

Meeting Date; 01/12/2021

Meeting of; Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type; Special Called

HONORABLE REAGAN TAYLOR COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE PRESIDING

The Madison County Fiscal Court convened in special session on the 12th of January 2021 at 9:30AM via Zoom Video Conference. Present was the Honorable Reagan Taylor in the chair presiding and the following members of the Fiscal Court: Roger Barger, Tom Botkin, and John Tudor were present. Madison County Assistant Attorney Brooke Bowman and Madison County Clerk Kenny Barger were also present.

It being determined a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order.

There was a moment of silence in honor of Larry Combs. Magistrate Barger led the court in prayer. Judge Taylor asked Sheriff Coyle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 12-15-2020:

Motion by John Tudor seconded by Tom Botkin to approve the minutes from the specially called meeting on December 15, 2020.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Agenda Amendment:

Judge Taylor asked the court's permission to amend the agenda, removing Resolution 2021-06 and Resolution 2021-08.

Motion by Roger Barger seconded by Tom Botkin to amend the agenda.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Madison County School Board Recognition Proclamation:

Judge Taylor stated that Beth Brock, Samantha Burford, Lori Cobb, Becky Coyle, and Brandon Rutherford contribute greatly to this community through their service on the Madison County School Board. He proclaimed January 2021 as School Board Recognition Month, urging all citizens to honor the members for their service.

Lori Cobb thanked the court and the community for their support.

Becky Coyle stated that being a part of the School Board is a privilege. She voiced her appreciation for the court's support.

Brandon Rutherford noted his appreciation for the county's support. He stated that they work really hard to give the best education to our kids.

Samantha Burford stated her appreciation for the court's support and dedication to the community.

Magistrate Botkin noted that the School Board must make tough decisions concerning the funding of projects. He stated that they do an excellent job and expressed his appreciation for their efforts.

Magistrate Tudor expressed his appreciation for the board, noting that these are well-qualified, well-dedicated, and hardworking individuals that take their time to try to see that their students and their teachers have the best education and the best materials that they possibly can.

Judge Taylor stated that he appreciates what the board does as elected officials, as well as the relationship that they maintain with the court.

IN RE: MORE Group Update:

Representatives from the Madison Opioid Respond Empowerment (MORE) Group addressed the court to give an update on the program.

Magistrate Botkin stated that there are a lot of programs provided by MORE that can benefit our county residents. He encouraged individuals to reach out to the group because they're more than willing to help.

Reagan Taylor – Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

Barger explained that the decrease in the budget was in result of not having any elections in the year of 2021.

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Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2021-02—Madison County Sheriff's 2021 Budget:

Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2021-02—Madison County Sheriff's 2021 Budget for the court's approval.

Motion by John Tudor seconded by Roger Barger to approve Resolution 2021-02—Madison County Sheriff's 2021 budget.

Sheriff Coyle expressed his thanks to the court for allowing this to go through. He stated his appreciation for the court. He noted that we lost a friend with Larry Combs and that he is sure Combs would have been proud of this budget. The Madison County Sheriff's Office was the first to feel the financial burden, with the devastating cuts in the 2020 budget; several personnel positions were cut in result. Coyle noted that there were several employees who left for better paying jobs, which put the office in a tough position. Throughout the global pandemic, the employees at the Sheriff's Office have stepped up and have carried out their duties admirably. He stated how proud he was of his personnel. The Sheriff's Office has helped several entities throughout the pandemic, including animal control, and the courthouse facilities. His court security officers have helped out with appointments for the Madison County Clerk's Office and Madison County Circuit Court Clerk's Office. Through this pandemic, there have been nine of his employees who have had to quarantine; this really messed the schedule up.

On July 5, 2020, there was a devastating loss with the sudden passing of Deputy Michelle Albertson. Michelle was retired from the Frankfort Police Department and had worked in Madison County for the past ten years. She was an excellent person, mother, and grandmother. He noted that she was a hard-working and dedicated employee and that she will definitely be missed by the department.

There was another setback in 2020 with 12 employees who tested positive for COVID-19 during the months of November and December; this was devastating. 2020 was a challenging year for the Madison County Sheriff's Department, but they overcame many obstacles by adapting and adjusting.

Statistics were provided to the court for the year of 2020.

Magistrate Tudor stated that this budget is something the court needs to support. He expressed his regret for not being able to fully support the department last year. He noted that Sheriff Coyle and his team do an awesome job of keeping our county safe.

Judge Taylor explained that the Sheriff's Office is a fee office, collecting fees on services that they provide. But, to be able to provide the service that they provide to the community and the safety that they provide to the community and its' citizens takes more money to operate than what is collected in fees. \$1.4 million dollars will be pulled from the general fund to put into the Sheriff's budget this year. Our Sheriff's department is doing a lot more law enforcement than in years past. The state police have a shortage across the commonwealth, with less troopers out running our roads. Our Sheriff and his staff have been able to pick that slack up to keep our community safe.

Magistrate Botkin stated that the court tied their hands last year to some degree and did what they had to do. The Sheriff and his men adapted. Botkin noted that every time he sees these men out in the community that their appearance is professional, and the job they are doing is professional. The numbers speak for themselves. He stated that the court was glad they are able to support the budget this year.

Magistrate Barger noted that the court does not feel good about cutting anyone's budget, especially the Sheriff's Office; they are top notch. He stated that he is very proud to see them out on the road and the way they conduct themselves. But the court runs into financial restraints sometimes that are uncontrollable, and not only their budgets but some of the other budget were cut too. Barger expressed how glad he was to do what can be done for the department. There will never be a better Sheriff's department in our county.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

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IN RE: Resolution 2021-03—Northern Madison County Sanitation District:

Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2021-03—Northern Madison County Sanitation District for the court's approval. Johnny D. Webb will be reappointed to the Northern Madison County Sanitation District; the term will expire on January 12, 2025.

Motion by Roger Barger seconded by Tom Botkin to approve Resolution 2021-03—Northern Madison County Sanitation District, reappointing Johnny D. Webb to the Northern Madison County Sanitation District.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes	Roger Barger-Yes
John Tudor- Yes	Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2021-04—Eastern Kentucky University Statement of Support:

Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2021-04—Eastern Kentucky University Statement of Support for the court's approval. This resolution will serve as a declaration of support for a legislative act permitting a state university which operates an aviation degree program and is an airport fixed base operator to appoint two members on an eight-member local air board.

Motion by John Tudor seconded by Roger Barger to approve Resolution 2021-04—Eastern Kentucky University Statement of Support.

Magistrate Botkin stated that the court realizes the value of EKU and their flight program; they are the main tenant at the airport, and this will allow, should it go through, House Bill 158. Botkin noted he was glad that the court could offer its' support.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes	Roger Barger-Yes
John Tudor- Yes	Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2021-05—CSEPP Planner Contract Agreement Renewal:

Jennifer Hitch, EMA Deputy Director, addressed the court to present Resolution 2021-05—CSEPP Planner Contract Agreement Renewal for the court's approval. CSEPP wishes to extend their contract with Bullpen Inc. for one year, concerning planner services.

Motion by Roger Barger seconded by John Tudor to approve Resolution 2021-05—CSEPP Planner Contract Agreement Renewal.

Magistrate Botkin noted that this is for \$45,000.00 and that is a pass through the county budget.

Magistrate Tudor inquired if there were two bids submitted.

Hitch explained that this is just an extension for a previous contract.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes	Roger Barger-Yes
John Tudor- Yes	Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2021-07—CSEPP Generator Maintenance Contract:

Dustin Heiser, EMA Director, addressed the court to present Resolution 2021-07—CSEPP Generator Maintenance Contract for the court's approval. Heiser recommended that the court enter into contract with Hepburn Consultants Inc.

Motion by Roger Barger seconded by John Tudor to approve Resolution 2021-07—CSEPP Generator Maintenance Contract.

Magistrate Tudor questioned if this will include the generators located at the county fire stations.

Heiser responded that this will only include generators at CSEPP buildings.

Magistrate Tudor inquired if anybody is doing the maintenance on the county generators.

Judge Taylor responded that he was not aware. He then asked Heiser to provide more information concerning the bids that were submitted.

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Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Personnel—Road Department:

Scott Shepherd, Road Department Administrator, addressed the court to recommend that they hire Andrew Howland as a CDL Driver/General Laborer at \$14.00/per hour, effective January 20, 2021.

Motion by Roger Barger seconded by John Tudor to hire Andrew Howland as a CDL Driver/General Laborer, effective January 20, 2021.

Magistrate Barger questioned if this hire will take the department to the necessary numbers.

Shepherd responded that there are still three available positions. This hire will allow the department to operate all of the snow trucks, with one extra person. Currently, one of the routes is way too long, so the plan is to split that route and put this driver on the large route.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

Tom Botkin-Yes

Roger Barger-Yes

John Tudor- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Judge's Report:

- Congratulations to Dr. Wilma Walker, a member of the Central Kentucky Regional Airport, who was recently inducted into the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame.
- We are experiencing a spike in COVID-19 cases, so it is very important to keep wearing a mask when you are out, social distance to the best of your ability, and wash your hands often. As time goes on, the vaccine will become more and more available. Please consider taking the vaccine for your protection and the protection of others.
- The Madison County Animal Shelter has numerous dogs and cats ready for their forever home. If you are considering getting a pet for your family, please consider one from the animal shelter. For more information, please visit the Madison County Animal Shelter website.
- We had a snow event over the holidays, and we will likely have some again before spring. Please be mindful of our snowplows and salt spreaders as they do the important task of keeping our roads clear. Give them plenty of space for everyone's safety.
- Although we are in the midst of winter, occasionally we will have a nice warm day, and those days are perfect for some golf at Battlefield Golf Course, which is open over the winter. Visit the Battlefield Golf Club's website for hours, course condition, and availability.
- The walking trails at all our county parks are open. If you made a New Year's resolution to get healthy, one of our parks may be perfect for you. The parks do close in inclement weather.
- The Richmond-Madison County NAACP Branch will be presenting a virtual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration Monday, January 18, 2021 at 3:00pm. You can view "Martin's Journey" on the First Baptist Church Francis Street Facebook page.
- The Madison County Courthouse and its related offices will be closed Monday, January 18, 2021, for the Martin Luther King holiday. Offices will re-open on Tuesday, January 19, at 8am.

Comments from Magistrates:

Magistrate Botkin noted that wintertime allows the county to do some tree cutting. Throughout the fourth district, there are several trees they are taking down; please be aware of those guys. Also, this time of year the county will be working on pothole patching. The state crew are scheduled to do some sloping down on 595 and 52. Lastly, legislators are in session and the county is in contact with them about a couple of things. If citizens have something they would like to be relayed to the legislatures, feel free to call the magistrates.

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Magistrate Tudor stated that in honor of the passing of Magistrate Larry Combs he was just glad to be there.

Magistrate Barger stated that as Larry Combs would always say, just glad to be there.

Clerk Kenny Barger explained that his office has been operating with appointments for the in-person stuff where people have to be in the office. Tuesday, January 19, the Richmond and Berea office will be opening back up to the public. If anyone believes they may have the Coronavirus, please do not come in. Barger noted that his office is unable to keep up with the phone calls and cannot do business like they have been doing. But, if someone in the office tests positive, the office will be shut down for four to six days and the work will pile up.

Comments from Department Heads:

No comments from Department Heads.

Comments from the Audience:

No comments from the Audience.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

Motion made by Roger Barger seconded by John Tudor to approve pay claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for January 26, 2020 at 9:30am via Zoom Video Conferencing.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Tom Botkin to adjourn, seconded by Roger Barger. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned 11:06 am.



REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE