

Powell County Fiscal Court

Regular Called Meeting

Date: May 13th, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Powell County Operations Center (EOC)

33 Commerce Drive

Stanton, Kentucky 40380

Presiding: Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive

Present: Connie Crabtree, Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen, Magistrate J.L. Bowen, Magistrate Dennis Combs, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Magistrate Mike Lockard, County Attorney Robert King, Assistant EMS Director Arlene Rogers, EMS Director Authur Ashley, Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden, E911 Director Justin Rice, Asst Tax Administrator Kevin Noel, Brandon Famer – Powell Patriot, Enoch Thomas, Deputy Sheriff Hunter Martin, Darrell Billings, Dwain Anderson, James Thelander and neighbor, Ruth Jones, Michael Kelso, Tisha Morris and Stevie Townsend.

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes called the meeting to order:

County Judge Executive Eddie Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Deputy Judge Executive Director Dale Allen offered the prayer:

Roll Call for the following members: A Quorum was established

County 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 – Absent

Public Comments:

Ruth Jones:

Ruth Jones approached members of the court. Ruth said she attends the meetings so that she can find out what's going on. She supports our 911 system and has spoken with the city council once again on concerns regarding the service fee on our water bills. She said the mayor said it was fine with him, but Ruth wants fiscal court members to understand this is not the case with other council members. There were several that agreed that if we do this it will need to be fair and equal so we don't have the same fee for an individual homeowner as a business owner, especially a retail business or a business that has rentals having 60 to 100 units paying the same \$60.00 she will be paying.

Ruth asks if there is going to be an open meeting to discuss this subject. Judge Barnes told her this was an open meeting and there was no way we could do this equally for everyone. Judge Barnes said the easy and equal way would be for the county to pay 1/3, City of Stanton to pay 1/3 and the City of Clay City to pay 1/3 but the cities have not agreed to pay anything.

Judge Barnes said we have been discussing this for over a year now. Ruth said she has been talking about the CSEPP program going away at the city council's meetings since she found out.

Ruth said she has always been pleased with how the fiscal court members conduct their business, like giving department head and district updates. She asks why the sheriff does not come and give updates. Judge Barnes told her the sheriff and clerk are fee offices which means they run their own offices and do not govern under us per say. She asks about reports showing how many runs the sheriff's office does. Judge Barnes told her those runs are recorded under our CAD system.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said if you look at the number of county calls verses city calls the City of Stanton and the City of Clay City by far passes the county calls. Ruth said she has always supported Danny Rogers, but she is concerned we are not getting what she considered premiant information on what they are doing. She is not saying they are not doing a good job, she would just like to hear what's going on.

Ruth told members of the court she appreciated listening to her.

Dwain Anderson:

Dwain Anderson approached members of the court. He thanked them for giving him the opportunity to speak this evening. He said his grandson Clayton was going to attend but he was sick with a migraine.

Dwain brought a framed picture of his son James Anderson, Jr., so that it could be hung in the County Judge Executives' office. James has been out of office for around 2 ½ years. He served 3 terms as County Judge Executive, and his picture was not hung in the courthouse at this time.

Dwain said he is waiting on another frame to come in to replace the one James's picture is in now. Judge Executive Eddie Barnes told Dwain the fiscal court would pay for the frame. He said James would not have wanted this because he did not like to waste money on himself. Judge Barnes said he was an honor for what he did.

Dwain spoke about his concern regarding the tax increases. He brought a copy of his insurance invoice. He said he understands we must have a tax base and CSEPP closing out soon. Dwain has property that has zero usage, and the basic water bill is \$27.79. He cancelled the service through Powell's Valley Water because of the proposed \$5.00 fee to be placed on water bills.

Dwain said when James left out of the office there was a balanced budget. In the three terms he served he never raised taxes. He said when people get their insurance bill, they will be complaining to their insurance company because it increased. If the fiscal court has the 2nd reading this evening, then we are doing a taxation without representation. We are not giving the people a chance to vote or even have a say in it.

Dwain spoke about his and his friends' home insurance premiums.

He said a few years ago the county was saying they would increase property taxes, but the state had enough wisdom to say we are going to put a limit on the increase, but there is no limit to what the

fiscal court is doing. Judge Barnes told him we are basically doing what the City of Stanton and the City of Clay City are doing. Dwain said just because the cities are doing it does not make it right. A lot of people in rural areas that have high insurance rates on a fixed income will have a rough time. Dwain said James had no increases in county taxes for the three terms he served in office. He spoke about grants that James secured during his terms. He also said the county is selling county assets and this bothers him. Judge Barnes asked Dwain what county assets he was referring to. He asks if the Burke Parsons Bowlby building was sold. Judge Barnes told him this was under the Powell County Industrial Authority. He also asks about the Elkins property. Judge Barnes told him we did sell this property, but the funds were put back into the ARPA account to pay for the new EMS renovation. Dwain said the building on Elkins Street was supposed to be used for the new ambulance. Magistrate Brian McKinney said he worked with James on the floor plan, and it was going to cost too much to put the EMS there. It was going to be around 4 million dollars, and we did not have these kinds of funds so it was decided to put it where it is now so that we can use the bays that are already there.

Dwain said the first year James was in the office he had Bezel to check on vehicles that were insured but not being used. Judge Barnes told Dwain we check the insurance list every year to ensure it is correct. He said James would not drive a county vehicle home just in case he had to stop somewhere. He did not want someone to say he was using a county vehicle for personal use. Dwain said he does not think this proposed tax increase is progressive, it's degressive particularly to the people that do not make a lot of money. He thinks the fiscal court should think about this before doing the 2nd readings because there is nothing fair about it. Dwain thanked members of the court.

Minutes of April 8th, 2025, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen and seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the minutes of the April 8th, 2025, meeting.

Motion passed unanimously

Minutes of April 30th, 2025, Special Meeting

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard and seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving the minutes of the April 30th, 2025, 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

Codell Construction Company: Powell County EMS Project: Pay Estimate #06

\$205,760.94

Codell Construction Pay Estimate #06 for the Powell County EMS Project was submitted to members of the court for payment approval.

UES Professional Solutions Invoice 0000000095 - \$1,000.00

Builders Firstsource (Direct Owner Payment) - \$21,984.80

Atlas Enterprises (Direct Owner Payment) - \$85,526.85

Codell Construction Company - \$97,249.29

Total: \$205,760.94

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving Pay Estimate #06 submitted from Codell Construction Company for the following vendors totaling - \$205,760.94

UES Professional; Solutions - \$1000.00

Builders FirstSource (Direct Owner Payment) - \$21,984.80

Atlas Enterprises(Direct Owner Payment)_ - \$85,526.85

Codell Construction Company - \$97,249.29

Motion passed unanimously

David Bailey: Invoice - Extra Blacktop for Courthouse Parking Lot:

Judge Barnes told members of the court when Mr. Bailey gave us his first quote he did not check to see if the blacktop prices would increase so he is asking for additional funds to complete the job.

Magistrate Mike Lockard said he would say no to this because Mr. Bailey has not been working on the project. Judge Barnes said he told him it was because of the weather.

Members of the court all agreed not to pay this invoice until he comes back to work on finishing the project.

The Treasurer told members of the court CSEPP Director Kevin Babcock was out of town at a training. He had given her a few things to get approved. Members of the court agreed to wait until next month so that Kevin would be there to answer any questions they may have.

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 - \$50,000.0

Transfer from General Fund to Jail - \$150,000.00

Transfer from General Fund to Grants - \$1,500.00

Transfer from General Fund to Ambulance Fund - \$10,000.00

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney and seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor approving all Cash, Budget and Interfund Transfers.

Motion passed unanimously

Financials 4/1/25 – 4/30/25: Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary:

The Treasurer presented the 4/1/25 – 4/30/25 Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary for court approval.

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving the 4/1/25 – 4/30/25 Financial Statement and Cash Balance Summary.

Motion passed unanimously

1st Reading Budget Amendment #4

Treasurer presented Budget Amendment #4 for the 1st Reading.

General 01-4134 Occupational License Tax - \$300,000.00

General 01-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$300,000.00

Grants 78-4510-179 CERT Receipts - \$13,565.25

Grants 78-5130-446-179 Equipment & Supplies - \$13,565.25

Jail 03-4537-01 HB 556 Jail Attendance & Programming - \$120,000.00

Jail 03-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$120,000.00

General 01-4901 Surplus Prior Year - \$700,000.00

General 01-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$700,000.00

Jail 03-4901 Surplus Prior Year - \$50,000.00

Jail 03-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$50,000.00

Total - \$1,183,565.25

LeAndre Knox – Opioid Abatement Advisory:

LeAndre was present at the meeting to give members of the court an update regarding the Opioid Abatement Advisory.

LeAndre told members KACO recommended they do an advisory council. This is something that needs to be approved by the fiscal court. They had their first meeting on April 24th. They discussed the roles of the council members and recommendations for the fiscal court. The council members are Judge Executive Eddie Barnes, Magistrate Brian McKinney, Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton, Jenelle Brewer, Stacy Crase, Chief Police Rob Williams and herself.

They will be meeting every 2nd Thursday at 1:00 p.m. at the EOC Center. The meeting this Thursday will be held at the Extension office due to a conflict in scheduling.

These meetings will be open to anyone that wants to attend since they do operate under the fiscal court.

Their plan currently is to work on a recovery ready committee certification so that it can be submitted to the state. They will be looking to see what the barriers are and work on a strategic plan before they bring any recommendations to the court.

The 2024 overdose report came out and Powell County is #4.

Magistrate Brian McKinney asked LeAndre what the top five counties were for overdoses.

Lee County is #1, Knott County #2, Breathitt County #3, Powell County #4 and Estill #5. They are working on a map to track non-fatal overdoses as well.

They are still working on a quick response team. There was a grant received so we can hire a part-time person to work with QTR on overdose reports.

Opioid Abatement Settlement Advisor Laura Karr has been working with LeAndre on her contract regarding her job descriptions. She has given this contract to County Attorney Robert King to review.

Judge Barnes said he appreciates all the hard work she has done regarding the Opioid Abatement Funds and getting all the legalities done. Hopefully soon we will implement some programs and get some money out to the recipients.

Magistrate Mike Lockard asks LeAndre if she works with Treasurer Connie Crabtree on this. She told him she works with her, Eddie, Neal, Robert and Brian.

Magistrate Brian McKinney said we got these funds from suing the pharmaceuticals companies so they will be hiring lawyers to go through our receipts and looking at everything we have purchased and if it does not meet standards then we will be responsible for paying back the funds. We must be extra careful with these funds. It's taking us longer than expected to spend this money.

Budget Hearing Regarding Proposed Use of County Road Aid and Local Government Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds: KRS 42.455

The clerk noted that no one was present for the hearing.

County Road Aid Cooperative Program Agreement/Resolution:

This Agreement entered as of the date of the signature below of the Secretary of the Transportation Cabinet ins made by and between the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid and the Fiscal Court of Powell County, Kentucky. The Court's apportionments of County Road Aid Funds shall be based on revenue estimates supplies buy the office of State Budget Director. For the Fiscal Year beginning July 2025 this amount is \$932,841.22. The County agrees that three percent (3%) of the apportionment shall be withheld by the Department in an emergency fund . The Emergency Fund shall include three percent (3%) of the total apportionments of all participants in the Cooperative Program, plus any remaining balances form previous fiscal years.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the County Road Aid Cooperative Program and Resolution. This motion authorizes and directs Judge Executive Eddie Barnes to sign paperwork regarding the County Road Aid Cooperative Program Agreement and Resolution. Motion passed unanimously

2025-2026 Annual Standing Order to Pre-Approve Certain Recurring Expenses:

Pursuant to KRS 68.275 (3)

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of approving the 2025-2026 Annual Standing Order to Pre-Approve Certain Recurring Expenses.

Motion passed unanimously

Appointment to Powell's Valley Water District Board: Term Renewal for Chairman

The district's Chairman term which is held by Mr. Ronald Everman is up for renewal July 2025. He is requesting a four-year term renewal.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of reappointing Mr. Ronald Everman to Powell's Valley Water District Board for a four-year term.

Motion passed unanimously

1st Reading of the Revised ABC (Alcohol Beverage Control) Ordinance 18-2906 (A)

Section 20 – Signage and Advertising

Paragraphs G,H,I, and J were taken out.

Paragraph K. was added: Section Reads

Licensee may erect on the outside of the premises no more than 2 video boards not to measure larger than 65 inches diagonally. Limit to one neon sign to be seen from the outside.

Section 15 – Regulatory License Fee

Paragraph D. – The word ten was marked out and (five) was inserted in the first sentence.

Approval of the 2025-2026 Recycling Grant:

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving the 2025-2026 Recycling Grant in the amount of \$209,850.25. This grant will be used for a Bobcat Utility Vehicle & Trailer, loading ramps, slide in self-dumpers, Pro-Trainer pad trailer and concrete for floors, walls and materials for a new building (electric & plumbing).

Motion passed unanimously

Approval of the 2025-2026 Composting Grant:

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving the 2025-2026 Composting Grant in the amount of \$76,900.00. This grant will be used for an Incinerator, Gooseneck, metal-built box to fit trailer and fence supply.

Motion passed unanimously

1st Reading of the 2025-2026 Proposed County Budget: KRS. 67.077

2nd Reading Ordinance No. 2025-07: An Ordinance Amending Ordinance NO. 08-06-24 relating to the imposition administration of an occupational license requirement and payment of an occupational license tax by persons and business entities conducting businesses, occupations and professions within Powell County, Kentucky.

Section 1 – Setting Forth Definitions

Section 2 – License Application required

Section 3 – Occupational License Tax Payment required wherein the license fee required of persons employed by another is amended and increased to 1.75% and the fee on all persons engaged in occupations for themselves is amended and increase to 1.75%.

Section 4 – Apportionment

Section 5 – Employers to Withhold

Section 6- Returns Required

Section 7 – Extensions

Section 8 – Refunds

Section 9 – Federal Audit Provisions

Section 10 – Administrative Provisions

Section 11 – Information to remain Confidential

Section 12 – Penalties

Section 13 – Use of occupational License Tax

Section 14 – Severability

Judge Barnes asked members of the court if they had any questions regarding this 2nd Reading of Ordinance # 2025-07. Magistrate Dennis Combs said he was disappointed we did not have a town hall meeting to explain this increase. Judge Barnes said we have been discussing this for a year now. Magistrate Brian McKinney said he would also like to have a town hall meeting.

A motion was made by Magistrate Mike Lockard seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen to approve the 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-07 amending Ordinance No. 08-06-24 relating to the imposition administration of an occupational license requirement and payment of an occupational license tax by persons and business entities conducting businesses, occupations and professions with Powell County, Kentucky.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes – Aye

Magistrate J.L. Bowen - Aye

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Opposed

Magistrate Mike Lockard - Aye

Magistrate Brian McKinney – Opposed

Motion passed 3-2

**2nd Reading Ordinance No. 2025-08: An Ordinance of the Powell County Fiscal Court
Establishing a System for Financial Support of 911 Communications:**

Established and imposed a service fee on active water services provided to occupied households, businesses and agribusinesses calculated at \$5.00 per month for each individual residential/household unit and each commercial unit which receives billings for water services within Powell County.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard approving the 2nd reading of Ordinance No. 2025-08 establishing a system for financial support of 911 communications.

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes – Aye

Magistrate J.L. Bowen – Aye

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Opposed

Magistrate Mike Lockard – Aye

Magistrate Brian McKinney – Aye

Motion passed 4-1

Closed Session: KRS 61.810 (C)(F)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of the closed session.

Motion passes unanimously

Meeting Resumes:

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

Motion passes unanimously

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes made it known no action was taken in closed session.

Department Head Updates:

Assistant Tax Administrator Kevin Noel: No discussion at this meeting

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden:

Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden made it aware that free dumps day would be May 8th, 9th and 10th and any help would be appreciated.

(Hiring Tyler Anderson Full-Time – Powell County Transfer Station)

Tim told members of the court he had received an application today from Tyler Anderson.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all the members present voting in favor of hiring Tyler Anderson as a full-time employee at Powell County Transfer Station at \$13.00 per hour.

Motion passed unanimously

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton:

Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton let members of the court know they have 180 state inmates currently. They have 97 in the SAP program. Last month the state Inmate check was around \$191,000.00 which is the highest one this fiscal year. There are 4 inmates from Menifee County, 2 from Bath County and 3 from Montgomery County. Bath County would like to enter into an agreement with Powell County to house their inmates, but we don't want to be obligated to them at this time and lose out on state inmates. We will house them as they have overflow. The detention center will need to purchase another mower. The one they have is around 12 years old and starting to have issues. They also had a hot water heater to stop working today. There currently are three hot water heaters upstairs but they run from one heater. The heater has a sensor that runs the mixing station that controls all heaters. One of the mixers has stopped working which will cost around \$760.00 to repair.

E911 Director Justin Rice:

(Approving E911 Service from 8-hour shifts to 12-hour shifts and to follow Powell County Detention Centers Pay Periods)

Justin let members of the court know the phone project should be completed by the end of June. Two consoles will now be upgraded and a 3rd one will be installed by July. Justin said they are looking into transiting into twelve-hour shifts and would like to follow the jail's pay periods. A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of approving the E911 service from 8-hour shifts to 12-hour shifts and to change payroll dates to reflect same pay period as the Powell County Detention Center. Motion passed unanimously

(Hiring of Stevie Townsend – E911 Service)

Justin told members that Stevie Townsend wanted to come back and work for the E911 service as a full-time employee. Stevie is trained and certified. Judge Barnes said when Stevie left before he left without notice but can be brought back upon recommendation by the County Judge Executive and per our policy and procedures manual.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of hiring Stevie Townsend as a full-time dispatcher for the Powell County E911 Service.

Motion passed unanimously

(Hiring of Jackson Friend – E911 Service)

Justin asks members of the court to hire Jackson Friend as a part-time dispatcher for the E911 Service. Jackson would like to work the Saturday's and Sundays on twelves which would be 24 hours per week which will help fill the gap. Justin said he would like to have three part-time employees if possible.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Dennis Combs with all members present voting in favor of hiring Jackson Friend as a part-time dispatcher for the E911 Service.

Motion passed unanimously

Justin asks members of the court if he found another part-time person interested in working would he need pre-approval to hire this person? He would like to retain a part-time position as needed. Judge Barnes told Justin if he finds a person they could come in and work to see if they are going to like dispatching first and if they worked out then the court could approve the hire.

Justin spoke about NCIC. He has been talking to the state police post. This is something they have needed for a long time. He does not have any quotes, but he thinks it would be around \$1,000.00 per station and suggested putting it in all three stations. This is the upfront cost plus a couple of hundred dollars a year maintenance for each station.

Justin will work on getting some quotes to present to members of the court.

Tabled until next meeting.

EMS Director Arthur Ashley:

EMS Director Arthur Ashley let members of the court know ambulance transport has increased, and our revenue is up.

EMS Director Arthur Ashley is requesting members of the court approve a Mission Statement,

(Mission Statement for the Powell County Emergency Medical Services)

Powell County Emergency Medical Services exists to safeguard the health and well-being of every resident and visitor through the rapid, professional delivery of advanced life-support care. We pledge to:

- Respond swiftly and skillfully
- Embrace compassion and integrity
- Drive continuous improvement
- Empower our community
- Foster collaboration and innovation

Guided by professionalism, empathy and teamwork, Powell County EMS is committed not only to responding in times of crisis, but to creating a safer, healthier, more prepared community every day.

A motion was made by Magistrate L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the Mission Statement for the Powell County Emergency Medical Services.

Motion passed unanimously

(Fiscal Year 2025-2026 EMS Transport Rate Change for the Powell County Emergency

Medical Services)

- BLS Emergency from \$650.00 to \$750.00
- BLS non-emergency from \$650.00
- ALS1 Emergency from \$850.00 to \$1,000.00
- ALS1 Non-m Emergency from \$850.00 to \$950.00
- ALS2 from \$1,000.00 to \$1,200.00
- Mileage from \$15.00/mile to \$17.00/mile
- Oxygen \$50 to no charge

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of approving the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 EMS Transport Rate Changes for Powell County Emergency Medical Services.

Motion passed unanimously

(Benefit Time Change for the Powell County Emergency Medical Services)

EMS Director Arthur Ashley is requesting a change to the benefit time amount accrued each month for full-time EMS personnel working 24/48-hour shifts. The present 4-hour sick and 5-hour vacation is based on a 40-hour week employee and does not reflect a fair value based on the EMS personnel.

Vacation:

- 1 to 5 years: 12 hours monthly/144 hours a year = 6 shift days
- 6 to 10 years: 16 hours monthly/192 hours a year = 8 shift days
- 11 to 15 years: 20 hours monthly/240 hours a year + 10 shift days
- 16 to 20 years: 24 hours monthly/288 hours a year + 12 shift days
- Employees may carry over 5 days into the next calendar year and must be used in the years that it was carried over, or they must forfeit it.
- Vacation rule for "carry-over" still applies and must be used within the carry over year.
- Vacation time, up to 56 hours, can be sold back to the county no later than November 1

Sick:

- 10 hours/monthly for sick time accrual + 120 hours/Yearly
- This equals to 5 sick days/yearly
- Sick leave may be accumulated up to 600 hours in five years for those hired after 7/1/2019

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the Benefit Time Change for Powell County Emergency Medical Services.

Insurance (Full-Time Employees for the Powell County Emergency Medical Services)

EMS Director Arthur Ashley is requesting a change to the time worked for new employees, which should be changed to 20 shifts. This in turn equals two months on a 24/48-hour shift schedule. The insurance needs of the EMS employees require those that work in this specialty area to have insurance as soon as possible. This also adds to the benefit package to make it more lucrative for new hires with higher retention rates and the ability to attract quality personnel to the EMS Service. The probationary period for new personnel will remain at six months with higher expectations than them, along with new department protocols to operate from. These new protocols will become

effective July 1, 2025, and will apply to all personnel of the Powell County Emergency Medical Services.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of approving the insurance for full-time employees at Powell County Emergency Services.

Motion passed unanimously

EMS Director Arthur Ashley let members of the court know we had signed with Maysville Community College, Morgan and Montgomery County Fire and working on a couple more places for ride time with Powell County which creates free help for us and more employment opportunities.

We are acquiring new equipment and looking for grants as we speak. Arthur is looking at a computerized dispatch which has an automatic vehicle locator. This is the same thing the City of Stanton has in their police vehicles. When ambulances go out, they can look on the computer that will be mounted in the truck. It will give all the information that is pushed from dispatch to the computer. It will draw a line from where they are located to where they are going which will help find the address faster. He is looking into getting information pushed from dispatch to the CAD units in their truck which will populate a report.

Arthur is looking into an inventory system which will cut down \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 on equipment we have overspent on. This scan system will be in the new building. Once something is taken out it will inventory it. Once it gets down to five it will automatically reorder equipment and supplies in the system. Arthur said this is going to help because buying has been out of control in the past.

The new EMS building should be completed by the end of June or 1st of July. They will be needing eight beds and new furniture. Arthur said he has eight mattresses coming from Tempurpedic. Judge Barnes said there has not been any accountability in the past. He wanted to hire someone with structure and accountability and service for the people. Arthur is doing a great job, and this is what we wanted and needed.

1st Reading Budget Amendment # 4 totaling \$1,183,565.25

General – 01-4134 – Occupational License Tax - \$300,000.00

General – 01-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$300,000.00

General - 01-4901 – Surplus Prior Year - \$700,000.00

General – 01-9200-999 – Reserve for Transfers - \$700,000.00

Grants – 78-4510-179 – Cert Receipts

Grants – 78-5130-446-179 Specific Equipment & Supplies - \$13,565.25

Jail – 04-4357-01 – HB 556 Jail – Attendance & Programming - \$120,000.00

Jail – 03-9200-999 Reserve for Transfers - \$120,000.00

Jail – 03-4901 Jail Surplus Prior Year - \$50,000.00

Jail – 03-9200-999 – Reserve for Transfers - \$50,000.00

Judge Barnes talked about the fee we have enacted. It is not a cut and dry thing. A lot of people think we don't need the money, but things have gotten so expensive. They are saying we need to cut back but we do not have anything to cut back on. We are trying to do the best we can. It's been twenty plus years with no changes.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said our front-line fire trucks are 1999 models. These trucks are eventually going down and the backup trucks are even older. People need to understand we are going to have unexpected occurrences that's going to happen.

Magistrate Bowen said in 1999 we had a state representative that represented Powell County well, but we have no representation in Frankfort now. Judge Barnes said Floyd Clay Anderson did an excellent job helping us get our fire trucks.

People mention getting grants, but they still must understand we are going to have to come up with 20 % of it.

District Updates:

Magistrate J.L. Bowen said people are saying we need to do better by getting addresses on our houses or mailboxes, so that emergency services and deliveries can find the location easier and quicker. He suggested doing public relations to make people aware of this. One idea was to do a campaign at our county fair this year.

The road crew has done a great job on our roads.

Magistrate Brian McKinney – No discussion

Magistrate Dennis Combs – Ask Solid Waste Coordinator Tim Snowden if they took brush for composting at the landfill. Chief Deputy Neal Hamilton has offered to help clean up Copperas Creek where a tree fell during the storm.

He also asks about Homestead. Magistrate Brian McKinney said he thought the City of Stanton was going to repair some of the roads. County Attorney Robert King said he has spoken with Road Supervisor Patrick McCoy about the deficiencies in the condition of the roads as it compared to our policy on accepting roads. There was an issue regarding the cul-de-sac.

Magistrate Dennis Combs ask what we had decided on fixing Micheal Kelso's ditch. Judge Barnes said we are waiting till it dries up and his neighbor to give us permission to get onto his property.

Magistrate Mike Lockard – No discussion

Deputy Judge Executive Dale Allen – No discussion

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes – Will be attending a Highway Safety meeting next week in Louisville. We have sponsored two major projects one is Turkey Knob Project, 213 Project and the highway in front of the school going down Hatton Creek. The plans are having a three-lane highway.

He had a meeting with the Highway Department in Jackson. They have pledged to fix all Black Creek Road and Winchester Road. They have also mentioned an area on North Bend Road beside Rosslyn Lane.

They will be closing Rosslyn Lane the first of the month to work on the bridge.
It will be closed till around September.

(Promoting Justin Rice to Dispatch Director)

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes said with the court's pleasure he would like to promote Acting Dispatch Director Justin Rice as the Dispatch Director.

A motion was made by Magistrate Brian McKinney seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of promoting Justin Rice as Dispatch Director for the E911 Service. This position is effective immediately.

Motion passed unanimously

(Letisha Morris - Dispatch Director)

Judge Executive Eddie Barnes said that since Justin Rice went from Assistant Dispatch Director to Dispatch Director, he would like to appoint Letisha Morris as the Assistant Dispatch Director. She is qualified and eligible to take this position.

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of appointing Letisha Morris as the Assistant Dispatch Director for the E911 Service. This position is effective immediately.

Motion passed unanimously

Since Justin is our new Dispatch Director, Mapping Coordinator and Deputy Director of Emergency Management. There will now be two openings for Emergency Management positions. Judge Exeuve Eddie Barnes said he would like to appointment Jimmy Combs and Kevin Babcock as Assistant EM Director's.

(Jimmy Combs – Deputy EM Director for Emergency Management)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Brian McKinney with all members present voting in favor of appointing Jimmy Combs as Deputy EM Director of Emergency Management. This position is to take effective immediately.

Motion passed unanimously

(Kevin Babcock – Deputy EM Director for Emergency Management)

A motion was made by Magistrate J.L. Bowen seconded by Magistrate Mike Lockard with all members present voting in favor of appointing Kevin Babcock as Deputy EM Director of Emergency Management. This position is to take effective immediately.

Motion passed unanimously

Judge Barnes said he encourages people to attend our meetings to voice any questions or concerns they may have. They can also call him or come into the office.

Magistrate J.L. Bowen asks the county attorney if a county road is not being used but Daniel Boone Back Country Byway maintains this road and there is something they cannot repair can the county take their equipment in to help. Some of the surrounding counties do allow this. The County Attorney said if it's a county road there should be no issues in doing this.

Judge Barnes welcomed Magistrate Mike Lockard back. He has been out due to surgery.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Magistrate Dennis Combs seconded by Magistrate J.L. Bowen with all members present voting in favor of adjournment.

Motion passed unanimously.

Next regular meeting will be held on June 10th, 2025.



Eddie Barnes, County Judge Executive



J.L. Bowen, Magistrate



Dennis Combs, Magistrate



Mike Lockard, Magistrate



Brian McKinney, Magistrate