

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

JANUARY 3, 2018

A regular meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court was held on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m. at the Campbell County Courthouse located at 8352 East Main Street, Alexandria, Kentucky.

COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE
STEVE PENDERY

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CHARLIE COLEMAN
TOM LAMPE
BRIAN PAINTER

Steve Franzen	County Attorney
Matt Elberfeld	County Administrator
Kim Serra	Assistant County Administrator
Marie Schenkel	Finance Director
Paula Spicer	Fiscal Court Clerk
Frank Spataro	Human Resources Director
Colonel Craig Sorrell	Campbell County Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Judge Pendery. Cable Access was present to film the meeting.

Judge Pendery asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Minutes from the Fiscal Court regular meeting of December 20, 2017 were presented. Motion was made by Commissioner Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Painter to approve the minutes. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Judge Pendery called on Jim Luersen, Campbell County Clerk to discuss his proposed budget for 2018. Mr. Luersen stated that his office has made budget cuts everywhere that they could. The only increase in the budget is due to the employer pension cost. Judge Pendery stated that the Clerk's budget is historically tight – he has a lean operation, he has the people needed to do the work, his people are reasonably paid but not excessively so. Mr. Luersen stated that he is amazed at the quality of people he has working for what they are paid. He cannot compliment his workers enough. Judge Pendery stated that the work done by the Clerk's is specified by the State or dictated by the kind of work that they do. Mr. Luersen explained that his office handles automobile registrations, real estate records, elections, marriage licenses, and tax sales. With all that goes on they are limited as to the amount of money that the office can bring in based on the

fees that they can charge. At this time, the State is experimenting with a new “point of sale” system for automobiles that has been a failure so far this year. He enjoys the work, is looking forward to running for reelection, and again complimented his employees. Judge Pendery stated that it is just a requirement under the law that the Fiscal Court approve the Clerk’s budget. Mr. Luersen reiterated that the only change from last year is the employer pension contribution; he used the percentages that he was told to use by the State. Judge Pendery explained that the Fiscal Court participates in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS). The State has actuarial calculations done to set the employer contribution; the employee contribution is set by law as well. He stated that the County has always fully funded its pension obligation and yet for a variety of reasons, the pension plan is funded between 60-65% of what it should be. The Governor has vowed to get all of the pension plans back on sound footing. The legislature has talked about pension reform for a few years and it will be dealt with in the coming legislative session. The legislature’s action to reform the system will result in a significantly higher contribution rate for counties and cities and it will be difficult to find the money to cover the increased costs. Mr. Luersen stated that his office will have an increase of over \$80,000 for pension cost in the calendar year under the current formula. Judge Pendery stated that the Fiscal Court’s cost is \$1.2 million. He thanked Mr. Luersen for his presentation.

Campbell County Sheriff Mike Jansen then addressed the Fiscal Court about his 2018 budget. He reiterated comments about increased pension contributions that will cost his office about \$280,000 more than last year. Sheriff’s offices across the State have been able to hire retirees at a good rate to help them do their jobs. He stated that in addition to increased pension costs, his office has had to include in its budget the cost of a new 800Mhz radio system that the three counties have approved. It will cost his office about \$100,000 for portables and mobiles. Also the fringe benefits for his employees are increasing about 15-18%. Other than that, he has a lean budget and a great group of highly skilled employees at all three of his office locations. Judge Pendery stated that many of his comments to Mr. Luersen also apply to the Sheriff. They all have tried to be fiscally conservative over the years and have winnowed things down to the point that there is not much slack. He thanked both the Clerk and the Sheriff for their cooperation. Sheriff Jansen thanked Judge Pendery, the Commissioners and Chief Sorrell for their leadership.

Judge Pendery called on Donna Grey who had signed up to address the Fiscal Court. Ms. Grey, 507 Telescope View, Wilder, Kentucky, introduced herself advising that she has been selected as the Chair of the Jolly Park Community Development Council (CDC) for the next three years. The purpose of the CDC is to find alternate sources of funding for AJ Jolly Park. She stated that the CDC has made great progress since the Park’s 50th anniversary. Ms. Grey would like to come back to a Fiscal Court meeting when she has some positive news to report about the Park. She looks forward to seeing them at the Park events and concerts. Judge Pendery stated that the CDC and its membership have contributed much to the planning processes for the park and if the County had to hire a consultant to do the work, it would have cost tens of thousands of dollars. It has been a great relationship for the Fiscal Court.

There being no old business, Paula Spicer presented new business with Resolution R-01-18 by title and summary. R-01-18 authorizes the Judge/Executive to enter into a lease agreement with Newport Central Catholic High School for non-exclusive leasing of Morscher Sports Complex. Commissioner Lampe made a motion to adopt R-01-18, seconded by Commissioner Painter. Commissioner Lampe thanked Ms. Serra for working with Newport Central Catholic on renewal

of their lease; they have been a good tenant. They have plans to invest private money in the County's asset. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-02-18 was read by title and summary given. R-02-18 approves the County Clerk's budget as submitted for calendar year 2018. Commissioner Painter made a motion to adopt R-02-18, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-03-18 was read by title and summary given. R-03-18 approves the County Sheriff's budget as submitted for calendar year 2018. Judge Pendery made a motion to adopt R-03-18, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Judge Pendery made a motion to accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Officer Thomas Lakes effective February 1, 2018 after 24 years of service. Commissioner Lampe seconded the motion. Judge Pendery stated that Officer Lakes has been a great police officer with an impressive record. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Commissioner Coleman followed up on a question that he asked at the last meeting about a man with an ICE detainer who had been released from the Campbell County Jail after four hours. He thought that Judge Pendery was going to get back to him about it. Judge Pendery stated that he thought that Commissioner Coleman had been advised to talk to Jim Daley the Jailer. Commissioner Coleman stated that he did not contact Mr. Daley as he thought that Judge Pendery said he'd get back to him on it. Judge Pendery stated that there is a lengthy legal brief on this subject and it would be better for Commissioner Coleman to go through it with Mr. Daley. Judge Pendery summarized some of what he had read about ICE detainees. Mr. Franzen stated that typically an ICE detainer allows a person to be held for 48 hours. He stated that according to Mr. Daley the news article was inaccurate and that he would explain it to Commissioner Coleman. Commissioner Coleman stated that it is concerning that the man had several DUI's, was deported and reentered the country illegally. It seems that he should have been held for more than 4 hours, but maybe that was not accurate. Judge Pendery stated that it is best to talk to Mr. Daley; he knows that Mr. Daley's intention is to help ICE. Commissioner Coleman added that it is for the safety of the citizens also.

Judge Pendery announced that the Campbell County Fiscal Court and Mayors meeting will take place on January 23, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Fiscal Court Chambers, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport.

Marie Schenkel requested a motion to authorize staff to advertise for bids to construct a new bathhouse in the RV Campground at A J Jolly Park. The anticipated cost of the project is \$150,000. The Fiscal Court received \$75,000 in grant funds for this project. Both the grant funds and the total project cost are included in the FY 2018 budget. Motion was made by Commissioner Painter, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to acknowledge for the record that the 2018 bonds are in place for the County Judge/Executive and the Sheriff. Motion was made by Commissioner Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to acknowledge for the record that the 2018 bonds are in place for elected and appointed officials and employees of Campbell County. Motion was made by Commissioner Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Ms. Schenkel then requested a motion to approve the claims as presented for January 3, 2018. County Attorney Steve Franzen stated that he has reviewed the claims and determined that they all appear appropriate. Motion was made by Commissioner Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Painter. Commissioner Coleman stated that there was one claim about the park. Mr. Franzen stated that there is no claim for A J Jolly Park, but there is one for Morscher Park, one for District Court, one for the jail, and one for the Fiscal Court building. Commissioner Coleman stated that he thought that Morscher was the same situation as Jolly Park. Mr. Franzen stated that he thought that sanitary sewers ran out past Morscher. Judge Pendery asked if he was talking about the work with the Sanitation District to get the price reduced at Jolly Park. It was clarified that the subject bill was for storm water at Morscher Park. Commissioner Coleman asked if there is a storm water drain at Morscher, or is it like Jolly Park and eventually goes into the river. Ms. Serra stated that there are impervious surfaces and the ditch and eventually storm water goes into the river. Commissioner Coleman stated that that is what he thought. He has had a long-standing disagreement that SD1 is not collecting the storm water and therefore they should not bill the County for it. He asked if rainwater goes into the river why is the County paying SD1. Commissioner Coleman stated that he is good with the rest of the bills. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, Commissioner Lampe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Attachments:

Resolution R-01-18	Lease of Morscher Sports Complex
Resolution R-02-18	Adopt Campbell County Clerk's 2018 Budget
Resolution R-03-18	Adopt Campbell County Sheriff's 2018 Budget
Claims	January 3, 2018

Approved:

STEVE PENDERY
Judge/Executive

Attest:

Paula K. Spicer, Fiscal Court Clerk