

Meeting Date; 7/8/2025
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 8th of July 2025 at 9:30AM in the Council Chambers' Courtroom in Berea, 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 Assistant Attorney Brooke Bowman, Madison County Sheriff Mike Coyle, 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 Magistrate Botkin, to lead the Court in prayer.

Judge Taylor asked Sheriff Michael Coyle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 6-24-2025:

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on June 24, 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: Approval of Meeting Minutes 6-30-2025:

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on June 30, 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: Kentucky Small Business Development Center Discussion — Katie Startzman, Business Coach:

Katie Startzman, Business Coach and Berea City Council Member, provided a presentation on the Kentucky Small Business Development Center (SBDC). She stated that the SBDC is part of a statewide network that is incredibly important for business owners as they navigate challenges. The SBDC provides business coaching to individuals that are wanting to start a business by helping with Business Planning, Financial Analysis, Business Coaching, and Loan Packaging, as well as supporting those in transition to pivot to other areas of business. They work with other partners to provide strong referral relationships for those just starting out, as well as offering free specialty trainings for their clients. Last year, they served 2,650 clients, helping them bring in \$54.1 million in capital to new businesses.

Magistrate Botkin expressed his appreciation to Katie for what she does.

Judge Taylor asked Katie if the numbers from last year were just from the southeastern region or if they were statewide. Katie stated that they were statewide, but she could pull numbers from the last five (5) years to determine the businesses that have been impacted in Madison County.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that the SBDC is a very worthy organization.

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IN RE: Resolution 2025-065—Madison County Fiscal Court and City of Mt. Vernon Interlocal Agreement for Data Center Services (aka KCGC):

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented Resolution 2025-065—Madison County Fiscal Court and City of Mt. Vernon Interlocal Agreement for Data Center Services (aka KCGC) for the Court's approval. This Resolution relates to an Interlocal Agreement between Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky and the City of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky for the use of the Kentucky Counties Government Cloud (KCGC).

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Tom Botkin to approve Resolution 2025-065—Madison County Fiscal Court and City of Mt. Vernon Interlocal Agreement for Data Center Services (aka KCGC).

Magistrate Botkin asked Chris to remind the City of Mt. Vernon that they are responsible for the insurance. Chris agreed, stating it is one of the first items they go over. Chris also stated that this is the first city in the Kentucky Counties Government Cloud.

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:

Jessica Coffey, Human Resources Director, recommended the hiring of Jennifer Slagle as 911 Administrative Assistant, at a rate of \$20 per hour, effective July 9, 2025; and the status change for William G. Cooper from Firefighter II to Firefighter Recruit, at a rate of \$18.50, effective July 2, 2025.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs the hiring of Jennifer Slagle as 911 Administrative Assistant, at a rate of \$20 per hour, effective July 9, 2025; and the status change for William G. Cooper from Firefighter II to Firefighter Recruit, at a rate of \$18.50, effective July 2, 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: Employee Spotlight:

Scott Shepherd, Road Supervisor, spotlighted Melissa Settle, Road Department Office Manager, who has been with the County since 2018. A colleague stated that Melissa is a team player, who is willing to help her colleagues with whatever they may need. She juggles many phone calls, emails, and interruptions each day, while doing an incredible job of ensuring that the concerns of each constituent and/or employee are addressed as quickly as possible. The Road Department is grateful to have her on their team.

Scott stated that without Melissa, there is no way they could get done what they do. Her planning and organizational skills are a great asset to them. He expressed his appreciation to Melissa.

Judge Taylor stated that Melissa is so kind, and that no matter how stressful the situation, she always has a smile.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that she does a lot for the Magistrates and always greets them with a smile.

RE: Judge's Report:

- Visit our website at www.madisoncountky.gov/community-events to see a list of some of the events happening throughout our community. If you have an event you would like to feature on this page, simply click on the "Submit an Event" button and complete the form.

Comments from Magistrates:

Meeting Date; 7/8/2025
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Judge Taylor informed the citizens that the City of Richmond, City of Berea, and Madison County have worked together for over two (2) years to create a plan to collect a 911 fee in a different way besides through landline phones. All three (3) governing bodies voted to participate in a joint 911 fee. He expressed his appreciation to Major Fraley and the Berea City Council for their discussion and statements during their last council meeting. He also expressed his appreciation to the staff of the Judge Executive's Office, the 911 Center, the leadership of Wendy and Chief Gray, the Finance Department, and Planning and Zoning for all their work in getting the information correct.

Magistrate Botkin stated that the Task Force was compiled by the City of Richmond, City of Berea, and the County, with representatives from all three (3) governments. They worked hard and diligently for over a year to come to a resolution for the 911 fee.

Dr. Paula Maionchi explained that when she came to Madison County in 1974, the Emergency Communications System was unpredictable, not knowing when emergency services would get there, or if they would get to the correct location. Now, thanks to great cooperation and IT, it is a very efficient service for a minimal fee, and if someone needs emergency services, they will reliably and quickly get to the correct location.

Magistrate Hughes reminded the public that the Madison County Farm Bureau's picnic is tonight at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

Magistrate Botkin stated everyone has been paying a fee for 911, and whenever someone needs it, they won't be worried about the fee amount. Starting on July 14th, the State will begin mowing again and asked the public to use caution when they see the mowers on the side of the road.

Magistrate Combs thanked all the County employees and department heads, especially in the Judge Executive's Office for all the work they are doing with 911.

Magistrate Lochmueller concurred with Magistrate Combs.

Comments from Department Heads:

No Comments from Department Heads.

Public Comments:

No Comments from the Public.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

Motion made by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve to pay claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for July 22, 2025, in the Fiscal Courtroom of the Courthouse Annex building in Richmond, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from James Brian Combs to adjourn, seconded by Stephen Lochmueller. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 AM.


REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE