

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
March 10, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on March 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office Annex, Warsaw, Kentucky. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live. Judge Morris noted for the record that Magistrates physically present were Joel Shinkle, Ethan Moore and Donnie Sullivan, with Magistrate M. J Haddix joining via telephone conference. County Attorney John G. Wright was also present. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from the Special ARPA Meeting of February 10, 2022 was made by Donnie Sullivan and seconded by Ethan Moore. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting of February 10, 2022 was made by Joel Shinkle and seconded by Donnie Sullivan. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None.

Approval of Agenda: Judge Morris presented the meeting agenda for approval with the addition of Speedway Boulevard Discussion under Old Business. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval to pay. Ethan Moore made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

February 2022 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending February 28, 2022. Donnie Sullivan made a motion to approve the report and Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.
2. Interfund Cash Transfers – Ethan Moore made a motion to approve the interfund cash transfers for the month of February. Donnie Sullivan seconded. All ayes.
3. Budget Transfers – Joel Shinkle made a motion to approve the budget transfers for the month of February. M. J Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.
4. Budget Amendment #021022 #7 – 2nd Reading Excess Revenues from Donations & Sheriff Excess Fees. Treasurer Bullard presorted that the amendment has been approved by the Department for Local Government. Donnie Sullivan moved to approve the budget amendment. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.
5. Budget Amendment #031022 #8 – 1st Reading of amendment to clear up audit findings and track funds in regard to the airport bond note as they recommended. Motion to approve made by Joel Shinkle and seconded by Ethan Moore. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

DUKE ENERGY EASEMENT FAIRGROUNDS

Judge Morris reported that Duke Energy has provided a proposal for work at the Fairgrounds in Glencoe. Mr. Morris noted that the location is what Duke deemed to be ideal due to minimal excavation needed and offered \$11,000 as well as the cost of the necessary fencing and

landscaping to maintain a desirable aesthetic. Both Judge Morris and Magistrate Shinkle noted that they did not like the location and felt that further north on Highway 127 would be a better spot. Magistrate Haddix agreed. Motion to reject and request revised proposal made by M. J Haddix and seconded by Joel Shinkle. All ayes.

KNOX LILLARD UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that additional signage has been added as well as a digital construction sign. He informed the court that complaints continue to be speed and commercial vehicle traffic.

Mr. Morris reminded the court that previously overtime had been approved for the Sheriff's Department to patrol the road and enforce speed and safety. He explained that he would like to extend that to include the City of Warsaw Police in an effort to have ample manpower.

Magistrate Joel Shinkle added that he thinks the court should work to not overburden the Sheriff's Department and both he and Magistrate Moore agreed that this could be a good option to support them. Magistrate Sullivan asked if there is any opportunity to use funds from the Sheriff's Budget to help offset the costs. Judge Morris and Treasurer Bullard will look into the option of funding from the Sheriff's Budget once the rate of pay for the Warsaw Police is known.

Magistrate Sullivan also asked if there was any news about the Sheriff's Department being able to boost their staff. Judge Morris answered that there are two officers in the academy, one of which will be available to work within weeks.

Joel Shinkle moved to proceed with investigating the possibility of engaging with Warsaw Police and nailing down the costs to cover the needed detail of Knox Lillard Road. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.

Magistrate Haddix asked a related question about the possibility of doing further shoulder work on the road. Judge Morris answered that he intends to speak with the state about accessing emergency funds to repave and stripe the road and would at that point pave over the existing shoulders to effectively widen the road. If that solution is not successful, then he will look at adding additional rock to the shoulders.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNER FOR PLANNING & ZONING

Judge Morris turned the floor over to Jim Hansen to discuss the proposal for a Comprehensive Planner for Planning & Zoning. Mr. Hansen explained, in detail, that the plan of attack to add a planner to assist with planning and zoning comprehensive planning would be an ideal situation to provide a more fluid process. He explained that it would occur in phases and could be spread out over two fiscal years. The process will include updating the zoning map and GIS System with a total cost of roughly \$50,000 with the first phase being the most expensive at around \$20,000 and take three to six months.

Joel Shinkle asked if the prospective person could come to a Planning and Zoning Meeting to be sure that they are a good fit. Judge Morris answered that he thought that was a good idea and per the proposal they attend necessary public meetings. County Attorney Wright asked if the update to the plan has a specific timeframe. Mr. Hansen explained that the recent updates count as revisions so the county is within its required timeframe.

Magistrate Ethan Moore asked to clarify what the \$20,000 mentioned would cover. Mr. Hansen explained that it covers what is outlined in Phase 1 of the proposal. He added that Planning and Zoning has reviewed the proposal and is on board with moving forward.

Joel Shinkle made a motion to approve engaging the Comprehensive Planner for Phase 1, not to exceed \$20,000. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Mr. Hansen noted that he would confirm with them by phone and nail down the timeline and dates to report back.

HARTIG PARK BARN PROJECT

Judge Morris referenced a letter from the Hartig Park working group in reference to the barn at the park that is in a state of disrepair. They consider it to be a safety issue. The letter also noted that they understand that the barn is historic and could be restored but it is their opinion that those funds could be better spent elsewhere.

Magistrate Shinkle asked if there is a timeline necessary to make a decision or could the issue be tabled in order to provide time to consult with Gallatin County Historical Society to see if they have come up with any solutions. Judge Morris answered he thought the suggestion was reasonable.

Joel Shinkle made a motion to table the discussion. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

PARAMEDIC CLASS UPDATE

Judge Morris reported to the court that not only is there a shortage for Paramedics locally but that also extends to the state and nationally. He explained that there could be options with Jefferson Community College as opportunity to possibly further develop the county's workforce. He added that he believed the cost to be around \$10,000 per person.

Joel Shinkle asked about the EMS Director position. Judge Morris answered that Ken McCarty is the current acting director. Mr. Morris added that he has interviewed numerous candidates and hopes to hire both a Paramedic and an EMS Director in the next week.

SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD

Judge Morris reported that he has messaged the state to request they do work to the road and take it over on an emergency basis while Highway 42 is being worked on. He noted that the county can't make needed improvements from its own funds and it is also not monetarily feasible or currently the county's road.

Magistrate Sullivan asked if there are any other options to deal with it. Judge Morris answered that the only option he sees is to leave the road as-is until it is no longer safe to pass if there is no help from the state. Magistrate Shinkle gave his opinion to the court that at this point, if the potholes were patched it would go a long way toward helping with the problem. Judge Morris noted that the road is open and barricades are not up.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS

Shalayne Maxwell came before the court to provide an explanation of what she does in the county as the Domestic Violence Advocate for Gallatin, Owen and Carroll Counties. She explained that their goal is to provide education, awareness and confidential support to those in need of these services. She added that in this position she hopes to bring the education and tools to the county to help alleviate the number of these calls to law enforcement especially in light of the shortages as have been discussed. She gave a further overview of their mission and services and noted that there is a fundraiser coming up in May.

Judge Morris thanked Ms. Maxwell for her presentation and time and added that he thinks this is a great tool for support and to help folks get out of bad situation. County Attorney Wright agreed.

GALLATIN COUNTY CLERK 2021 SETTLEMENT STATEMENT

Gallatin County Clerk Tracy Miles came before the court to present her settlement for 2021. Judge Morris thanked Mrs. Miles for her years of service and noted that with the announcement of her retirement at the end of the year, this will be her last settlement reported to the court. He commended her on the great job that she has done and this was echoed by the Magistrates.

Magistrate M. J Haddix made a motion to approve the clerk's settlement for 2021 and Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

CONTE FLOWERS, FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Conte Flowers of the Family Resource Center came before the court to provide her annual update. She announced that there were 182 children that took part in the summer program which included study and enrichment. She noted that it was a really great summer and benefitted the kids greatly. She also reported that last week the county passed the 1,000 mark for children in the county that have taken part in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, with there being 200 enrolled currently. She further explained that funds were starting to get low and the Kentucky Department of Education is now covering 50% of the bill, with that and the support provided by the Fiscal Court and Library donations it covers a large part of the program now. The court thanked Mrs. Flowers for her report.

SHIRLEY WARNICK - GALLATIN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Shirley Warnick, Director of the Gallatin County Public Library came before the court to present her annual report. She spoke about the Storybook Trail at the Warsaw City Park and asked for the support of another Storybook Trail at the County Park in Glencoe. She explained that the cost to install the approximately 20 signs is around \$500 and she would need the help of county workers to install the signs. She also thanked the court for their continued support of the Library and its programs.

Joel Shinkle made a motion to approve the Storybook Trail at the County Park in Glencoe. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Judge Morris read aloud a proclamation declaring April 1, 2022 as Arbor Day in Gallatin County.

COMMENTS

Brent Caldwell, Gallatin County Code Enforcement Officer came before the court as a reminder of needed items and pieces of the ordinance in place that need to be taken care of so issues in the county can be addressed. He also added that the Code Enforcement Board Members need to be sworn in, ideally before the scheduled meeting of March 30, 2022 and then have the ordinance in place by the next Fiscal Court Meeting in April.

Magistrate Joel Shinkle made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue per KRS 61.810 (f). Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Joel Shinkle moved to come out of closed session. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.

With no further business before the court, M. J Haddix made a motion to adjourn. Ethan Moore seconded his motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug Miles
Gallatin County Fiscal Court Clerk