

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

AUGUST 21, 2019

A regular meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court was held on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Campbell County Administration Building, Fiscal Court Chambers, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky.

In attendance at the meeting were:

COUNTY/JUDGE EXECUTIVE
STEVE PENDERY

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GEOFF BESECKER
TOM LAMPE
BRIAN PAINTER

Pat Walsh, Assistant County Attorney
Matt Elberfeld, County Administrator
Paula Spicer, Fiscal Court Clerk
Kim Serra, Assistant County Administrator
Marie Schenkel, Finance Director
Colonel Craig Sorrell, Chief, Campbell County Police Department
Mary Stowers, Human Resources Director
Will Weber, Economic Development Specialist
Lieutenant Tom Nitschke, Campbell County Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Judge Pendery. Cable access was present to film the meeting.

Judge Pendery advised that Al Garnick, Deputy Coroner for Campbell County died this past week and asked those present to keep him in mind during a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Minutes from the Fiscal Court regular meeting of August 7, 2019 were presented. Motion was made by Commissioner Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Lampe to approve the minutes. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Chief Craig Sorrell introduced Officer Chris Lauer who is being promoted to Sergeant. Judge Pendery congratulated Office Lauer and expressed appreciation for his service. Officer Lauer's son and wife pinned on his new badge and rank. Chief Sorrell stated that Officer Lauer, a former Marine, joined the Campbell County Police Department in 2013. He had worked for the

Campbell County Detention Center and served on the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force. He will now serve as a supervisor on third shift. Officer Lauer introduced his wife and children who were present.

Judge Pendery called on George Moore, Director of Administration and Accounting, Northern Kentucky Health Department to present the Local Board of Health tax rate. Mr. Moore advised that Dr. Lynn Saddler was unable to attend the meeting, so he will present tax testimony for the Campbell County Public Health Taxing District managed by the Campbell County Local Board of Health pursuant to KRS 65A.100. He explained that the taxing district provides support through an ad valorem tax for public health programs and services as part of the Northern Kentucky Health Department serving Boone, Campbell, Kenton and Grant Counties. He then listed the services and programs provided with the proceeds of the tax. For FY2020 the Local Board of Health approved funding a women's chemical dependency program at the Campbell County Detention Center and an extended home visitation program by public health nurses to support women in recovery upon their release from the Detention Center. The Local Board of Health approved a tax rate of 2.63 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation an increase of .23 cents from last year. The increase was specifically approved to help address the pension crises affecting the NKY Health Department. He then listed the steps taken by the Health Department to address the pension crises prior to passage of HB1 in July. The estimated revenue generated by the tax will be just over \$1.8 million. The Local Board further approved an allocation of 2.13 cents of the 2.63 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, to the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department for operations. The District Health Department's budget for FY20 is \$20.9 million.

Judge Pendery explained that there is more than one pension fund in the State. He stated that prior to passage of HB1 the Health District's pension contribution was scheduled to be 83.43% about a \$2.3 million increase over the prior year. Judge Pendery further explained that the pension contribution was 49% of salary to start with and was slated to go to over 83% of salaries paid. The overall cost for the future will likely go up. This is truly a financial crisis which the Health District has addressed in more than one way. The amount requested is what is needed after the other actions have been taken. He stated that the Kentucky constitution requires pension plans to be funded properly. While adjustments are being made to fund the plans properly, it will be an enormous strain on all local and state governments to get it done.

Judge Pendery suggested that the Fiscal Court vote on the Health Department's tax rate as presented by Mr. Moore. Resolution R-82-19 approves the Campbell County Health Department tax rate for fiscal year 2020 for the Campbell County Public Health Taxing District. Judge Pendery made a motion to adopt R-82-19, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Seeing that nobody had signed in to address the Fiscal Court, Judge Pendery proceeded with the agenda.

Paula Spicer presented old business with a second reading of Ordinance O-07-19. O-07-19 adopts a new list of County-maintained roads for Campbell County, Kentucky. Commissioner Lampe made a motion to adopt O-07-19, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

New business was then presented beginning with Resolution R-85-19. R-85-19 authorizes the Judge/Executive to make application for FY2020 Rescue Aid funding from the Kentucky Emergency Management for the purchase of two portable radios and one mobile radio for the LandSAR Unit. Commissioner Lampe made a motion to adopt R-85-19, seconded by Commissioner Besecker. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to accept the resignation of HR Specialist Ashley Murray effective August 16, 2019. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

In order to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Murray, Judge Pendery made a motion to authorize staff to advertise, interview and hire a full-time HR Specialist. Commissioner Painter seconded the motion. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to advance Police Officer William McGohan from a PO7 (\$29.23/hour or \$60,799.42 annually) to PO8 (\$31.86/hour or \$66,271.37 annually) effective July 7, 2019 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. Commissioner Besecker asked what is the general length of time for moving up in grade. Chief Sorrell explained that it varies depending on the grade; PO8 is usually reached in about 13 years of service. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to advance Police Officer Douglas Holt from a PO7 (\$29.23/hour or \$60,799.42 annually) to PO8 (\$31.86/hour or \$66,271.37 annually) effective July 7, 2019 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to advance Police Officer Alex Turner from a PO7 (\$29.23/hour or \$60,799.42 annually) to PO8 (\$31.86/hour or \$66,271.37 annually) effective July 7, 2019 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to advance Police Officer Geoff Lucas from a PO6 (\$27.31/hour or \$56,821.89 annually) to PO7 (\$29.23/hour or \$60,799.42 annually) effective July 7, 2019 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Painter. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to advance Police Officer Steve Kush from a PO7 (\$29.23/hour or \$60,799.42 annually) to PO8 (\$31.86/hour or \$66,271.37 annually) effective July 7, 2019 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to promote Special Agent Christopher Lauer to the rank of Sergeant (SG1) with an annual salary of \$69,584.93 (\$33.4543/hour) effective August 22, 2019 in accordance with the Police Force Merit Board Manual and the current FOP working agreement. Motion was made by Judge Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Besecker. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Matt Elberfeld presented Resolution R-83-19 by title and summary. R-83-19 authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding to create and implement strategic solutions for the US-27 corridor from Newport on the Levee through the Highland Heights Business District anchored by Northern Kentucky University's (NKU) Towne Center project. Mr. Elberfeld explained that the MOU is between the Cities of Fort Thomas, Southgate, Highland Heights and Newport and the Fiscal Court and covers the US-27 corridor from NKU to Newport on the Levee. The purpose of the MOU is to look at transportation improvement, smart technology and other ideas. The primary purpose is that it will give the entities population density to apply for grants and transportation funding since the entities individually would not be large enough to qualify on their own. This arrangement does not cost the Fiscal Court anything. Will Weber will provide staff support through the Economic Development Office. Commissioner Lampe advised that he has been attending some of the meetings and there is a good collection of representatives along that corridor. Commissioner Lampe made a motion to adopt R-83-19, seconded by Judge Pendery. Will Weber added that the US-27 Smart Corridor group was invited to participate in the Cincy Chamber Smart Solutions Mobility Summit. The goal is to make the journey the destination, instead of bypassing the corridor to get to the destination. The US-27 Smart Corridor aims to connect the growing urban core with the 15,000 students at NKU. All voted AYE" and the motion passed.

Commissioner Besecker reported that the Police Department recently purchased a new speed device. Most drivers have seen the portable trailer-type speed detectors that display your speed. The Department's new device can collect data that shows what kind of speeding takes place and at what times of the day. This will help the Department better meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Commissioner Lampe reported that he represented the Fiscal Court when Governor Bevin announced the Community Development Block Grant recipients in Georgetown last Friday. Campbell County received \$804,000 to be used by Neighborhood Foundations to rehabilitate homes in Newport. These are federal funds administered by the Kentucky Department of Local Government. The awards are decided by the Governor after he considers the need, amount and return (what positive effect it will have on the community).

Judge Pendery made the following announcements:

1. The Annual Campbell County Animal Shelter Field Day Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, August 24 from 12pm to 5pm at Pendery Park. All funds raised will benefit the Campbell County Animal Shelter. This year's event features an onsite rabies clinic for dogs, working dog demonstrations, live music from Project Doyle, kid's games, food, and local breweries.

2. AJ Jolly Park will host Farmula Fest presented by Soundlink studio on Friday, August 23 and Saturday, August 24. More information about this two-day music event can be found at www.farmulafest.com.

3. The Campbell County Fiscal Court is accepting applications for the third annual Citizen's Academy. The Citizen's Academy is a nine-week educational program designed to improve civic education and increase citizen engagement. Applications are due by August 23 and the Program kicks off on September 9.

4. The 2019 Campbell County Senior Picnic will be held on Wednesday, September 25th from 11 AM to 3PM at Pendery Park. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the Senior Center or Administration Building.

Marie Schenkel presented Resolution R-84-19 by title and summary. R-84-19 authorizes the execution of a Lease Renewal Agreement with the Kentucky Office of the State Medical Examiner for Lease of storage space in the Campbell County Administration Building. The lease is for the Medical Examiner's office storage of records on the second floor of the County Administration Building. Judge Pendery made a motion to adopt R-84-19, seconded by Commissioner Lampe. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

A motion was requested to approve budget transfers dated August 21, 2019. Ms. Schenkel explained that the transfers do not increase the overall budget they only reallocate certain funds. Motion was made by Commissioner Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Besecker. All voted "AYE" and the motion passed.

Ms. Schenkel then requested a motion to approve the claims and supplemental claims dated August 21, 2019. Assistant County Attorney Pat Walsh advised that the County Attorney has reviewed the claims and supplemental claims and determined that they all appear appropriate. Commissioner Lampe made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Commissioner Painter. 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 Besecker. All voted "AYE" and the meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Attachments:

Ordinance O-07-19 Adopt County Maintained Road List
Resolution R-82-19 Approve FY2020 Campbell County Health Department Tax Rate
Resolution R-85-19 Application for FY2020 Rescue Aid Grant Funds
Resolution R-83-19 Memorandum of Understanding for US-27 Smart Corridor
Resolution R-84-19 Lease of Storage Space in County Administration Building
Budget Transfers dated August 21, 2019
Claims dated August 21, 2019

Approved:

STEVE PENDERY
Judge/Executive

Attest:

Paula K. Spicer, Fiscal Court Clerk