CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY
FISCAL COURT
MINUTES

October 7, 2026

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a regular meeting on October 7, 2026, at 9:00 AM Eastern Time (8:00 AM Central Time) at the Campbell County Courthouse, 8352 East Main Street, Alexandria, Kentucky. The meeting was recorded by Campbell Media and broadcast on the Campbell Media website.

Present:

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

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld
Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra
Assistant County Administrator, Justin Otto
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell
Human Resources Director, Ashley Murray
Director of Planning & Zoning, Cindy Minter
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

Regular Meeting

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

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 to approve the minutes from the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting held on September 16, 2026.

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Recognition of Citizens / Public Officials

County Administrator Matt Elberfeld read a letter submitted by Campbell County resident Derek Myers requesting that the new Campbell County Public Safety Building be named the Steve Pendery Public Safety Building prior to its opening, in recognition of Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery's years of service and contributions to the county.

Old Business

O-12-26 Ordinance: Second 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.

Motion was made to adopt Ordinance O-12-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe.

Commissioner Geoff Besecker expressed support for the building's transition to a senior living facility, noting its longstanding significance to the Grants Lick community as a school, gathering place, and community landmark. He described the new use as a fitting way to preserve the historic building while continuing to serve the community's residents.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Ordinance O-13-26: Second 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.

Motion was made to adopt Ordinance O-13-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

New Business

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

Resolution R-54-26
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-54-26, "A Resolution of the Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to enter into a Partnership Agreement with Brett Ruschman to co-sponsor a special event at AJ Jolly Park."

Mr. Elberfeld explained that Brett Ruschman is the owner of the special event "Fresh Fest" and wishes to hold the event at AJ Jolly Park on June 12, 2027. Mr. Ruschman has agreed to the terms and conditions of the Partnership Agreement and will work cooperatively with staff to hold this family-friendly music event.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-54-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Personnel

Human Resources Director, Ashley Murray was present to answer any questions.

Resolution R-55-26
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-55-26, "A Resolution for the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing renewal rates for the 2027 Plan Year with American United Life Insurance Company, a OneAmerica Company (OneAmerica), to continue to provide Group Term Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance, Group Voluntary Life and AD&D Insurance, and Group Long-Term Disability Insurance to eligible employees of the Fiscal Court and Detention Center."

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-55-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe recused himself due to his employer's business relationship with this company.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-56-26
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-56-26, "A Resolution for the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing renewal rates for the 2027 and 2028 Plan Years with Delta Dental to provide Dental Insurance to eligible employees of the Campbell County Fiscal Court and Detention Center."

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-56-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe recused himself due to his employer's business relationship with this company.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-57-26
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-57-26, "A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to enter into an agreement with Kroger Health to provide wellness services to eligible employees of the Campbell County Fiscal Court and Detention Center at onsite wellness events."

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-57-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe recused himself due to his employer's business relationship with this company.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to approve the 2027 Employee Medical Benefits Plan design changes.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Geoff Besecker thanked the HR Department and staff involved in developing the 2027 Employee Medical Benefits Plan, recognizing their efforts and dedication in navigating the transition to a self-insured plan and addressing employee benefit needs.

Commissioner Tom Lampe recused himself due to his employer's business relationship with this company.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint the following seasonal employees for the 2026 Facilities Maintenance, Parks, and Golf season, effective October 8, 2026.

- Donald Brossart, Parks & Recreation Maintenance Worker (SBE), $19.80 hourly rate
- Kenneth Hofstetter, Parks & Recreation Maintenance Worker (SBE), $19.80 hourly rate

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

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint Jerad Smith as a full-time Housing Inspector in the Campbell County Department of Housing, effective November 2, 2026.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to accept the resignation of Animal Control Officer Steven Gessner effective September 29, 2026.

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

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to authorize staff to advertise, interview, and make a hiring recommendation to fill the full-time Animal Control Officer vacancy created by the resignation of Steven Gessner.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to accept the resignation of Office of Emergency Management Director William Turner, effective December 31, 2026.

Mr. Elberfeld commented that Mr. Turner will be retiring with more than 17 years of service to Campbell County.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery recognized William Turner's 40 years of overall service, including 17 years with Campbell County, and expressed appreciation for his contributions.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to adopt agreed disciplinary action for Dustin Wade.

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

Motion
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to adopt agreed disciplinary action and demotion from Crew Leader to Road Maintenance Specialist III for Dave Schultz.

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

Board Appointments

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to accept the resignation of Larisa Sims from the Northern Kentucky Port Authority Board of Directors, effective October 7, 2026. Ms. Sims requested to step down upon her retirement from Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG).

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

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint Brandon Bray to the Northern Kentucky Port Authority Board of Directors to fill the remainder of Larisa Sims' unexpired term, effective October 7, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

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

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to reappoint Joe Cottingham to the Northern Kentucky Area Development District Board of Directors for a three-year term, effective October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2029.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to reappoint Rees Hardy to the Campbell County Police Force Merit Board for a four-year term, effective September 7, 2026 through September 6, 2030.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Executive Order
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to reappoint Tom Ramler to the Campbell County Police Force Merit Board for a four-year term, effective November 8, 2026 through November 7, 2030.

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

County Administrator's Report

Resolution R-58-26

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-58-26, "A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to execute a Deed of Correction for property located at 944 Clay Ridge Road to include the entire parcel."

Mr. Elberfeld explained that Resolution R-58-26 corrects an error in a 1989 deed between Campbell County and the Board of Education involving the former Grant's Lick Elementary property. The original deed included only the building rather than the entire parcel. The correction will clarify the property description and allow the title to be finalized for closing. The County Attorney's Office and Board of Education reviewed the correction, which does not affect the previously approved zone change.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-58-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker.

County Attorney's Report

County Attorney, Steve Franzen introduced incoming County Attorney Wil Schroder, noting that he had recently joined the County Attorney's Office as an Assistant County Attorney to prepare for assuming the County Attorney position on January 1, 2027. Attorney Franzen expressed appreciation for Mr. Schroder's willingness to make the transition and noted his ongoing preparation for the role.

County Commissioners' Report

Commissioner Geoff Besecker recognized Assistant County Administrator, Justin Otto for completing FEMA's Executive Public Information Officer Program, the highest level of public information training in the nation. Commissioner Besecker noted that Mr. Otto is the fourth person from Kentucky and the only individual from Northern Kentucky to complete the program, commending his leadership and contributions to public information efforts during emergency and disaster situations.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery requested a round of applause for Justin Otto.

Commissioner Tom Lampe thanked Commissioner Besecker for reaffirming what a wonderful person Mr. Otto is.

Commissioner Brian Painter congratulated Mr. Otto.

County Judge/Executive's Report

Motion

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery requested a motion to cancel the regular meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 5:30 PM at the Campbell County Fiscal Court Chambers, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky.

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

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

Solid Waste Fall Cleanup Event
The Campbell County Solid Waste Fall Cleanup Event is scheduled for Friday, October 9, 2026 and Saturday, October 10, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at three locations: Frederick's Landing in Wilder, Pendery Park in Melbourne, and the Campbell County Road Department in Alexandria. More information, including accepted items and event guidelines, is available online at www.campbellcountyky.gov .

Commissioner Geoff Besecker reminded residents that those unable to participate in the regularly scheduled Fall Cleanup due to fall break travel may visit the county's Solid Waste webpage to apply for a voucher to use at a later date.

Halloween Spooktacular
The annual Halloween Spooktacular is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, from 12:00 to 2:00 PM, at AJ Jolly Park. Come in costume and enjoy vendors, food, drinks, fall crafts, and a bounce house, while children ages 12 and under can trick-or-treat along a friendly trail.

Finance Director/Treasurer's Report

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

Resolution R-59-26
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-59-26, "A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to execute an agreement with the Kentucky Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction for expanded jurisdiction."

Ms. Lewis explained that the agreement will allow the County's Planning & Zoning Department to provide plan review and inspection services under expanded jurisdiction. This is a renewal of the agreement previously approved by Resolution R-79-20. The County has already appointed a Chief Building Official; therefore, no additional appointment is required with this renewal.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-59-26 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-60-26
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-60-26, "A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing a revision to the Interlocal Agreement between the Campbell County Fiscal Court and the City of Wilder, Kentucky."

Ms. Lewis explained that the City of Wilder has requested additional Planning & Zoning services from the County. Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter has provided the city with a proposal for the

additional services, and the proposed revision incorporates those changes into the existing Interlocal Agreement. The current agreement was approved by the Department for Local Government and filed with the Kentucky Secretary of State in 2018.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-60-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery commented that Director of Planning & Zoning, Cindy Minter and her staff do excellent work.

Resolution R-61-26

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-61-26, "Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to execute a contract with the Campbell County Board of Education for Fiscal Year 2027 for the provision of bus transportation for parochial school students at a cost of $375,229.74 to be paid over 9 months."

Ms. Lewis explained that the monthly installment will be $41,692.19 from October 2026 to June 2027. This is a decrease of $48,515 or 11.5% from the prior year. Finance staff will seek reimbursement from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for the 2026–2027 school year when the funding notice is released. The County received 100% reimbursement from KYTC for the prior school year's costs in September 2026, totaling $423,745.61. Parochial students represented 9.85%, or 326 units, of the total 2,982 units of service provided by the district. Parochial ridership had a net decrease in trips of 75.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-61-26 by Commissioner Tom Lampe and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to issue a request for proposals for an ADA-accessible and inclusive playground at the main campground at AJ Jolly Park.

Ms. Lewis explained that the proposed playground will replace the existing swing set, which is approximately 40 years old. A $77,890 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior and National Park Service has been awarded to the Campbell County Fiscal Court to contribute toward the cost of the playground. The estimated project cost of $200,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe.

Commissioner Tom Lampe commented that it was good work getting the grant money funding.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to renew the agreement with Kremer Tree Service for one year.

Ms. Lewis explained that Kremer Tree Service provides tree and limb removal services from the rights-of-way of roadways and parks in Campbell County on an as-needed basis.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to accept the bid from E and P Cleaning for janitorial services at the Campbell County Administration Building.

Ms. Lewis explained that eight bids were received. E and P Cleaning submitted a bid of $3,750 per month, or $45,000 annually. The bid represents a price reduction from the County's current janitorial services agreement and is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Staff recommends acceptance based on the bid price and the availability of local employees.

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

Motion
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to accept the bid from Jackpots for Fiscal Year 2027 snow removal services.

Ms. Lewis explained that two bids were received. Jackpots submitted the low bid for both the north and south county locations. Jackpots has provided snow removal services for Campbell County from FY23 through FY26.

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

Motion
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to issue an invitation to bid for the remodel of the kitchen at the Campbell County Detention Center.

Ms. Lewis explained that the kitchen was last remodeled in 2005, and much of the existing equipment has exceeded its useful lifespan. The proposed project includes replacement of the existing kitchen equipment, including the walk-in freezer and refrigerator; relocation of a sink to improve workflow; replacement of the existing ceiling; painting of the walls and floors; and construction of a new wall in the storage area to improve the use of the available space.

A general contractor will oversee the construction work, while Campbell County will purchase the kitchen equipment directly. The estimated project cost is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

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

Budget Transfers
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented a motion to approve Budget Transfers dated:

- September 1, 2026

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Interfund Transfers
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented a motion to approve Interfund Transfers dated:

- September 1, 2026

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery. 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 23, 2026
- September 30, 2026
- September 30, 2026 (ARPA Workforce Retention)
- October 1, 2026 (Employee Benefits)
- October 7, 2026

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker and seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe stated that he supported payment of the claims; however, he recused himself from approving any claims related to employee benefits due to his employer's relationship with those companies.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Adjournment

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery acknowledged the passing of Campbell County Coroner, Dr. Mark Schweitzer, recognizing him as a valued public servant, a good person, and a friend to many. He expressed condolences to Dr. Schweitzer's family and noted the Fiscal Court's desire to share in their grief and honor his life and service to the community.

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, Commissioner Geoff Besecker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM.

Attachments

- O-12-26: Update the Official Zoning Map to rezone 944 Clay Ridge Road
- O-13-26: Amend Chapter 155 of the Code of Ordinances for Property Maintenance Code
- R-54-26: Enter into a partnership agreement with Brett Ruschman to co-sponsor an event at AJ Jolly Park
- R-55-26: Renew the current plans and rates with OneAmerica
- R-56-26: Renew coverage with Delta Dental
- R-57-26: Authorize an agreement with Kroger Health
- R-58-26: Execute a Deed of Correction for property located at 944 Clay Ridge Road to include the entire parcel
- R-59-26: Execute an agreement with the Kentucky Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction for expanded jurisdiction
- R-60-26: Authorize a revision to the Interlocal Agreement between the Campbell County Fiscal Court and the City of Wilder
- R-61-26: Execute a contract with the Campbell County Board of Education for the provision of bus transportation for parochial school students
- Budget Transfers: September 1, 2026
- Interfund Transfers: September 1, 2026
- Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order
    - September 23, 2026
    - September 30, 2026
    - September 30, 2026 (ARPA Workforce Retention)
    - October 1, 2026 (Employee Benefits)
    - October 7, 2026

Approved:

STEVE PENDERY
Judge/Executive

Attest:

JANIE PATTERSON
Fiscal Court Clerk

Date Approved: November 4, 2026