

Meeting Date: 9/24/2024

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 September 2024 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, and Stephen Lochmueller were present. Madison County Attorney Jennie Haymond, Madison County Clerk Kenny Barger, and Sheriff Mike Coyle were also present.

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

Judge Taylor asked Mitch Brown, Former KSP Officer, to lead the Court in prayer. Judge Taylor asked Sheriff Mike Coyle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 9-10-2024:

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on September 10, 2024.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller- Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

Treasurer's Report:

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

IN RE: Joint Proclamation—Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

Judge Taylor proclaimed October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Richmond, Berea, and all of Madison County, and urged all citizens to reach out to victims and help end domestic violence.

Paige Curtner, Communications & Development Coordinator for Hope's Wings, was in attendance to accept this proclamation. She stated one of the greatest things that people can do to show support of domestic violence awareness is to engage in the many ways to show victims that they aren't alone and that there is a way out, by community engagement. Next Friday, October 4th at Berea City Hall, there will be a luncheon provided by Hope's Wings, and she encouraged the public to come out to offer their support. They will also be celebrating Purple Thursday on October 17th where the public can wear purple, as well as some specials that local businesses will be offering on that day. She also stated that the These Hands Don't Hurt Event will take place on October 26th at noon at the First Christian Church, and will include a chili cook-off, with the theme this year being "Inspire Change." She thanked the Court for this Proclamation and for their support.

IN RE: Proclamation—National 4-H Week:

Judge Taylor Proclaimed October 6-12, 2024, as National 4-H Week throughout the state of Kentucky and encouraged all the citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact it has made and continues to make by empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime.

4-H Youth Development Extension Agents Julie Reid and Scott Darst, and multiple 4-H'ers were in attendance for this proclamation.

Andrea Calico, a 4-H student, spoke about her experience with 4-H and how it has helped her over the years. She explained that not only has it been beneficial for her agricultural skills, but 4-H has helped with her leadership and speaking skills. She thanked the Court for this proclamation.

Julie Reid thanked the Court for their support. She spoke about a couple of events that are coming up for the Cooperative Extension Office. This Saturday, September 28th from 10AM to 2PM, they will be hosting a Farm,

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Home, & Garden Expo at the Madison County Fairgrounds. This expo includes educational activities, workshops on cooking, beef ribeye cutting demonstrations, beekeeping, tending to animals, composting, and more, with free food available to the first 1000 guests starting at 11AM.

The 4-H is also presenting a Hay Bale Decorating Contest. There are categories to decorate hay bales for businesses, farms, and individuals using either square bales or round bales. The entry deadline is October 11th, with the judging taking place on October 17th. All entries will be left up through October 31st and a map will be published so families can drive through the county to see the entries.

IN RE: Proclamation—ADK-Alpha Eta Chapter Month:

Judge Taylor proclaimed October 2024 as ADK-Alpha Eta Chapter Month, stating their mission is to empower women educators to advance inclusion, educational excellence, altruism, and world understanding.

Teresa Ramsey, with ADK-Alpha Eta Chapter, was in attendance to accept this proclamation. She expressed her appreciation for the recognition. Their Chapter is comprised of members representing every school in Madison County, including ECU and Model. They work to support the students of Madison County as well as the teachers.

IN RE: Madison County Public Library Update—Christina Cornelison, Executive Director:

Christina Cornelison, Executive Director of the Madison County Public Library, provided an update of the library goals and future to the Court. She stated that the library, along with the County, works to improve the quality of life for everyone in Madison County. Fiscal year 2024 was a record year for them, with over a quarter million people visiting the library, checking out over a half a million books, with over half of the county using their library card to check out a book, and over 121,000 people using one of their community meeting spaces. At the library they focus on 3 things to provide an impact to the community. One area of impact is promoting literacy in every age by investing in kindergarten readiness, resume and interview skills at the middle & high school level, and a workforce development learning lab for certifications in high level skills and GED services. Another area of impact is by offering access to information especially with the homeschool families and co-ops in the area, and the Book Mobile Service through a Pop-up Library. The last way they focus on creating an impact is by providing meaningful community connections by having a comfortable, inviting space for groups to meet and gather, and by making the public aware of what those groups are doing.

Christina stated that she is proud of the fact that even though their demand and service utilization has increased over the years, they have been able to decrease their tax rates; the real property tax rate has decreased 17% since 2021, and the personal property tax rate has decreased 34%. They have been able to apply for and obtain over half million dollars in grant funding over the past 3 years, and she is very proud of that fact as well.

Magistrate Combs stated that he utilizes the library and expressed his appreciation to the staff for their helpfulness, and cleanliness of the facility. Christina stated that the facility being clean is very important because she wants a library that the County can be proud of.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that the work they are doing is well operated and expressed his appreciation for the job they are doing.

Judge Taylor stated that the library today is a lot more than just a library where you go to get a book. They are providing programs that allow people the opportunity to better themselves.

IN RE: Resolution 2024-94—Public Engagement Guidelines for Public Meetings, Public Work Sessions, and Public Hearings:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2024-94—Public Engagement Guidelines for Public Meetings, Public Work Sessions, and Public Hearings for the Court's approval. This Resolution is approving public engagement guidelines for Madison County public meetings, public work sessions, and/or public hearings.

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Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2024-94— Public Engagement Guidelines for Public Meetings, Public Work Sessions, and Public Hearings.

Magistrate Combs asked if this limits comments to only what is on the agenda. Judge Taylor stated that it could be any topic, but just not a topic that is repeated.

Magistrate Combs also asked if the submittal of the comment is on the website. Jill stated that yes it was. It's the same comment email that they have used for several years for any comments related to a public hearing and is filtered through a number of team members to ensure it is responded to.

Judge Taylor stated that this is nothing new in other areas, both of the cities have something similar in place.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2024-95—Public Engagement Guidelines for Social Media Accounts Operated by Madison County Fiscal Court:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2024-95—Public Engagement Guidelines for Social Media Accounts Operated by Madison County Fiscal Court for the Court's approval. This Resolution approves public engagement guidelines for social media accounts operated by Madison County Fiscal Court.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2024-95—Public Engagement Guidelines for Social Media Accounts Operated by Madison County Fiscal Court.

Magistrate Combs stated that they have to have guidelines to make sure laws aren't being broken and when it comes to threatening comments, they need to take those seriously. This provides guidelines to protect the employees and the public. Judge Taylor stated that he wants to ensure the employees are protected.

Jill stated that as more people are disengaging from Facebook because of the negativity or don't have social media at all, they are moving their live feed to YouTube because it is available on the internet, and you don't have to have an account to view them. There will be a link provided on the Facebook page with the livestream to YouTube, as well as on the website.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2024-96—SCALE Hypercore Software Maintenance Bid Award:

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented Resolution 2024-96—SCALE Hypercore Software Maintenance Bid Award for the Court's approval. This Resolution is to approve a bid award for SCALE Hypercore Software Maintenance to 13 Layers, LLC.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2024-96—SCALE Hypercore Software Maintenance Bid Award.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2024-97—Purchase 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for Madison County Emergency Management Agency:

Tim Gray, EMA/CSEPP Director, presented Resolution 2024-97—Purchase 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for Madison County Emergency Management Agency for the Court's approval. This Resolution approves the purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Madison County Emergency Management Agency.

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Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve presented Resolution 2024-97—
Purchase 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for Madison County Emergency Management Agency.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2024-98— Establishment of Madison County Opioid Task Force:

Jennie Haymond, Madison County Attorney, presented Resolution 2024-98— Establishment of Madison County Opioid Task Force for the Court's approval. This Resolution is for the creation and establishment of a Madison County Opioid Task Force.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2024-98—
Establishment of Madison County Opioid Task Force.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2024-99— American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds SALTO Access Control Expansion Bid Award:

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented Resolution 2024-99— American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds SALTO Access Control Expansion Bid Award for the Court's approval. This Resolution is for the Madison County Fiscal Court to approve a bid award for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) SALTO Access Control Expansion to Compass Security Solutions.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2024-99— American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds SALTO Access Control Expansion Bid Award.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller-Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

Tom Botkin- Not in Attendance

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Personnel:

Hannah Morgan, HR Director, recommended the hiring of Brittany Pinkous as a Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; the hiring of Tim Parrett as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; the hiring of James Klaczynski as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; and the hiring of Anthony Ciambro as a Seasonal Snow Removal CDL Truck Driver, at a rate of \$20 per hour, effective September 25, 2024.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the hiring of Brittany Pinkous as a Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; the hiring of Tim Parrett as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; the hiring of James Klaczynski as a CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective September 25, 2024; and the hiring of Anthony Ciambro as a Seasonal Snow Removal CDL Truck Driver, at a rate of \$20 per hour, effective September 25, 2024.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes

Stephen Lochmueller- Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance

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IN RE: Employee Spotlight:

Hannah Morgan, HR Director, spotlighted Joy Lowery, Telecommunicator since 2019. A colleague stated that Joy exceeds expectations, demonstrating exceptional dedication and leadership in her role. Joy's unwavering dedication to excellence sets a high standard for everyone to follow, and her willingness to go above and beyond embodies the values of the organization.

IN RE: Judge's Report:

- The 16th Annual Paint the Town Pink Kick-off Celebration is Friday, September 27th at 11:00 AM at Millstone Park in downtown Richmond.
 - There is also a Neon Night Run/Walk (a Paint the Town Pink event) on Friday, October 4th in downtown Richmond on Water Street. The Block Party is from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM. The race begins at 8:00 PM.
- Madison County Public Library and Richmond Parks and Recreation are hosting A Night of Heroes event on Friday, September 27th at Irvine-McDowell Park. The event begins at 6:00 PM and will honor superheroes and our real-world heroes. The event is free and open to the public.
- The Berea Volunteer Fire and Rescue's Blast from the Past Car Show will be Saturday, September 28th from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Berea College Forestry Outreach Center located at 2047 Big Hill Road.
- Kirksville Day will be on Saturday, September 28th from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Kirksville Community Center. Email kirksvillecommunitycenter@gmail.com for more information.
- Madison County Health Department and Advanced Animal Care are hosting a Rabies Vaccination Drive-thru Clinic on Saturday, September 28th. The event will be held at 138 N Keeneland Drive in Richmond from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. All animals should be on a leash or in a crate. The fee is \$10.00 per vaccination (**CASH ONLY**).
- Madison Central's homecoming parade will be Thursday, October 3rd beginning at 6:00 PM. The Indians will play Pulaski County on Friday, October 4th at 7:30 PM. Please be mindful of road closures and increased traffic in the area.
- The Household Hazardous Waste Tox Away Day is Saturday, October 5th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Madison County Road Department South located at 208 Clarksville Lane in Richmond. Visit Madison County, KY's Facebook page or call the Solid Waste department at 859-624-4709 for more information.
- The 2024 Millstone Festival will be on Saturday, October 5th on Main Street in downtown Richmond. Contact Richmond Parks and Recreation for more information. Please be mindful of road closures and increased traffic in the area.
- Trick or Treat Night for Madison County, Berea, and Richmond will be Thursday, October 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Please be mindful of the kids that will be out trick or treating.

Comments from Magistrates:

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Judge Taylor expressed his appreciation to the Richmond Mayor and Richmond Commission for allowing them to use their space while the Courthouse is under construction.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that he had nothing to report.

Magistrate Combs congratulated the Berea Chamber of Commerce for another successful Spoonbread event. He stated that September 30th-October 4th there will be a trash hopper on 2809/Hwy 1016 for those that are doing some fall clean-up. See the County Facebook page for a list of what can be put in the hopper.

Clerk Barger encouraged the public to get out and vote. They are expecting a 70% turnout during this election and encouraged the public to utilize the Early Voting dates of October 31st, November 1st, and November 2nd from 8AM-4PM to avoid long lines on Election Day.

Comments from Department Heads:

No Comments from Department Heads.

Comments from the Audience and Facebook Comments:

Dakota Rollins, 1796 Poosey Ridge Rd, Richmond, commented on the public comment resolution. She stated that the public's right to express opinions is a fundamental right to the process and the principles of transparency that guide our government. She stated that her research shows that Facebook is up 6% from last year and feels that openness should be the standard with government.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

Motion made by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve to pay the claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for October 8, 2024, in the Council Chambers' Courtroom in Berea, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Stephen Lochmueller to adjourn, seconded by James Brian Combs. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR, MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE