

Meeting Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type: Regularly Scheduled

HONORABLE REAGAN TAYLOR COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE PRESIDING

The Madison County Fiscal Court convened in regular session on the 24th of October 2023 at 9:30 AM in the Richmond City Hall Chambers in Richmond, Ky. Present was the Honorable Reagan Taylor in the chair presiding and the following members of the Fiscal Court: James Brian Combs, Stephen Lochmueller, Billy Ray Hughes, and Tom Botkin were present. Madison County Attorney Jennie Haymond, Madison County Sheriff Mike Coyle, Madison County Jailer Steve Tussey, and Madison County Clerk Kenny Barger were also present.

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

Judge Taylor asked Pastor Sherry Green of St. Paul A.M.E. Church to lead the Court in prayer. Judge Taylor asked Sheriff Mike Coyle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 10-10-2023:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on October 10, 2023.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 10-17-2023:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on October 17, 2023.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

Treasurer's Report:

Sarah Stewart, Treasurer, addressed the Court to give the monthly treasurer's report (see on file).

IN RE: 1st Reading Ordinance 2023-15—Madison County and Jackson County Interlocal Agreement for Information Technology Services:

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2023-15—Madison County and Jackson County Interlocal Agreement for Information Technology Services for the Court's approval. This Ordinance relates to an interlocal agreement between Madison County Fiscal Court and Jackson County Fiscal Court for the use of the Kentucky Counties Government Cloud (KCGC).

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2023-15—Madison County and Jackson County Interlocal Agreement for Information Technology Services.

Magistrate Hughes asked if Jackson County has already adopted this. Chris stated that it was presented as a Resolution, but this is the first time they have had an interlocal agreement, so they will be taking it back to have it presented as an Ordinance. Jackson County was able to get a grant through the State's Homeland Security Cyber Security to move all of their services to our KCGC services.

Judge Taylor informed the Court that once both counties have their first reading of the interlocal agreement, it will then go to DLG and the Attorney General for their approval before the second reading can be done.

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James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2023-125—Madison County Board of Health Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2023-125— Madison County Board of Health Appointment for the Court's approval. This Resolution is appointing Dr. Paula Maionchi to the Madison County Board of Health, with an expiration date of December 31, 2025.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2023-125— Madison County Board of Health Appointment of Dr. Paula Maionchi to the Madison County Board of Health, with an expiration date of December 31, 2025.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2023-126— Madison County Board of Adjustments Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2023-126— Madison County Board of Adjustments Appointment for the Court's approval. This Resolution is appointing Kimberly Olds to the Madison County Board of Adjustments, with an expiration date of June 20, 2024.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2023-126— Madison County Board of Adjustments Appointment appointing Kimberly Olds to the Madison County Board of Adjustments, with an expiration date of June 20, 2024.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2023-127—Madison County Detention Center Contractual Medical Services Agreement Addendum #1:

Steve Tussey, Jailer, presented Resolution 2023-127— Madison County Detention Center Contractual Medical Services Agreement Addendum #1 for the Court's approval. This Resolution is to approve Addendum #1 to a Contractual Medical Services Agreement between the Madison County Detention Center and West Kentucky Correctional Healthcare, LLC.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2023-127— Madison County Detention Center Contractual Medical Services Agreement Addendum #1.

Blake Wiseman, President of West Kentucky Correctional Healthcare, LLC DBA 3C or Comprehensive Correction Care, was present for the reading of this Resolution.

Jailer Tussey explained that his intention is to prolong this 24-hour service change only through March of 2024, which is the end of the existing contract period, to evaluate every possible option for health care at the jail, as well as evaluate the 24-hour coverage.

Magistrate Combs asked if the change to 24-hour healthcare coverage was mandated somewhere. Jailer Tussey said it wasn't. It was based mostly on West Kentucky Correctional Healthcare's insurance issues telling them they need to go to 24-hour coverage.

Judge Taylor asked Blake Wiseman how many of the Kentucky Detention Centers that they cover have 24-hour healthcare coverage. Wiseman stated that of the 36 facilities they have across the state, about 60% of those have

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24-hour coverage. It depends on the inmate population and the turnover at the jail. He explained that Madison County does have a lot of intakes every month with a very sick population that is coming into the facility. They have been having conversations internally for several months about Madison County needing 24-hour coverage in the jail.

Currently Madison County has about 300 in-house inmates, and Judge Taylor asked at what number of inmate population would the insurance company be comfortable staying with a 12-hour coverage service. Wiseman stated that it all has to do with the workflow of the facility, the inmates, and the turnover in inmate population; Madison County has a very high volume of inmates coming into the jail so it's not the same 300 inmates in the jail. The insurance provider is mandating this change for them to be able to continue services in Madison County, so he would have to ask them what that number might be. Also, to be able to staff a 24-hour shift by the deadline of November 1st, Wiseman would need to know today what the Court's decision will be.

Judge Taylor asked about the 24-hour provider line. Wiseman stated that there is a 24-hour provider line that the Detention Center can use outside of the current 12-hour shift. Jailer Tussey stated the provider line is utilized when needed.

Magistrate Hughes asked if there were any special qualifications for the medical professionals that work in the jails. Wiseman stated that LPN's, RN's, paramedics, and even some EMT's can provide services based on what the Jail allows.

Magistrate Lochmueller asked about the November 1st date. Wiseman explained that his insurance provider has given him until November 1st to rectify this to 24-hour coverage, and if there is not 24-hour coverage in place by November 1st, then they will have to submit a 60-day notice to terminate the contract, which would then end on December 31, 2023. Magistrate Lochmueller then asked when the notice was sent to them. Wiseman stated that the first time he spoke to the Jailer about it was just a conversation in September. Jailer Tussey stated that it didn't become an absolute issue until about a week ago.

Magistrate Botkin asked about the overage hours that have been billed in excess of 84 hours per week and what that number is. Wiseman stated that he isn't sure of the exact number of hours that has been billed in excess, but that in going to the 24-hour model, that number should go down substantially if not be eliminated. The reason for the excess billing is because the demand at the facility is more than a 12-hour day causing the nursing staff to stay over their 12-hours.

Judge Taylor asked if they have the data on how many inmates they turn away, due to medical issues. Jailer Tussey stated he could get that number for them. He stated that he believes they would see a decrease in ER visits if they go to this 24-hour shift, which would save money on the ER cost as well as on overtime for the deputy that has to be sent with the inmate.

Magistrate Hughes asked if they had a hard time finding help. Wiseman stated that they do but is proud to say that with the 36 facilities they have, they have never missed a nursing shift.

Magistrate Botkin also stated that according to the request letter, the reason for this change in the shift is due to inmate population and the severity of medical issues. He asked if there was an out for the possibility of the inmate population decreasing to where they wouldn't need a 24-hour shift. Wiseman stated that if the population drops, then he would have to make sure that their insurance carrier is good with changing back to a 12-hour shift.

Judge Taylor also asked how many jails out of the 36 that would be equivalent to Madison County and how many of those are they having this same discussion with to change to 24-hour shifts. Wiseman stated that are about 20 counties that would be equivalent to Madison. Currently, he isn't having any of these discussions with any other county but believes that the State will be moving to a complete 24-hour model within the next 3-5 years. He stated that the inmates that come through the facility are very sick, drugs are a major issue and it's getting worse; in order for them to provide the best care possible, they have to go to a 24-hour shift model. Jailer Tussey stated that they are basically turning over about 300 inmates a month, meaning that they are almost turning over their entire population every month. Wiseman explained that every day in the jail they have to have 2 med passes and a sick call. When putting the over 300 intakes on top of that where history and physicals have to be done within a certain time frame, it's a lot on the nursing staff.

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Judge Taylor asked if there is a difference between the state inmates versus the county inmates, medically speaking. Jailer Tussey wasn't sure but could get that information.

Magistrate Botkin asked Jailer Tussey if they don't approve this Resolution, then what would their next step be. Jailer Tussey stated that they would be issued a 60-day letter from the current medical provider, and they would have until December 31st to find medical coverage. Judge Taylor stated that state law provides three options when it comes to providing medical to individuals that are incarcerated; they can contract the service, have in-house medical, or use a local facility.

Judge Taylor asked why, when an individual is incarcerated, their Medicaid health insurance isn't valid.

Wiseman stated that DOC and Medicaid don't communicate, which is a broken system. They are working to advocate to get this changed but it takes state legislation to do so.

Magistrate Combs asked Wiseman if they could get another insurance company. He stated that they are always looking. There has been a decrease in correctional healthcare insurance carriers since Covid because of the number of payouts, and insurance premiums are going up across the board.

Magistrate Combs asked about what would happen if they shut the jail down. Judge Taylor stated that they are responsible by law for their inmates and to transport them and pay for them to be housed, but that doesn't mean they are responsible to provide a jail.

Magistrate Botkin thanked Mr. Wiseman for coming today and explaining everything to them. Mr. Wiseman expressed his appreciation and stated that he values his relationship with Jailer Tussey and is hopeful for a continued working relationship.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2023-128—Big Hill Avenue Monopole Tower Lease Agreement:

Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2023-128—Big Hill Avenue Monopole Tower Lease Agreement for the Court's approval. This Resolution is to a Lease Addendum Modification #2 to a lease agreement between Madison County Fiscal Court and the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve presented Resolution 2023-128—Big Hill Avenue Monopole Tower Lease Agreement.

Magistrate Botkin asked where this was, physically. Judge Taylor stated that it is directly behind Cars of Kentucky and the Kindergarten Academy. He stated that the monopole is about 69% full and what is being asked of the Court would only take about 4% more, so there is still room.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Personnel:

Morgan Elliston, HR Director, recommended the hiring of Ty Ballou as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer at a rate of \$18/hour effective October 25, 2023; the hiring of Anthony Ciambro as a Seasonal Snow Removal CDL Truck Driver at a rate of \$20/hour effective October 25, 2023; and the promotion of Camden T. Eubank to a Full-time Firefighter I at a rate of \$8.74/hour effective October 25, 2023.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Billy Ray Hughes to approve the hiring of Ty Ballou as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer at a rate of \$18/hour effective October 25, 2023; the hiring of Anthony Ciambro as a Seasonal Snow Removal CDL Truck Driver at a rate of \$20/hour effective October 25, 2023; and the promotion of Camden T. Eubank to a Full-time Firefighter I at a rate of \$8.74/hour effective October 25, 2023. Judge Taylor stated that it was good to see them getting some full-time people in the road department.

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Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Employee Spotlight:

Morgan Elliston, HR Director, spotlighted Ben Hall, Lieutenant with the Madison County Fire Department. Lieutenant Hall is a dedicated, friendly, and hard-working employee, and great leader who has worked for the County for 4 years.

Clerk Barger stated that Ben is a good guy, and he was thrilled when he joined the County.

Judge Taylor asked if they could print out the employee spotlights so they could have a name with a face.

Morgan stated that they could.

IN RE: Judge's Report:

- Citizen Shoutout to Jimmy Cotton for calling in to thank the County and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources for the improvements at Wilgreen Lake. He bragged about how good it looks. Jill Williams will give an update on the project during the "Comments from Department Heads."
- Churchill's is hosting a Holiday Artisan Market on Saturday, October 28th from 10 AM – 5 PM at 100 Churchill Drive in Berea.
- Enrich is hosting a fundraiser for Richmond's very own Great British Bake-off on Saturday, November 4th from 2 PM – 4 PM. The event is open to the public for competing and taste testing. Visit their Facebook page for more information.
- First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is hosting an Artist and Craft Market on Friday, November 3rd from 5 PM – 8 PM and Saturday, November 4th from 8 AM – 2 PM at 412 West Main Street in Richmond.
- The 8th Annual Officer Daniel Ellis Memorial 5K Run/Walk will be on Saturday, November 4th at 8:30 AM at White Hall State Historic Site in Richmond. Visit www.runsignup.com to register.
- A Habitat Hoedown Barn Dance and Chili Supper benefiting Habitat for Humanity of Madison and Clark Counties will be on Saturday, November 4th from 4 PM – 7 PM at Happiness Hills Farms in Berea. Register online at www.hfhmcc.org/hoedown.
- NACo has relaunched their Operation Green Light for Veterans campaign. Please show our veterans they are seen, appreciated, and supported by lighting your homes and buildings with green lights November 6th-12th.
- Berea Church of God is hosting a Christmas Vendor Market on Saturday, November 11th from 9 AM – 3 PM at 189 Rash Road in Berea.
- The Kirksville Community Center is hosting a Christmas Gathering on Saturday, November 11th from 9 AM – 2 PM. Visit their Facebook page for more information.

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- The Farm City Banquet is on Monday, November 13th at 6 PM. Tickets are on sale until November 7th. Contact the Madison County Cooperative Extension Office at 859-623-4072 for more information.
- Don't forget to set your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday evening, November 4th.
- Madison County Government and its related offices will be closed Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans Day. Offices will reopen on Monday, November 13th.

Comments from Magistrates:

Magistrate Combs encouraged everyone to call their state representative and tell them they need to fix the jail problem; they are putting it in the taxpayer's lap to pay for it.

Magistrate Lochmueller backed up what Magistrate Combs said about calling your legislators. He also spoke about the new technology that is going into the water lines starting yesterday in District 2 in partnership with the Emergency Management and Chemical Stockpile Preparedness Program installing a new technology solution that can enhance water system capabilities and improve first responder communication systems. For more information, go to www.mcuwater.com/fiber. He thanked Chris Iseral, Jill Williams, and other staff members for what they have done, as well as to Chief Gray and the first responders. He asked the public to have some patience in this and if they have any issues to give them a call.

Magistrate Hughes spoke about meeting at the Bluegrass Army Depot and their feasibility studies they have been doing. He is very encouraged on what will become of the Army Depot in the future.

Magistrate Botkin agreed with Magistrate Hughes and thanked Senator McConnell's office. He also encouraged the public to contact Josh Bray to let him know about concerns over the jail situation. Magistrate Botkin expressed his appreciation to all the veterans in Madison County. He also thanked Chief Gray for his work on the sirens and Scott Shepherd for talking with him about some of the roads in the county.

Clerk Barger informed the public on Early Voting locations at the Russel Acton Folk Center in Berea, the Madison County Extension Office, Madison County Public Library in Richmond, the Ignite Academy North on November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. The Election Day locations are the Russel Acton Folk Center, Berea Church of God, Madison County Extension Office, Ignite Academy North, Madison County Public Library, The Mule Barn at Arlington, Eastside Community Church, and White Hall Baptist Church. The 6-day Excused Early Voting starts tomorrow and goes to November 1st. He encouraged those that are downtown and have other means of transportation besides public transportation or walking, to go to the Ignite Academy North if there are lines at the library, as well as to utilize the Berea Church of God location.

Comments from the Audience and Facebook Comments:

Blake Wiseman stated that he was unable to get the numbers that Magistrate Botkin was asking for but would email it out once he did.

Clerk Barger asked Wiseman if the insurance provider is providing health insurance to the inmates in the jail. Wiseman stated that it isn't health insurance but malpractice insurance (liability insurance), so the 24-hour coverage reduces their risk of an incident at the jail with medical personnel at the facility.

On Facebook, Steve Durham asked if County offices are open on Election Day. Jill Williams stated that all County Offices will be open on Election Day.

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Comments from Department Heads:

Jill Williams spoke about the progress at Wilgreen Lake. They have started today on resurfacing the decking on the courtesy dock and will begin next week on resurfacing the boat slips. For the safety of the citizens, the lake will not be accessible while they are going through the resurfacing process. She asked for the public to be patient, it should only be a couple more weeks before they will be able to open the lake back up.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

Motion made by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve to pay claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for November 14, 2023, in the Council Chambers' Courtroom in Berea, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Billy Ray Hughes to adjourn, seconded by Stephen Lochmueller. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM.


REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE