

Mason County Fiscal Court
Regular Session
February 15, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Judge/Executive Owen McNeill called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner Joseph McKay (District 1), Commissioner Chris O'Hearn (District 2), Commissioner Phil Day (District 3), County Attorney John Estill, Landfill Supervisor Todd Leonard, Animal Shelter Supervisor Richard Newberry, Sheriff Patrick Boggs, Deputy Sheriff Ryan Swolsky, Deputy Sheriff Colton Linville, Jailer Lisa Kern-Yearly, County Treasurer Kim Muse, Emergency Management Director Clay Buser and Executive Assistant Nathan Truesdell.

Introduction of Guests

Judge/Executive McNeill introduced Carla Sandusky with Charter Spectrum. Ms. Sandusky is the Senior Manager of Government Affairs with Charter and Spectrum Communications. She addressed members of the court and explained that the company is the second largest cable provider in the country and is in approximately 68 counties in Kentucky. Charter and Spectrum Communication is hoping to expand the cable plant into the southern part of Mason County. To do so, the company will need a cable franchise agreement to provide cable services to residents of Mason County. The county wants to do some analysis of fees as to the agreement.

Next, Judge/Executive McNeill introduced Bill Marshall to members of the court. Mr. Marshall addressed the court about the Joint Planning Commission's role in drafting the solar ordinance and his comments are attached hereto.

Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2022

Motion made by Commissioner McKay and seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn to approve the minutes from the January 11 regular meeting as presented.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn - Yes
Commissioner Day - Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Approval of Minutes – January 24, 2022

Motion made by Commissioner Day and seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn to approve the minutes from the January 24 special meeting as presented.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn - Yes
Commissioner Day - Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Bid Opening for Valley Pike Bridge Replacement

Judge/Executive McNeill announced the opening of bids would begin at 9:30 a.m. as advertised. One bid was received and it was from E & E Contracting. The bid was for \$76,600.00 for the Valley Pike Bridge Replacement project.

Motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn to approve the bid received from E & E Contracting in the amount of \$76,600.00

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn - Yes
Commissioner Day - Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Road Department

Motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner McKay to accept the January report as submitted by Road Supervisor Joe Brown and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn - Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Animal Shelter

Motion made by Commissioner O'Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Day to accept the January report as presented by Richard Newberry and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Judge/Executive McNeill made a motion to change the hourly rate of pay for the Animal Shelter Supervisor to \$15.00 per hour, seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Sheriff's Report

Motion by Commissioner Day and seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn to accept the Monthly Tax Disbursement Report for January totaling \$582,646.63 as presented by Sheriff Patrick Boggs and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Sheriff Boggs asked the court's approval for the surplus of a Glock 17 Generation 5 MOS, serial number BLWW951, a Trijicon RMR type 2 site, serial number 524069 and three ammunition magazines, to be purchased by Chief Deputy Charles Fritz, who has retired, and may purchase his sidearm per KRS 65.041.

Motion to approve the surplus of the Chief Deputy Fritz's sidearm for purchase by him from the Mason County Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

The Monthly Vehicle Report for January was submitted for review and attached hereto. Sheriff Boggs said two of the three new vehicles have been delivered and are waiting for equipment to be installed.

Landfill Report

Motion by Commissioner O'Hearn, seconded by Commissioner McKay to accept the January report as presented by Todd Leonard and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Judge/Executive McNeill spoke to the court about the significant growth of the roll-off business and the need for another truck. Judge/Executive McNeill said he, along with Treasurer Muse and Supervisor Leonard, met with a representative from the Worldwide Equipment Sales lease/buy-back program. Supervisor Leonard said the landfill currently has a 2005 model truck in need of repairs with an estimated cost of \$30,000.00. Leonard explained the court could lease a new vehicle every year with a guaranteed 85% buy back of the value of the truck at the end of year lease. The cost savings would be in the maintenance of the fleet. Judge/Executive McNeill said the court would finance the lease through KACO.

Motion made by Commissioner O'Hearn, seconded by Commissioner McKay to approve the lease of a new truck with Worldwide Equipment Sales, subject to the approval of the landfill committee, with approval for the county treasurer to finance lease.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Recycling Center Report

Motion by Commissioner McKay, seconded by Commissioner Day to accept the January report as submitted by Randy Hamm and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Solid Waste Report

Motion by Commissioner O'Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Day to accept the January report as submitted by Chris Carpenter and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Property Abatement and Illegal Dumping Report

Motion by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner McKay to accept the January report as submitted by Shane Taylor and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Garbage Collection Report

Motion by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner McKay to accept the January report as submitted by Nicole Storms and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Detention Center Report

Motion made by Commissioner O’Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Day to accept the January report as presented by Jailer Lisa Kern-Yearly and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Jailer Yearly spoke to members of the court about the hourly rate for newly hired employees. The current starting rate is \$11.00 per hour. Jail employees do not receive hazardous duty pay nor do they received incentive pay for training. The employees work a DuPont schedule with 12-hour shifts. Jailer Yearly said it is becoming quite difficult to recruit new hires and an increase in the starting rate would help. According to Jailer Yearly, the detention center is currently five employees short on its staff. She asked for the starting rate be increase to \$13.00 per hour, and the hourly rate for those already employed at the detention center would be adjusted accordingly.

Motion made by Commissioner McKay, seconded by Commissioner Day to approve the increase in the starting rate of pay for newly-hired employees at the Detention Center to \$13.00 per hour.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

County Clerk Final Settlement for 2021 Fee Account

County Clerk Stephanie Schumacher presented the 2021 Fee Settlement for the Mason County Clerk’s Office. Receipts totaled \$5,068,563.11 and disbursements totaled \$4,859,041.14, leaving excess fees in the amount of \$209,521.97. County Clerk Schumacher presented a check for \$179,000.00 and will pay the remaining balance to the court once the audit has been completed.

Motion made by Commissioner O'Hearn and seconded by Commissioner Day to accept the County Clerk Settlement for 2021 as presented and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day - Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Treasurer's Report

Motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner McKay to authorize the payment of claims, including additional claims totaling \$35,921.40, as presented and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

County Treasurer Muse asked the court's approval for an additional claim from Adams Clermont County Waste Management in the amount of \$892.68.

Motion by Commissioner McKay, seconded by Commissioner Day to approve payment of the claim from Adams Clermont County Waste Management in the amount of \$892.68.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Motion made by Commissioner O'Hearn, seconded by Commissioner McKay to approve the Financial Statement as of January 31, 2022, as presented and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Motion made by Commissioner McKay, seconded by Commissioner O'Hearn to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$85,700.00.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O'Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

EMS Report

Fire Chief Kevin Doyle with the Maysville Fire Department submitted the January EMS Report for review. The report is attached hereto.

Permit Report

The Permit Report for January was submitted for review and is attached hereto.

New Business

A. Fire Safety Service Contract

Members of the court discussed renewal of the Fire Safety Service Contract at the Mason County Justice Center. The current contract is with Siemens Industry Inc. The renewal period would be April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 for \$1,883.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner McKay to approve the renewal of the Fire Safety Service Contract with Siemens Industry Inc. for one year for \$1,883.00.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

B. Mileage Reimbursement for County Employees

Members of the court discussed the mileage reimbursement rate paid to county employees who use their personal vehicles when traveling for work. The county’s current rate of reimbursement is \$0.36 per mile. The Commonwealth of Kentucky reimburses at a rate of \$0.44 per mile and the federal government rate of reimbursement is \$0.585 per mile. After discussion, the court opted to mirror the state rate of mileage reimbursement.

Motion made by Commissioner O’Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Day to change the current rate of mileage reimbursement from \$0.36 per mile to mirror whatever rate of mileage reimbursement that is set by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Old Business

A. Grant Agreement – 20-048 – Mason County Senior Housing Project

This is a Community Block Grant awarded to Mason Fiscal Court in the amount of \$265,000.00 for the rehabilitation and renovation of seven of the senior rental housing units that includes energy efficiency upgrades.

Motion made by Commissioner McKay, seconded by Commissioner O’Hearn authorizing Judge/Executive McNeill to sign the contract to enter into the grant agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky for the renovation of seven of the senior rental housing units.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

B. Rosenwald School Bids

Mason County Fiscal Court advertised a request for bids for the Rosenwald School Project in Mays Lick. One bid was received. The bid was from Kirk Dudley Construction in the amount of \$47,000.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner O’Hearn to accept the bid from Kirk Dudley Construction for the Rosenwald School Project as submitted and attached hereto.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

Communication from Judge-Executive and Commissioners

Judge/Executive McNeill highlighted the efforts of former Judge/Executive Buddy Gallenstein and former State Representative Mike Denham in acquiring the property and restoring the cabin that was the birthplace of Colonel Charles Young. Last week, Governor Beshear promoted Colonel Young to Brigadier General. He was the highest-ranking African-American in the Armed Services.

Having no further business, motion made by Commissioner Day, seconded by Commissioner O’Hearn to adjourn.

Commissioner McKay – Yes
Commissioner O’Hearn – Yes
Commissioner Day – Yes
Judge/Executive McNeill – Yes

The next fiscal court meeting will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on this the 15th day of February 2022:



Stephanie G. Schumacher
Fiscal Court Clerk

Approved for Review:



Owen J. McNeill
Mason County Judge/Executive