

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Regular Meeting
May 8, 2025
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on May 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office (West Wing) Warsaw, Kentucky. County Attorney Grant Axon was present. Magistrates present were M. J Haddix, Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, and Joel Shinkle. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Minutes from April 10, 2025 regular meeting were presented. Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the minutes. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Approval of Agenda: Judge Morris asked to add American Public Works Association to the agenda. Magistrate Moore made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Magistrate Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None

Monthly Bills: Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to pay the bills. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. Magistrate M. J Haddix opposed. Motion passes 4-1.

April 2025 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending April, 2025. Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve the report and Magistrate Shinkle seconded. Motion passed. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to approve the budget transfers for the month of March. Magistrate Moore seconded. Motion passed. All ayes.
3. Interfund Cash Transfers – Magistrate Haddix made a motion to approve March Interfund Cash Transfers. Magistrate Moore seconded. Motion passed. All ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

Slide Proposal for County Park

Judge Morris asked if anyone had received any quotes. Magistrate Haddix if there regulations against aluminum slides? Upon further discussion aluminum slides are not an option. Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to table to the next meeting. Magistrate Sullivan seconded the motion. All Ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

American Public Works Association Proclamation

Tyler Hill President of the state for American Public Works Association introduced himself and thanked the court for allowing him to come back and speak. Along with Tyler he had Rick Buster the President of NKY and Trey Hatmaker who is part of Tyler's team who is a Gallatin County resident. Tyler spoke to

members of the audience and the court about what American Public Works Association is that it is the parks, the people, the road, water and electric. It is the infrastructure of the community. Judge Morris read the proclamation declaring the week of May 18th -24th 2025 National Public Works Association Week.

Motorcycle Awareness Proclamation-KMA KBA District 11

Members of District 11 were present at the meeting. President Paul Marksberry spoke to the court and thanked them for recognizing the safety and awareness for motorcycle safety. District 11 is the Warsaw hub. May is motorcycle awareness month nationwide. Judge Morris read the proclamation recognizing May as motorcycle safety month in Gallatin County.

Gallatin County Conservation District Budget 2025/2026

Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to approve the Gallatin County Conservation District Budget for year 2025/2026. Magistrate Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.

Gallatin County Fair Board

Gallatin County Fair Board President Kentucky Davis advised the new lights would be up in the parking lot tonight and the lights will be permanent. The fair board received a \$45,000.00 grant from the RC Durr Foundation to purchase grand stand bleachers. A group of volunteers will be coming from Dow Corning will be coming on May 15th to assemble the bleachers. They have completed work at the fair grounds before. Another set of bleachers have been ordered that are ADA compliant. Domaschko will be donating black top to put around the horse arena. The Sullivan Pull is this Friday, May 9th and Saturday, May 10th. Fill dirt is being brought in from the construction area on 127 to the back area of the fair grounds. This will make the area flat room for parking. Hoping to have that project complete by the end of the year. Fair week is June 7th – 14th. The free chicken dinner and gospel concert will be on June 8th. This year the Family Resource Center (FRC) will be choosing 12 families to receiving free entry in to the fair and a free meal from the concession stand. There has been 6,000 mailers sent out going to 6 residential zip codes with fair dates and information. Magistrate Sullivan thanked the fair board for all they do. He also stated the fill dirt in the back will be a huge improvement to the grounds.

Gallatin County Parks and Recreation

Judge Morris advised the court Aaron Hickey was unable to attend the meeting. They did receive a \$250,000.00 grant from the RC Durr Foundation to go towards parking. Magistrate Haddix asked about a contract with the city? Judge Morris said there is one drafted/sample but not signed. Magistrate Haddix asked about the status of the concession building. Ryan said waiting on electric. He said he has talked to two local electricians and meeting with builder on Saturday morning. Magistrate Shinkle asked if the plans are still the same as he had presented in the past. Magistrate Haddix asked if Dwayne was still over the concession stand trailer and it has not been used yet this year and Judge Morris advised yes he is. Magistrate Shinkle said that would be a good way to generate funds. Judge Morris said volunteers are needed. Magistrate Shinkle said do we want to fund a concession stand if it is not going to be used. Magistrate Sullivan can we do something to make parents have to volunteer to work the concession stand? Magistrate Haddix last year during budget talks I asked for a list. Do we have a list of how many kids are playing and how many have paid? Do they not seek sponsors anymore? Ryan replied with no and no they haven't for years. Magistrate Haddix asked if we are still paying with cash? County Treasurer said pay is a check.

Sheriff's Statement of Settlement-

Sheriff's settlement was presented to the court. Sheriff Webster addressed the court that over \$10 million dollars was collected in property taxes. He advised that Florence has been in the office for more than 20

years said this was the most money collected on property taxes she has seen and the least amount of bills that have been turned over to the County Clerk. Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to approve the Sheriff's settlement. Magistrate Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.

KYTC- Ken McCarty- Flex Fund

Ken McCarty from KYTC District 6 came to the court to give an update on road projects and flex fund. Last year the court turned the flex funds back over to the state to for work on Walnut Valley. Ken told the court there is more work to be done on Walnut Valley. There is a 6 mile stretch. A lot projects are going to happen in Gallatin County. The available Flex Funds for Gallatin County is \$97,624.00. Judge Morris said we need a motion to accept the plan for work on Walnut Valley. Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to accept the plan for work. Magistrate Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes. Magistrate Haddix made a motion to retain the Flex Funds of \$97,624.00. Magistrate Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

Ken proceeded to tell the court of the big project on the 6 lane on I-71 that is a \$41 million dollar project. The landslide project on 127 is a \$1 million dollar project. A project from Kemper to Hwy 1039 is planned to start June 2025 and a completion date of November 2025. Magistrate Sullivan asked if there has been any progress on the speed limit signs on the west end of town in his district. Ken said he takes it back to the state and it does not make any progress.

Dispatch Roofing

Judge Morris advised the court they received 2 bids for a new roof at dispatch and brick work. They came from Houston Brothers Inc. and Armor Services. Houston Brothers Inc. bid of \$54,400.00 was only for the brick repair and sealing and another contractor would have to come in and do the roof. Armor Services had a bid for the roof of \$5100.00, brick repair \$1200.00, seal \$3600.00 and \$3210.00 soffit. Judge Morris said there is not enough money in the building repair line to cover the expense of everything this budget cycle. He would at least like to do the roof this cycle and the other repairs in the next cycle. Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to do go with Armor Services for a new roof for \$5100.00. Magistrate Shinkle seconded the motion. Magistrate Haddix abstained. Motion passes 4-1. Judge Morris advised there are ads in the paper now that we are accepting bids for the senior center roof.

Airport-Land Lease- Hangar Rental – Architectural-

Wayne Rassman from the Airport Board presented to the court he has met with the Aviation Consultant about having the specs drawn out with the building, the carpet, the interior and exterior. County Attorney Grant Axon and Planning & Zoning Jim Hansen have been involved with this as well. You can start getting applications for anyone wanting to build a hangar. There are three major projects going on right now. There will be some federal money and some state money. The Airport Board meets twice a month. The consultant Randall Wiedman consulting work will be between \$7,500.00 to \$8,000.00. This will be legislative money and not tax payer money. Judge Morris advised there is approximately \$200,000.00 in the legislative money. There will be a do not exceed put on place for Randall. Airport Board is asking for approval to hire Randall for consulting. Wayne advised there are already people wanting to build hangars. All hangars will be the same size and color. Magistrate M. J Haddix made a motion to hire Randall to get this done. Magistrate Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

County Attorney Grant Axon advised Wayne there needs to be signage out there to keep out and from trespassing as it makes it hard for him to prosecute anyone if there are no signs and gates are open. Sheriff Webster also agreed there needs to be signs as his deputies have been called out there to run off semis parked there and others.

Budget 2025-2026 1st Reading

Magistrate Shinkle asked if a special meeting could be held between the 1st and 2nd reading. Magistrate Moore said last year we had a Budget Caucus meeting. Judge Morris said this budget presented has no raises for elected officials or employees. Judge Morris advised they are currently negotiating health insurance and are still waiting on a quote from KACO. Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to approve the 1st reading of the budget. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. Fiscal Court Clerk Christina McEntire took a roll call vote. Magistrate Sullivan-Yes, Magistrate Shinkle- Yes, Judge Morris- Yes, Magistrate Moore-Yes and Magistrate Haddix-No. Motion passes 4-1. Magistrate Sullivan made a motion to accept reoccurring expenses. Magistrate Shinkle seconded the motion. Christina took a roll call vote. Magistrate Sullivan-Yes, Magistrate Shinkle-Yes, Judge Morris- Yes, Magistrate Moore-Yes and Magistrate Haddix-Yes. Motion passes 5-0.

Budget Caucus meeting scheduled for May 13, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. The next regular meeting will be Monday, June 16, 2025.

Off Road UTV Ordinance-

Judge Morris read SB-63 and advised Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has until June 27th to make any changes. Sheriff Webster advised they are going to bring in more revenue along with violations. There will need to be stiffer penalties as there is going to be property destroyed and noise complaints. Grant agreed there will have to be stiffer penalties put in to place. Just Morris advised this can be put in to place at anytime. You can increase the stipulations at anytime. The state usually sets the standards and on this one they are allowing us to make changes. The court can wait until the final version on June 27th and then maybe add a few things and then decide. These vehicles would not be allowed on federally funded roads, interstate and possibly Hwy 1039. Grants advice is to wait and see what the final draft is. Magistrate Shinkle asked if we could table this to the July meeting or keep it as a standing order to keep it on the agenda until it is decided on. Magistrate Haddix can we have a 1st reading and then amend it? Grant if it is amended it will still have to have two readings. The sample from KACO is broad and whatever the Transportation Cabinet says it is going to be approved. Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to table to a later date. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. Magistrate Haddix opposed. Motion passes 4-1.

ABC License Amendment

Judge Morris recommended update the current ordinance it has been a long time since it has been updates. There are a lot of new places serving single drinks. It has not been revised since 2005. This would be under the business license portion. Ryan would like to clean up the language for the business license and hopes to have a sample at the next meeting

Magistrate Comments

Magistrate Haddix the property on Spencer Road. Ryan advised documents have been filed at the Clerks Office and a plat needs to be done. The county should not be out this expense and it should be on the property owner. It has also been sent to code enforcement for action. Magistrate Moore what will happen now? Judge Morris said citations can now be filed on the current owner. Grant advised the county would have the option to foreclose. Tax liens will always be taken care of first and how much is this property even going to bring. Code Enforcement issues fine and county will file a lien. Magistrate Shinkle said have we never filed a lien? Jim Hansen advised there the fire report showed no floor in the structure. This is the first property that was taken on by code enforcement. Judge Morris said if the county cleans up this property the cost is going to cost around \$10,000.00 and where are we going to pull that money from. Judge Morris advised the property now has multiple owners (8). Grant advised he will do a title search. Magistrate Haddix said Brent Caldwell text him and said he placed a code enforcement lien on the property when he was code enforcement. Mowing liens have never been paid. Chelsea Chorley a resident of Spencer Road advised the 3 dogs are still tied up outside and the shelter is full. Magistrate

Haddix asked Sheriff Webster if he has been there lately. Sheriff Webster advised no but 3 heirs are in jail. Magistrate Haddix asked Grant if he could get the fees ready by the next meeting on the 13th? Grant said he can get an estimate pretty close but until action is taken he will not know what the final bill is.

Magistrate Haddix the meeting about the dog that I was not at where are we at on that new ordinance? Judge Morris said him and Magistrate Moore have been working on the wording and now that Grant is back we should be getting it done. That situation will not happen again. Policy and procedure will be followed. The officer will be able to put the dog down if out of the cage and they feel in danger. Once the dog is in the cage and officer is out of danger the dog cannot be put down.

Closed Session KRS 61.810(1)(b)

Magistrate Shinkle made a motion to enter closed session. Magistrate Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.

EXIT CLOSED SESSION

Motion to exit closed session made by Magistrate Haddix and seconded by Magistrate Shinkle. Motion Passes.

Property Purchase

Property Purchase of Scott's Garage at 803 East Main Street Warsaw, KY 41095. Purchase price of \$550,000.00. Magistrate Haddix made a motion to purchase Scott's Garage for the price of \$550,000.00. Magistrate Moore seconded the motion. Fiscal Court Clerk Christina McEntire took a roll call vote Magistrate Sullivan-Yes, Magistrate Shinkle-Yes, Judge Morris-Yes, Magistrate Moore-Yes, and Magistrate Haddix-Yes. Motion passes 5-0.

ADJOURN

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

May 2025

- **American Public Works Association**
- **Motorcycle Awareness Proclamation-KMA KMB District 11**
- **Gallatin County Conservation District Budget 2025/2026**
- **Gallatin County Fair Board**
- **Gallatin County Parks and Recreation**
- **Sheriff's Statement of Settlement**
- **KYTC-District 6- Ken McCarty**
- **Dispatch Roofing**
- **Airport**
- **Budget 2025/2026**
- **Off Road UTV Ordinance**
- **ABC License Amendment**
- **Closed Session**
- **Property Purchase**