

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

June 3, 2009

A regular meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Campbell County Courthouse located at 8352 East Main Street, Alexandria, Kentucky.

In attendance at the meeting were:

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

DAVID OTTO

KENNETH RECHTIN

MARK HAYDEN

Robert Horine
Melissa Williams
Jim Seibert
James A. Daley
Paula Spicer
John Austin
Peter Klear
Chief Keith Hill
Laura Long

County Administrator
Director of Administration
Director of Fiscal Affairs
County Attorney
Fiscal Court Clerk
Government Relations Manager
Director of Planning and Zoning
Campbell County Police Department
Campbell County Economic Progress Authority

A motion was made by Commissioner Rechtin, seconded by Commissioner Hayden to appoint Commissioner Otto to chair the meeting in Judge Pendery's absence. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

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

Commissioner Otto asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Minutes from the special Fiscal Court Meeting held on May 21, 2009 and the Mayors Meeting held on April 28, 2009 were presented. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Rechtin, to approve the minutes. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Otto asked if anyone wished to address the Fiscal Court. There was no one, so he proceeded with the agenda.

Roger Peterman, Chairman of the Riverfront Commons Committee, opened the presentation on the proposed Riverfront Commons project, a hike and bike trail along the Ohio River from

Ft. Thomas to Ludlow. The project would eventually be expanded along the Licking River to the I-275 Bridge. Laura Long, Campbell County Economic Progress Authority Director, began a PowerPoint presentation on new business models for economic development and how Campbell County can learn from these to create a stronger tax base. The models are based on what is working in cities across America. The measure of a community's wealth is through its conservation and green infrastructure and ability to attract businesses and residents by guaranteeing quality of life and economic health. The Millennium Park in Chicago and Central Park in New York are perfect examples of public space that has been retained to grow the real estate value in adjacent areas. Ms. Long defined Green Infrastructure as a long term strategy of managed networks, it is the framework needed for social, environmental and economic sustainability. In the new economy, environmental quality is a prerequisite for attracting and retaining talented workers. Ms. Long cited Denver, Minneapolis, Boston and St. Louis as having successful green infrastructure projects.

A video produced by Southbank Partners introducing the Riverfront Commons project was shown. Roger Peterman reviewed the history of Southbank Partners and its funding sources. He advised that the Riverfront Commons is a Corps of Engineers designated project, and that Congressman Davis has secured funding for the feasibility study phase of the project. Southbank Partners wants to take advantage of any federal funds available, but doesn't really have the time or connections in DC to pursue these opportunities. Therefore they are coming to Kenton and Campbell Counties requesting assistance to pay for consultants to help with funding and engineering/design work. Southbank has raised about \$225,000 so far from Cities, other agencies and individuals for Riverfront Commons.

Commissioner Otto wants to ensure that any federal funds received are not going to be taken away from the Brent Spence Bridge project. Commissioner Hayden stated that he has been following this project for some time, and he is a big supporter. He stated that this will be an economic driver for the communities and will attract young people. The challenges are how to pay for the project (we can not rely on state or federal assistance without a lot of local support), and how to connect Campbell and Kenton Counties across the Licking River. Commissioner Rehtin asked if there was a back up plan if federal funding is not available. Mr. Peterman responded that there are opportunities for local support for a park district or that type of financial support on the local level. The state does not have funding for this type of project now. The project will be adjusted as it progresses; it is broken down into \$2-\$3 million segments. Commissioner Rehtin stated that once the project is completed, how will it be maintained and how will that maintenance be funded. Mr. Peterman stated that this is a multijurisdictional project which is advantageous on the state and federal level as they like to see communities work together. He stated that there is some revenue-generating capability, or other options are that cities will maintain the areas that are within their jurisdiction as they'd care for their other parks, or creation of a joint maintenance entity. Commissioner Hayden stated that this project should have been done 30 years ago; he hopes that we don't have to wait another 20-30 years. It will have a beneficial impact on the community, and is an opportunity to bring private, local, state and federal funds together on a vital project. Commissioner Otto pointed out that when projects like this are completed there is additional revenue from new business and new residents which may contribute to maintenance and other costs. Ms. Long stated that the money invested in public infrastructure improvements on the riverfront have provided a safety net for Newport.

Developers and businesses come and go, but the public infrastructure is still there. It is the safety net, the network that creates the building blocks, that creates the wealth and sustainability. Commissioner Rechtin asked if this is the best project for Northern Kentucky to generate new economic development and new jobs. Roger Peterman stated that the Brent Spence Bridge is the most important project in Northern Kentucky, beyond that he doesn't know if the Consensus Committee has named its priorities. He is convinced that this type of project can transform the area by attracting business to the area; people will want to live and work here. Commissioner Rechtin asked if the consensus committee has ranked their projects. He stated that the county only has so much political capital and time capital to give to a project, so they have to be selective. Commissioner Otto stated that they need to forget political boundaries, and boundaries between cities and look at the community as a whole. He stated that he supports this project 100%. He has talked to Representatives Keene and Simpson, and they both support the project. He reiterated that he does not want any money to be taken away from the Brent Spence Bridge project for any reason. Commissioner Otto stated that there are two signature projects on the drawing board in Campbell County: the Corporex project in Newport and Manhattan Harbour in Dayton. This project would be a great link for the two areas. Commissioner Rechtin stated that his cynicism is based on past experience with claims of economic development growth due to various projects that have come and gone. He stated that all local communities need to be behind this project because if it cannot be funded, is it important enough that the three counties will come together and tax themselves to pay for it. Is the community prepared to pay for it? If the project benefits property owners along the riverfront, maybe tax incremental financing or a taxing district along the riverfront is what's needed. Commissioner Otto thanked Ms. Long and Mr. Peterman for their presentation.

Melissa Williams presented Ordinance O-06-09 for a first reading by title and summary given. O-06-09 updates the Official Zoning Map for unincorporated Campbell County to rezone an approximate 1.87 acre area located on the southwest side of US 27, 0.75 miles south of the intersection with Creektrace Road, as described in the attached map, from R-RE(P) (Residential Rural Estate-Phased) to HC (Highway Commercial) Zone. Peter Klear, Planning and Zoning Director, was in attendance to answer any questions. The zone change request has been approved by the Campbell County and Municipal Planning and Zoning Commission.

A motion was requested to accept the resignation of Police Officer John P. Tucker effective May 21, 2009. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Rechtin. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to appoint Thomas B. Martin, Jr. to the position of Seasonal Park Maintenance Worker at A. J. Jolly Park effective June 5, 2009 through the 2009 Park Season with compensation set at \$9.91 per hour. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Rechtin. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Robert Horine updated the Fiscal Court on the lawsuit Tim and Judy Nolan v. Campbell County. This matter was ruled on in May by Judge Roger Crittenden in Franklin Circuit Court. The Nolans, through their attorney Robert Blau, have moved to amend or vacate the ruling. Campbell County's legal counsel is preparing a response which is due by June 10, 2009. The Nolans will have 10 days to respond, then the Judge will take it under submission.

Mr. Horine advised that the US 27 widening project from Racetrack Road to Nagel Road was scheduled for a bid opening on May 22, however the Transportation Cabinet discovered some inconsistencies in the specifications which led to many questions. They decided to delay the bid opening to July 24. Judge Pendery contacted the Transportation Cabinet and encouraged them to find a way to get the project underway more quickly since it has been ready to proceed since January 2007. As a result, a special letting has been scheduled for June 22, 2009. He expects that work will begin in September this year.

John Austin presented an update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act beginning with sewer infrastructure projects. The St. John's Lane sewer project in Wilder is on target to start in October this year. He had no new updates on the area of health information technology except to report that Northern Kentucky University broke ground on its College of Informatics building which will open in 2011. Health Information Technology is the fastest growing career field in the United States. In connection with the County's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant, Ameresco has completed its assessment, and he is expecting a report from them within the next week or so. Mr. Austin advised that they have been talking to other grant recipients in Boone and Kenton Counties regarding a Northern Kentucky Energy Alliance. Through this Alliance in conjunction with Duke Energy, a number of programs will be offered to small businesses and some citizens in the area. Robert Horine announced that the Water District did open bids for the Stry/Flatwoods Road waterline project and they are waiting for Public Service Commission approval to start the project.

Commissioner Otto stated that he attended the College of Informatics groundbreaking at Northern Kentucky University. He was very impressed with the building, presentation and the speakers at the event. Campbell County is lucky to have this state of the art facility located here; it is one of only a few in the country.

Commissioner Hayden stated that he is proud that the Fiscal Court built the new jail and the new administration building. He requested that the County Administrator prepare a presentation for the next meeting held in Alexandria to advise of the current status of the new administration building, why it was important to build the new facility and what services will be offered at the new building.

J. R. Roth, citizen, asked if the new building was assessed by the energy consultant. Mr. Horine replied that it was not, however they have asked the architect to review the plans to see if anything can be done to make the building more energy efficient while it is still in the construction phase. Commissioner Otto stated that the architect incorporated as much state of the art energy efficient features that were available. Commissioner Otto pointed out that the facility is more than just an administration building since the Health Department will also be located there.

Jim Seibert explained that originally he was going to address the audit of component units and the proposals that were received, however he would like to table that issue to allow further study of the proposals.

Resolution R-74-09 was read by title and summary given. R-74-09 authorizes that County Judge/Executive to extend for one year the contract between Campbell County Fiscal Court and Southern Health Partners, Inc. to provide health care services at the Campbell County Detention Center. Commissioner Hayden made motion to adopt R-74-09, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed. Commissioner Otto pointed out that there is a decrease in the cost from last year. Mr. Seibert stated that there are a few changes in the contract, one being that all prescriptions will be covered under the new contract.

Mr. Seibert then requested a motion to approve the claims as presented for June 3, 2009. County Attorney James Daley stated that he has reviewed the claims and all appear appropriate. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Attachments:

Ordinance O-06-09 Zoning Map Amendment
Resolution R-74-09 Extend Contract with Southern Health Partners
Claims of June 3, 2009

Approved:

DAVID E. OTTO
Campbell County Commissioner

Attest:

Paula K. Spicer
Fiscal Court Clerk