

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
January 12, 2023
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on January 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office (West Wing), Warsaw, Kentucky. Magistrates present were Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, Joel Shinkle and M. J Haddix. County Attorney Grant Axon was also present. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Minutes from the December 8, 2022 meeting were presented. Motion to approve made by Magistrate Moore and seconded by Magistrate Sullivan. All ayes.

Minutes: Minutes from the January 3, 2023 meeting were presented. Motion to approve made by Magistrate Sullivan and seconded by Magistrate Shinkle. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None to speak.

Approval of Agenda: Magistrate Haddix made a motion to amend the agenda adding, Magistrate comments for discussion of Jericho Road and Willow Pointe bus turnaround issues. Magistrate Shinkle made the motion to amend the agenda and Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval including the blue sheet claims. Magistrate Shinkle moved to pay the bills as presented. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

December 2023 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending December 31, 2022. Magistrate Moore made a motion to approve the report and Magistrate Haddix seconded. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to approve the budget transfers for the month of December. Magistrate Sullivan seconded. All ayes.
3. Interfund Cash Transfers – Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to approve interfund cash transfers. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.
4. Quarterly Report/2nd Qtr. – Magistrate Moore made a motion to approve the quarterly report. Magistrate Haddix seconded. All ayes.

Budget Amendment #7 (Ordinance #011223) – Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the first reading. Magistrate Sullivan seconded. All ayes

Budget Amendment #8 (Ordinance #011223) – Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the first reading. Magistrate Shinkle seconded. All ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

FISCAL COURT MEETING DATES-2023

Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the 2023 fiscal court meeting dates. Magistrate Shinkle seconded. All ayes.

SOLID WASTE- 5 YEAR PLAN & LITTER GRANT

Director Terrell presented the court with the 5-year Solid Waste Plan that is in Frankfort for approval. There were a few more items we needed to add, those have been sent to complete the report.

Litter Grant 2022- Director Terrell stated 12 people/organizations participated in the litter grant project. This resulted in 181.3 of road miles picked up along with 705 bags of trash, 67 tires, 2 car fenders, totes, metal signs, bucket, cooler, bale of straw, trash can, twin bed frame, garden trailer and one desk. Myself and Treasurer Bullard will finalize the numbers for submittal on March 1st. Thank you to the Gallatin Co Road Dept for coming behind the litter crews and picking up the trash and hauling to the county barn. Grant Axon has adopted his own highway and he submits his numbers to District 6. We also were educated by Lisa Evans with the State that the 64 miles of interstate is included in our numbers for Gallatin County. The state began the "Cash for Trash" program and it works great for us.

RECOGNITION OF FIRST RESPONDERS-BLIZZARD-CHRISTMAS STORM

Judge Morris first recognized Director Terrell for his accomplishment with the University of Cincinnati Medic team and doctors for their outstanding work on Bills Player Demar Chase. We are very proud of Brandon and his team. Judge then recognized the First Responders that worked tirelessly during the Christmas holidays. They were in the cold and snow and worked to make sure people traveling through our community were taken care of and made it to their destination. Judge said we had: Citizen Volunteers, EMS, Road Department, Constables, Gallatin Co Sheriff Dept, Gallatin Co Dispatch, Gallatin Co Volunteer Fire Dept., Glencoe Volunteer Fire Dept., Warsaw Police Dept and Members of the Gallatin Co Fiscal Court including Judge/Executive Morris, Magistrate Haddix and Magistrate Sullivan, New Bethel Baptist Church, Boone Co EM, Cozine Towing, Crescent Springs Fire Dept, Hebron Fire Dept, Boone Co Sheriff Dept, Hammy's and Dustin McEntire for opening the Fairgrounds building and manning it throughout the night. Our Dispatch Center received/managed over 1100 calls during this blizzard event. Judge and Director Terrell learned during the debriefing our Emergency management, Sheriff, Judge/Executive and KSP (Post 5) has the authority to reopen the roads per the Governor. These officials will determine when it is safe to re-open the roads in our county. It was suggested that the shutdown should happen at Watterson Expressway because no county can handle this type of emergency.

TOURISM ORDINANCE 06-14-01-01/AMENDMENT

The state tourism had updated the wording to include air B&B's, campgrounds, recreational vehicle parks. Reference Section 114.04 Transient Tax. This is just wording changes; the three percent is still the same. The transient tax goes out to support events in the county such as Peony Festival, Chocolate Craw, Bass Tournament and many other events where the monies collected go back into the community. Maryjane stated since covid the monies have declined. The 1st reading of the amended Tourism Ordinance made by Magistrate Haddix and seconded by Magistrate Shinkle. All ayes.

WATER BOARD APPOINTMENT

A motion made by Magistrate Moore and seconded by Magistrate Shinkle to reappoint Zach McCord to the water board for a 4-year term. Magistrate Haddix abstained citing relation to the appointed party. Motion passed.

2022 SHERIFF SETTLEMENT-OUTGOING SHERIFF

A motion by Magistrate Shinkle to approve the Sheriff Settlement to close out the previous, outgoing Sheriff for calendar year 2022. Seconded by Magistrate Moore. All ayes

COUNTY ATTORNEY LEASE

Judge Morris asked the court for their approval to meet with County Attorney Axon and work out the details on the lease for his office space since the county does not provide office space. A motion to allow Judge Morris to work out the details of the lease was made by Magistrate Sullivan and seconded by Magistrate Moore. Opposed was Magistrate Haddix. Motion passed.

PEONY FESTIVAL DATE 2023

MaryJane Day informed the fiscal court the Peony Festival date will be May, 20, 2023. She stated there may be a change of location to the Warsaw Riverfront if the date is available. There have been discussions and discussions to continue on positive and negative points for moving event to river or keeping on the courthouse square. Judge Morris and Magistrate Moore commented they enjoyed the event on the courthouse square for those passing through that it could bring more tourism visitors to the area. The county closed both streets for safety and vendor setup. MaryJane Day thanked the fiscal court for their comments and she will take those back to the Tourism board.

WEATHER SIRENS

Director Terrell stated the sirens in Glencoe and Sparta did not sound when set for the tornado watch/warning. They are hard wired and need to work for the safety of the citizens. Terrell asked if the county could help Glencoe fix their sirens and take them over to maintain and the same for the City of Sparta.

MAGISTRATE COMMENTS

Magistrate Haddix stated he has several items for discussion beginning with:

Tranquilizer Gun/Medicine for the Animal Control Officer. The issue with the interstate being shut down for approximately 2 hours because of a motor vehicle accident involving cattle and we needed a tranquilizer gun to assist first responders and owner to load cattle and keep the interstate safe. Animal Control has these items on order so that we are prepared in case of another incident involving farm animals.

Jericho Road-Bus Turnaround

M.J. said this issue came up at the school board meeting and he said kids are walking from the back of Jericho road to US 42. MJ has driven to the back and stated there is plenty of space for a bus to turn around safely. There may be some ditching we need to complete near the Beers residence but area is good for bus turnaround. The upper side of the road has underground telephone wires and we would need to call 811 Dig to have those located before we begin ditching.

Willow Point – Back Portion-Bus Turnaround

The back half of Willow Pointe was taken into the county road system at the latter part of December 2018. The school bus should be going all the way back to pick-up kids as there is sufficient areas for turn around.

Code Enforcement

MJ asked if we are still working code enforcement. Brandon Roberts is code enforcement and he is working with Jennifer Brown on issues that are brought, called in to the Judge's office as well as working with Planning/Zoning Director Jim Hansen. MJ stated there are issues with Billy Sullivan's wrecker service and asked could it be a nuisance issue with where the slag was placed and is covering the white line of the road. There are vehicles parked between the fence and Hwy 127. Jim will take a look at this tomorrow. Billy has not declared what his intentions are and he needs to apply for a zone change. It was also mentioned that he is tearing up the city sidewalk.

MJ stated we were making progress with code enforcement and property cleanups and we want to continue and stay current, we don't want this to fall behind. Judge commented that property complaints from Magistrates need to be sent to Jennifer Brown and she will forward to Brandon Roberts.

Employee Directory

MJ asked if we could have an Employee Directory with photos of employees and this be placed on the website. Director Terrell mentioned when he worked at the airport it required the employee's permission to place their picture on the website.

Glencoe Bank Building

What are the plans? It is just setting there. I was going to ask that we place it on the agenda next month and declare it surplus for sell but after learning the Gallatin County Library is interested in converting its use as a satellite office, I have reconsidered my opinion. After attending the Chamber meeting and hearing from the Library Director, they have funding available and very interested in getting something started. MJ asked for this to be an Agenda item for February.

Duke-Fairgrounds

MJ asked about the status of the easement? Judge commented that he will be meeting with the County Attorney on the easement and it will be ready for the February meeting.

Budgets

MJ would like for each department head to provide what they think they will need within the next two years. He did receive this information from EMS (Bud Webster) and Dispatch (Paula Giles) for the previous year. He would like to have this information when budget talks begin in April.

Weekly Brief

MJ would like for the Judge to send out a weekly brief of things happening in the county. He would like to know before he is asked within the community regarding open records request etc. The Judge stated he will look to see what he can put together and send out as any correspondence sent out is subject to open records. Judge will confer with the County Attorney.

Tow Companies-Wrecker List

Where are we with getting the two companies on the Sheriff/County tow list? One for sure is in the city limits of Glencoe and would provide revenue for the City of Glencoe. We have an ordinance in place. If they fit all areas of zoning Jim refers them to the Judge to see if they meet requirements to be placed on the tow list. Another wrecker service has purchased property at Hwy 16/127. Does the Sheriff and Chief of Police need to inspect before they are approved? The Wrecker Tow List/Ordinance is still in review.

Most important is the wrecker companies need to assist law enforcement and first responders. The ordinance needs to be reviewed and revised to see if any amendments need to be made, additions with time frame/delays. MJ asked Sheriff Webster if he has seen the new wrecker company. Sheriff Webster stated from his perspective he hasn't seen any new wreckers in the county for more than five hours. Speaking as the Glencoe Fire Chief and speaking for our volunteers; we can't wait a 1 ½ hours for a wrecker as it places our people at risk. There have been times with KSP and their list of wreckers coming from 40 miles away. Our volunteers can't sit and wait this long for a tow truck. New companies need to show some skin in the game. One has a building (either own or lease), they could be storing their vehicles inside so you would not see them sitting out. All of these issues need to be discussed with the County Attorney.

CLOSED SESSION

Per KRS 61.810 (1) (b) Property Acquisition. A motion to go into closed session made by Magistrate Shinkle and seconded by Magistrate Sullivan. All ayes.

EXIT CLOSED SESSION

A motion by Magistrate Sullivan and seconded by Magistrate Shinkle to exit closed session. All ayes.

ADJOURN

Magistrate Moore made a motion to adjourn. Magistrate Haddix seconded. All ayes

Christina McEntire
Gallatin County Clerk

JANUARY 2023

- 2023 Fiscal Court Meeting Dates
- 5 Year Solid Waste Plan
- Recognition of First Responders-Blizzard
- Tourism Ordinance-Amendment 1st Reading
- Water Board Reappoint- Zach McCord
- 2022 Sheriff Settlement- Outgoing Sheriff
- County Attorney Lease
- Peony Festival Date-2023
- Storm Sirens