and survive and keep moving forward then we must start somewhere. He admires members of this court for their willingness to make this commitment.

Magistrate Dennis Combs said he would like to have some town hall meetings so that the public can better understand what's going on.

Robert said he needs to know what's going on because the 2nd reading will be coming up.

Robert said the next time we meet we will be taking a vote on it. This is going to put us behind because if we make changes to the next meeting, we will have to republish it, and we will not have it by July 1st.

Senate Bill 63: Resolution No. 2025-0408: The Operation of Street-Legal Special Purpose Vehicles on Designated Public Roadways with Powell County Pursuant to Senate Bill 63.

A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members voting in favor of adopting a Resolution of the Powell County Fiscal Court Authorizing the Operation of Street-legal Special Purpose Vehicles on Designated public Roadways with Powell County Pursuant to Senate Bill 63. Approved and Adopted by the Fiscal Court of Powell County, Kentucky on this 8th day of April 2025.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Magistrate J.L. Bowen said himself along with others got beat to death because of RED STAR. Our county went through a major incident and the Search and Rescue folks helped during this time and everything went well, and no one died.

Powell County Library Board of Trustees Appointment:

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes received a letter from the Powell County Library Board of Trustees. With the term of Whitney Merriman expiring in April 2025, two names were submitted for consideration to fill this vacancy. The names submitted were Whitney Merriman and Carmen Liles. A motion was made by Magistrate Chad Patton and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members of the court voting in favor of appointing Whitney Merriman to the Powell County Board of Trustees to fill the vacancy for a 4-year term.
Motion passed unanimously

Closed Session: KRS 61.810 9 (C) (F)

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate Chad Patton with all members present voting in favor of going into closed session KRS 61.810 (C) (F).
Motion passed unanimously

Court Resumes:

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

Judge Barnes made it known that No Action was taken in closed session.

(Termination of Shaina Shelton from the Powell County Ambulance Service)

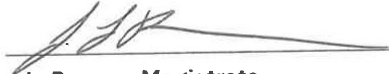
A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of terminating Shaina Shelton from the Powell County Ambulance Service. This termination is to take effect immediately.
Motion passes unanimously

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of adjourning the meeting.
Motion passed unanimously



Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive



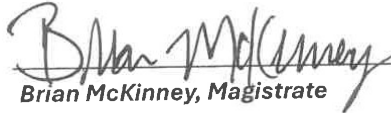
J.L. Bowen, Magistrate



Dennis Combs, Magistrate



Mike Lockard, Magistrate



Brian McKinney, Magistrate



Chad Patton, Magistrate