

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

December 17, 2008

A regular meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fiscal Court offices, 24 West Fourth Street, Newport, Kentucky.

In attendance at the meeting were:

COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE:
STEVE PENDERY

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:
KENNETH L. RECHTIN
DAVE OTTO
MARK T. HAYDEN

Robert Horine	County Administrator
Jim Seibert	Director of Fiscal Affairs
Col. Keith Hill	Chief, Campbell County Police Department
Ron Schneider	Office of Emergency Management
Justin Verst	County Attorney
Paula K. Spicer	Fiscal Court Clerk
Pat Dressman	Director of Human Services

The meeting was called to order by Judge Pendery at 5:30 p.m.

Judge Pendery called for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Minutes from the Fiscal Court Meeting held on November 19, 2008, were presented by Judge Pendery. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Rechtin, to approve the minutes. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no Old Business, Robert Horine presented New Business to the Fiscal Court. Resolution R-132-08 was read by title and summary given. R-132-08 authorizes the Judge/Executive to execute a Block Grant Funding application with the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services to award grant monies through Senate Bill 66 Funds for Campbell County Ambulance Services. This is an annual grant received by the County, and the funds are split evenly among the various ambulance services operating in Campbell County. Commissioner Rechtin made a motion to adopt R-132-08, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. Commissioner Rechtin asked if each of the 120 Kentucky counties gets \$10,000 per year, and if the State expends all funds. Ron Schneider, Office of Emergency Management, answered yes,

and that each of Campbell County's units get a little over \$1,000. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution R-133-08 was read by title and summary given. R-133-08 authorizes the Judge/Executive to execute a grant of easement to the Northern Kentucky Water District for an eight inch water main that was extended into A J Jolly Park. The water main was constructed earlier this year and will be maintained by the Water District. The easement will allow them access to the water main. Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to adopt R-133-08, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution R-134-08 was read by title and summary given. R-134-08 authorizes the Judge/Executive to execute an Order of Affiliation with the Fire Department Bellevue Dayton Rescue Squad, Campbell County Water Rescue Squad, Central Campbell Fire District Rescue Squad and Campbell County Search and Rescue Squad. This is an annual affiliation agreement which is required by state law. Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to adopt R-134-08, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution R-128-08 was read by title and summary given. R-128-08 authorizes the Judge/Executive to apply for grant funds from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Animal Control Advisory Board to fund the Spay and Neuter voucher program at the Campbell County Animal Shelter. This grant is in the amount of \$5,000 and would allow the County to continue the spay and neuter program whereby people who adopt animals from the shelter receive a certificate to have their pet spayed or neutered when it is old enough. Commissioner Otto made a motion to adopt R-128-08, seconded by Commissioner Rehtin. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution R-135-08 was read by title and summary given. R-135-08 requests additional MH/MR tax funds for Interfaith Hospitality Network of Northern Kentucky for fiscal year 2009. This agency received \$6,000 already this fiscal year for a housing/shelter program. Due to higher than usual demand for their services the initial funds were expended in the first six months of the fiscal year. The additional \$6,000 would come from the contingency fund. Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to adopt R-135-08, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horine then presented his report. He requested a motion of the Fiscal Court and the Campbell County Parks Corporation to declare certain real property to be surplus and to authorize its sale by sealed bids. The property is a .274 acre parcel located at A J Jolly Park. He explained that when the Zinn property was acquired earlier this year, the County installed a fence between the Zinn property and the adjoining property owned by Howard Kleier; the cost of the fence was shared. At the time, it was decided to fence some existing park property which abutted Mr. Kleier's property, however when the property was surveyed it was discovered that a horse trail encroached on the park property. Due to the fact that the subject property is on a steep slope, it is unsuitable for any recreation uses. In order to clear up the encroachment, staff determined that the best option may be to declare the parcel surplus, and allow Mr. Kleier to acquire the property through the bid process upon submission of an acceptable bid. Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to declare real property surplus and authorize its sale by

sealed bid, seconded by Commissioner Otto. Justin Verst advised that the provisions of KRS 67.0802 should be followed to dispose of the property. All voted “AYE” and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horine presented R-136-08 for consideration. He explained that another unit was sold by the Newport Millenium Housing Corporation at 631 Saratoga Street, and this resolution would release \$40,000 to fund a mortgage on the property. It was read by title and summary given. R-136-08 authorizes payment of a claim payable from Community Development Block Grant for the Campbell County Homebuyer Program. Commissioner Rechtin made a motion to adopt R-136-08, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted “AYE” and the motion passed unanimously.

Justin Verst stated that this is his last Fiscal Court meeting, and he thanked everybody. He enjoyed working with everybody, and stated that they should keep up the good work.

Commissioner Otto wished everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Commissioner Hayden stated that it is clear that the Obama administration is going to be spending a lot of money and resources on “shovel-ready” infrastructure projects. He stated that this is something that the County should focus on over the next couple of months. To have any impact on improving the job situation, they will be looking for projects that can start right away. He suggested that the extension of the south end of US 27 is a “shovel-ready” project, as it was ready to proceed, but was cancelled at the last minute; it should be at the top of the priority list for the County. He stated that they should compile a list of the top five infrastructure projects that are ready to go and that can have an immediate impact on the employment situation.

Judge Pendery stated that the next segment of US 27 is shovel ready and it being considered by the State as one of the top projects for this purpose. He stated that they need to continue to promote the project to be considered early on. Some projects i.e. John’s Hill Road and Loop Road around NKU, are not in a position to qualify even though they are moving in that direction. Robert Horine advised that these two projects still require property acquisition which can slow them down. He stated that US 27 was ready to go two years ago. In addition to being a transportation project, it has a major water main that is in need of replacement. He agreed that they need to identify and push other projects in the County. He stated that the Chamber had put together a list but it will likely change once they get clear direction from Congress as to what they will fund.

Commissioner Hayden stated that the County needs to work very closely with its state legislators, congressmen and United States senator to get their help in moving some of these projects forward. He further stated that there are a lot of “green” initiatives, and the county should see if it can get in on some of these initiatives. There are initiatives to make buildings more energy efficient, to install insulation in buildings to improve their overall efficiency and other ways that communities can be more efficient in energy use.

Commissioner Otto stated that Representative Keene called him and offered to present any shovel-ready infrastructure projects in his district personally to the right people so that Campbell County will have a fighting chance at the federal money. Commissioner Otto stated that the

County needs to have advocates like John Austin and our representatives in Frankfort pushing for these infrastructure projects.

Commissioner Hayden stated that there are very few projects that are shovel-ready, but Campbell County has one large infrastructure project that is ready.

Mr. Horine advised that John Austin attended a training session in Frankfort for a Neighborhood Stabilization Program. This is a new program in Kentucky funded in the amount of \$37 million from the federal government. The goal of the program is to get foreclosed properties acquired, rehabbed and put back in the hands of homeowners. He stated that Campbell County ranks 11th in the “needs” score of counties in the state for that program, which will put us in a good position to acquire some of these funds.

Judge Pendery stated that Congressman Geoff Davis intends to file a bill calling for a \$15,000 credit for energy efficient improvements to homes.

Commissioner Rechlin suggested other infrastructure needs that are not shovel-ready: the I-471 ramp and Rt. #536 improvements. The Rt. #536 project still involves property acquisition, but once completed it would be a great economic benefit to the region.

Commissioner Otto stated that this topic be brought up at the next Mayor’s meeting.

Mr. Seibert asked if any part of the I-471 project is shovel-ready. Mr. Horine stated that they have reminded the Highway Department about this project, but for some reason it is not on the Chamber’s list. This project involves the complete pavement reconstruction of I-471 and I-275.

Commissioner Hayden emphasized that the County needs to prioritize its projects. He believes that the Obama administration is going to look for projects that can start immediately in January or February to address the serious unemployment issues. He suggested that it may help to gather some unemployment data from a 10-15 county region to show the growing number of unemployed in the region.

Mr. Horine advised that the US 27 project is at the top of the list of the Highway Department, as it is ready to proceed.

Judge Pendery announced that Campbell County has a Christmas tree mulching program again this year.

Judge Pendery requested an executive session to discuss an economic development project pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(g).

Jim Seibert requested a motion to award a bid to Studer Baker Builder’s LLC for the construction of a storage building for the Campbell County Recreation Department in the amount of \$19,996.00. This project was reconfigured and rebid after the first bid came in at around \$39,000. The building will be used to store Recreation Department equipment to protect it. Commissioner Rechlin made the motion to award a bid to Studer Baker Builder’s, seconded by

Commissioner Otto. Commissioner Hayden stated that the first time that this expenditure came up he expressed concern about it given the current economic climate. He appreciates the fact that the project was rebid and a lower bid was received. He now supports the project as a reasonable expenditure to protect the county's equipment. Commissioner Rehtin stated that he looked at the existing building and agreed that having equipment stored inside helps prolong the life of the equipment. He stated that this is a one-time capital expense and will be a benefit in the long run. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Mr. Seibert presented Resolution R-129-08 which was read by title and summary given. R-129-08 approves the County Clerk's budget as submitted for the calendar year 2009. He advised that he and Robert Horine met with the County Clerk and the County Sheriff to discuss their budgets. They received a lot of input from both departments and all of their questions were answered satisfactorily. Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to adopt R-129-08, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. Commissioner Rehtin commented that he was told by Clerk Jack Snodgrass that his business was dead: no new car registrations and no property transfers. Mr. Horine advised that Mr. Snodgrass has adjusted his staffing accordingly by not filling vacancies, and he has eliminated one position. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-130-08 was read by title and summary given. R-130-08 approves the County Sheriff's budget as submitted for calendar year 2009. Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to adopt R-130-08, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Resolution R-131-08 was read by title and summary given. R-131-08 designates James Seibert as its applicant agent for the purpose of obtaining certain federal financial assistance under the Disaster Relief Act. Mr. Seibert advised that the paperwork is in motion to recover about \$57,000 to pay for debris clean up and use of the generator at the jail as a result of the September wind storm. Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to adopt R-131-08, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Mr. Seibert requested a motion to approve the 2008 countywide taxing district rates excluding schools and fire districts. This is required by the Department of Local Government and is sent in with the annual budget. Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to approve the 2008 countywide taxing district rates excluding schools and fire districts, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Mr. Seibert requested a motion to approve the budget transfers as presented for December 17, 2008. Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin, seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Mr. Seibert then requested a motion to approve the claims as presented for December 17, 2008. County Attorney Justin Verst stated that he reviewed the claims and all appear appropriate. Motion was made by Commissioner Otto, seconded by Commissioner Hayden. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to hold executive session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(g), seconded by Commissioner Otto. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rehtin to adjourn the executive session, seconded by Judge Pendery. 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 6:30 p.m.

Attachments:

R-132-08 Application for SB 66 funds for County ambulance services
R-133-08 Waterline easement agreement for A J Jolly Park
R-134-08 Affiliation agreements with various rescue squads
R-128-08 Application for spay/neuter grant
R-135-08 Approve additional funds for Interfaith Hospitality Network
R-136-08 Payment of claim for Homebuyer Program
R-129-08 Approve Campbell County Clerk's 2009 budget
R-130-08 Approve Campbell County Sheriff's 2009 budget
R-131-08 Designate applicant agent for windstorm damage claims
Transfers of December 17, 2008
Claims of December 17, 2008

Approved:

STEVE PENDERY
Campbell County Judge/Executive

Attest:

PAULA K. SPICER
Fiscal Court Clerk