

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY
FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

September 16, 2026

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a regular meeting on September 16, 2026, at 5:30 PM Eastern Time (4:30 PM Central Time), at the Campbell County Administration Building, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky. The meeting was recorded and broadcast by Campbell Media.

Present:

County Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery
County Commissioner, Brian Painter
County Commissioner, Tom Lampe
County Commissioner, Geoff Besecker

County Attorney, Steve Franzen
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld
Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell
Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

Regular Meeting

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Following the roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Minutes

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting held on September 2, 2026.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brian Painter, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Recognition of Citizens & Public Officials

Campbell County resident, Joe Heil, addressed the Fiscal Court regarding the 1987 abduction and murder of Deborah Pooley and the commutation of Gregory Wilson's sentence by Governor Matt Bevin. Mr. Heil discussed the proposed constitutional amendment that would prohibit the Governor from commuting sentences, granting reprieves, or granting pardons during the period beginning 60 days prior to the gubernatorial election and ending on the fifth Tuesday succeeding the election. He stated that he and Senator Chris McDaniel had worked on the amendment and encouraged Campbell County voters to research the amendment before voting.

During discussion, members of the Fiscal Court asked Mr. Heil to clarify the 60-day period and whether the restriction applied to the end of a governor's term or the gubernatorial election. Mr. Heil clarified that the restriction would begin 60 days prior to the gubernatorial election and discussed the purpose of the provision in relation to early voting.

Old Business

Ordinance O-11-26: Second Reading

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Ordinance O-11-26, "An Ordinance amending the text of the Official Zoning Ordinance for unincorporated Campbell County, KY related to Qualified Manufactured Homes."

Mr. Elberfeld explained that recent changes to KRS 100.348 restrict local zoning regulations from treating qualified manufactured homes differently from single-family homes, subject to the statutory requirements.

Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter was present to answer questions.

Motion was made to adopt Ordinance O-11-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe.

Commissioner Brian Painter commented that he would have preferred additional local input from the legislature regarding changes that affect local zoning regulations and noted that the legislation limits the County's local control over planning and zoning. In response, Ms. Minter explained that the legislation largely took control of this issue from local governments in response to the need for affordable housing.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

New Business

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

Ordinance O-12-26: First Reading

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Ordinance O-12-26, "An Ordinance updating the Official Zoning Map for unincorporated Campbell County to rezone 944 Clay Ridge Road, unincorporated Campbell County, referred to as PIDN 999-99-35-856.00 spanning approximately 6.27

acres and associated rights-of-way to the centerlines of the adjacent roads, from Agricultural One (A-1) Zone to Residential Three (R-3) Zone.”

Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter was present to answer questions.

The second reading and consideration of adoption will occur at a subsequent meeting.

Ordinance O-13-26: First Reading

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Ordinance O-13-26, “An Ordinance amending Chapter 155 of the Code of Ordinances for Property Maintenance Code.”

Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter was present to answer questions.

The second reading and consideration of adoption will occur at a subsequent meeting.

Resolution R-52-26

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-52-26, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to enter into an agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Department of Local Government, for the AJ Jolly Park Main Campground Play Area Replacement Project.”

Mr. Elberfeld explained that the County has been awarded \$77,890.10 in Land Water Conservation funding to reimburse up to fifty percent of eligible costs to install new playground equipment, poured-in-place safety surfacing, landscaping, and site amenities at AJ Jolly Park.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-52-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Personnel

Executive Order

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint Steven Gessner to the full-time Animal Control Officer position at Campbell County Animal Services effective September 17, 2026.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

County Administrator Report

Executive Session

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to meet in Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (f), discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee's, member's, or student's right to a public hearing if requested.

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Motion was made to come out of Executive Session by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Commissioners’ Reports

Commissioner Geoff Besecker reminded residents of the September 23 Senior Citizens’ Picnic, and recognized Police Records Specialist, Nikki Owen, for being named the 2026 Kentucky Technician of the Year, and Police Captain, Christopher Lauer, for his leadership and appointment as Assistant Commander of Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT).

Commissioner Tom Lampe thanked the Alexandria Fair and Horse Show Board, volunteers, vendors, and attendees for making the Labor Day weekend event a success. He also thanked Commissioner Besecker for allowing him to sponsor the chicken rodeo and greased pig contest.

Commissioner Brian Painter thanked Commissioner Tom Lampe for sponsoring the chicken rodeo and volunteering with the Alexandria Fair and Horse Show Board.

Judge/Executive’s Report

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery gave the following two announcements.

Sun Valley Bluegrass Music Festival

The Sun Valley Bluegrass Music Festival returns to AJ Jolly Park’s Stapleton Pavilion on Saturday, September 19, from 4:00 PM to 10:30 PM. The festival will feature a variety of Bluegrass musicians, along with food and drink vendors, crafters, and a kids’ area. Admission is \$5, with children 12 and under free. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and shade canopy. Outside coolers, food, and drinks are not permitted.

The 2026 Fall Cleanup

The 2026 Fall Cleanup is scheduled for Friday, October 9, and Saturday, October 10, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the following locations: Frederick’s Landing, Wilder; Pendery Park, Melbourne; Campbell County Road Department, Alexandria.

Finance Director/Treasurer’s Report

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented the Finance Director/Treasurer’s Report.

Resolution R-53-26

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-53-26, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to execute a memorandum of agreement with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District for Operations at the Campbell County Senior Center for Fiscal Year 2027.”

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-53-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Motion

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented a motion to issue a change order for Mago Construction for spring paving of Clay Ridge Road, East Alexandria Pike, East Low Gap Road, and Skyline Road.

Ms. Lewis explained that the field adjustments of 178 additional tons were required at a cost of \$9,211.49.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brian Painter, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented a motion to approve Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order dated:

- September 9, 2026
- September 16, 2026

County Attorney, Steve Franzen commented that the claims had been reviewed, and everything appeared appropriate.

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

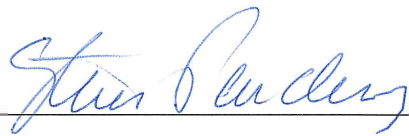
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Attachments

- O-11-26: Amend the text of the Official Zoning Ordinance related to Qualified Manufactured Homes
- R-52-26: Enter into an agreement with Department of Local Government for AJ Jolly Park Main Campground Play Area Replacement Project
- R-53-26: Enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District for Fiscal Year 2027 operations at the Campbell County Senior Center
- Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order:
 - September 9, 2026
 - September 16, 2026

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Steve Pendery", written over a horizontal line.

STEVE PENDERY

Judge/Executive

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Janie Patterson", written over a horizontal line.

JANIE PATTERSON

Fiscal Court Clerk

Date Approved: October 7, 2026