

**GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
OCTOBER 12, 2023
Regular Meeting**

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

Minutes: Minutes from the September 14, 2023 and September 20, 2023 meetings were presented. Motion to approve made by Magistrate Haddix and seconded by Magistrate Sullivan. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None

Approval of Agenda: Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to approve the agenda with one correction, remove Hance Road from the Agenda. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval including the blue sheet claims. Magistrate Moore moved to pay the bills as presented. Magistrate Sullivan seconded the motion. Magistrate Haddix abstained. Motion passed 3-0.

September 2023 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending September 30, 2023. Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the report and Magistrate Moore seconded. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Magistrate Moore made a motion to approve the budget transfers for the month of September. Magistrate Haddix seconded. All ayes.
3. Interfund Cash Transfers – Magistrate Moore made a motion to approve interfund cash transfers. Magistrate Haddix seconded. All ayes.
4. Quarterly Report – Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the 1st Quarter Financial Report. Magistrate Sullivan seconded. All ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

GRIDLEY HILL ROAD CLOSURE

The Judge referenced the KRS statute for the process of closing a road. A two-member committee was formed to discuss, tour in person to provide a recommendation to the fiscal court for closure. The committee offered four options (see attached). Judge read all four options. Committee first recommended option #4 but the County Attorney offered legal advice regarding the county would be held liable for gross negligence if the county keeps it open and provides no maintenance. Attorney Axon suggested discontinuing maintenance at 1039 Gridley Hill Road to U.S. 42 West. The question was asked if the County relinquishes the road, does it revert to the original landowner. If the County wants the road back there is a process to do so. Landowners, Marsha Wilson and Suzanne Hall shared their concerns about maintenance, people turning around in their private drive, Rumpke pickup. Marsha Wilson plans to open a Bed and Breakfast and potentially living at the residence. Judge stated if we do not maintain the road, it will revert to the property owner. We need to first check the deed for specifics as to where will it be closed and that will be determined tonight. The turnaround issue; Magistrate Haddix asked is there a requirement of a cul-de-sac to be built if we close a road. Attorney Axon said per a quick search; there is no state requirement to build a cul-de-sac. Suzanne owns the house at 1039 and once you pass her drive there is not good turnaround. She asked if we can place

signage that says dead end or residents only. Judge said we have money for signage. Some people heed signs and some pay no attention to signage. After much discussion, the committee recommended Option 3 with Committee Member Steve Zimmer stating the road is bad with sharp turns and is extremely dangerous to reopen. Judge also pointed out that we cannot maintain anyone's private drive. The County can fix the road or provide some maintenance prior to the close. If the county were to maintain/pave it could cost the county for 7/10 up to \$100,00.00 and this would have to be justified for limited traffic and limited residents. Magistrate Moore stated we should look at installing a turn a round, Magistrate Sullivan disagreed stating we have several county roads with no turn around. Judge stated Gridley Road is not up to county standards. Magistrate Haddix first mentioned tabling the matter till Attorney Axon can look at all options for county and land owners; Attorney Axon's concern is 30-day delay and a guardrail in place; if someone drives this road and hits the guardrail it could bring liability to the county. Attorney Axon will confirm the "revert back to the land owner." After much discussion; the court voted with a motion from Magistrate Haddix to close Gridley Hill Road at property 439 to US 42 West with option to revisit and discuss later and if the court decides to close at 1039 address this can be decided in the next 30-60 days. Magistrate Sullivan seconded motion. All ayes.

COUNTY ROADS UPDATE-PAVING

Hinkle will begin paving in the next couple of weeks with Furnish and Winn. Riegler will start next week. The county has started shouldering Roberts Rd and the county is using slag for shouldering.

CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Ryan King was here to provide an update to the court; but had an animal control complaint and had to leave. Judge informed the court we now have a full code enforcement board. The City of Sparta appointed Nick Dunavent to represent Sparta.

SENIOR CENTER FALL FESTIVAL

Judge Morris mentioned the fall festival at the Senior Center. Director Haddix has worked very hard and encouraged everyone to stop by. The festival runs from 4-6 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

SPEEDWAY BLVD

A motion by Magistrate Haddix and seconded by Magistrate Sullivan to return Speedway Boulevard back to the original use. This will be open as public passage; public will have access to use the road. This motion will remove the road from the NKADD road list.

CCMH FLU SHOTS

Judge Morris wanted to let everyone know that flu shots will be offered on October 19, 2023 at the Gallatin Co Senior Center.

MAGISTRATE COMMENTS

- Magistrate Haddix asked if the Wrecker list will be on the agenda next month; Axon stated he has a good, solid contract for the fiscal court to review.
- Magistrate Sullivan mentioned several entrance/exit ramps have no lighting as well as our ramps are not inviting. They need landscaped and cleaned up. Magistrate Sullivan asked if Tourism could provide dollars to landscape the ramps. Attorney Axon added it would be good if some judgements with court could be used for cleanup instead of fines. Judge Morris added in talking with Travis Noel with the State Highway Dept the lighting issue could be a contractor problem.

CLOSED SESSION

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

EXIT CLOSED SESSION

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

ADJOURN

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

Christina McEntire
Gallatin County Clerk

OCTOBER 2023

- Gridley Hill
- County Road paving update
- Code Enforcement update
- Senior Center Fall Festival
- **Speedway Boulevard**
- CCMH offering Flu Shots