

Meeting Date; 11/12/2025
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 12th of November 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 Joey Kays, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist 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 10-28-2025:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on October 28, 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: Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1066 – Deputy Veteran Award:

Emerson McAfee with the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1066, stated that this is the 7th Deputy Veteran Award they have issued. He explained that this award recognizes those that have served in the armed forces and are now working for the community.

Chief Deputy Tony Terry presented the Deputy Veteran Award to Deputy John Northern. Deputy Northern has been employed with the Sheriff's Office since April 1, 2022, and is an integral part of the office. He previously served with the Kentucky State Police. He entered the United States Marine Corp in January 2009 and served for eight years. Deputy Northern received many commendations during his service, including two Marine Corp Achievement Medals, Combat Action ribbon in Afghanistan, Marine Corp Good Conduct medal, National Defense Service medal, Afghanistan Campaign medal with two stars, Global War on Terrorism, three Certificates of Commendation, and two Muratoris Promotions. He was honorably discharged in 2017. His military leadership and training are of great value to the Sheriff's Office as he continues to share his experience. He is very dependable and is ready to accept any challenges that may be in front of him. Deputy Northern is the epitome of what the Madison County Sheriff's Office represents, and they are blessed to have him.

IN RE: 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-013 — Land Use Change 2719 Robbinsville Loop from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-013 — Land Use Change 2719 Robbinsville Loop from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance of the Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky approving the zone change of 2719 Robbinsville Loop, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the official zoning map of Madison County, Kentucky.

The 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-013 — Land Use Change 2719 Robbinsville Loop from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business was read and acknowledged by the Court.

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IN RE: 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-014 — Land Use Change 119 Greens Crossing from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-014 — Land Use Change 119 Greens Crossing from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance of the Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky approving the zone change of 119 Greens Crossing Road, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the official zoning map of Madison County, Kentucky.

The 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-014 — Land Use Change 119 Greens Crossing from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business was read and acknowledged by the Court.

Bert stated that the property owner already owned the property on the corner of Greens Crossing and Irvine Rd. He was able to purchase the property next door and behind his current property to expand his business. The corner lot, 2707 Robbinsville Loop, was already zoned as UC-4.

Magistrate Botkin asked if there were any complaints voiced during the Planning Commission. Bert stated that there was a neighbor to the 2719 Robbinsville Loop address that had concerns about the type of landscaping buffers that would be required and what the owners' plans were for their side of the lot. They informed the neighbor that there would be some landscaping buffers that would be required of the property owner, and the neighbor would go from a 10-foot buffer to a 20–30-foot buffer if this Ordinance got approved.

Magistrate Hughes stated that from the way the property owner operates, he will take care of his neighbor, and he takes pride in what he does. He has improved the looks of the property already.

IN RE: Resolution 2025-106 — American Battlefield Trust Agreement Fourth Amendment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-106 — American Battlefield Trust Agreement Fourth Amendment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution authorizing the fourth amendment to an agreement between the Madison County Fiscal Court, the City of Richmond, and the American Battlefield Trust.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-106 — American Battlefield Trust Agreement Fourth Amendment.

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 2025-107 — Professional Services Agreement for Legal Services:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-107 — Professional Services Agreement for Legal Services for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court authorizing the County Judge/Executive to enter into a professional services agreement for legal services relating to cable, broadband, franchising, and right-of-way issues with Linda K. Ain.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by Tom Botkin to approve Resolution 2025-107 — Professional Services Agreement for Legal Services.

Magistrate Botkin asked if this individual lives in Florida, and would there be a need for her to be in Kentucky. Judge Taylor stated that she does reside in Florida but comes to Kentucky as needed. They have been able to transfer documents through email, and communicate through phone conversations, or Zoom meetings.

Magistrate Hughes stated that Ms. Ain has a great reputation with the telecommunication laws.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that they also have past experience with her.

Jill stated that Linda does represent both the City of Richmond and the City of Berea with these types of law.

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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 2025-108 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-108 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution that approves the appointment of Ervin Yoder to the Madison County Cooperative Extension Board, with an expiration date of December 31, 2028.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-108 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment, appointing Ervin Yoder, with an expiration date of December 31, 2028.

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 2025-109 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-109 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution that approves the appointment of Meredith Reed to the Madison County Cooperative Extension Board, with an expiration date of December 31, 2028.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-109 — Madison County Cooperative Extension Board Appointment, appointing Meredith Reed, with an expiration date of December 31, 2028.

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 2025-110 — Madison County Planning Commission Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-110 — Madison County Planning Commission Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution that approves the appointment of Robert Farmer to the Madison County Planning Commission, with an expiration date of December 31, 2029. Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-110 — Madison County Planning Commission Appointment, appointing Robert Farmer, with an expiration date of December 31, 2029.

Magistrate Combs thanked those that volunteer their time and talent to support the community.

Magistrate Lochmueller agreed with Magistrate Combs.

Magistrate Hughes asked how long Mr. Farmer had been on the Planning Commission. Bert stated that it has been over 25 years. Before the Planning Commission was started, they had a Subdivision Advisory Board, and Mr. Farmer was on that Board as well.

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Magistrate Hughes stated that he appreciated Mr. Farmer's faithful service over the years, but he feels like this is an opportunity to do something different.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller-Yes
Billy Ray Hughes- No	Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Resolution 2025-111 — Adopt Madison County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures:

Sissy Slone, Animal Shelter Director, presented Resolution 2025-111 — Adopt Madison County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the Madison County Fiscal Court to approve Madison County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-111 — Adopt Madison County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures.

Magistrate Hughes and Magistrate Combs thanked Sissy for all she does.

Magistrate Lochmueller thanked Sissy for her help and support with the situation he had in his District.

Judge Taylor expressed his appreciation to Sissy for her help on getting this completed. Sissy stated that this was something that was important to get done and included some detailed procedures that the State Vet wanted included in the SOPs.

Magistrate Botkin thanked both Sissy and Brooke Bowman for their work on this.

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 2025-112 — Professional Engineering Services Agreement for the Northern Madison County Fire Station:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-112 — Professional Engineering Services Agreement for the Northern Madison County Fire Station for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution to approve a Professional Engineering Services Agreement for the Northern Madison County Fire Station with Solid Ground Consulting Engineers, PLLC.

Magistrate Hughes stated that he has had some constituents bring up concerns that this station will be at the northern border of the county and that some of the 5-mile radius will be outside of the county line. Judge Taylor stated that the Clays Ferry Bridge isn't the most northern part of the county, the maps show that there is a "U" shape that comes down at the Clays Ferry Bridge. The 5-mile driving radius allows the coverage of the northern part of Boone's Trace, and down toward Boonesborough.

Chief Gray stated that they had been looking at this area since 2018, looking at multiple locations; this location takes in more residential rooftops and more citizens than any other location in that area.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that one of the things he wanted to accomplish was to have a northern Madison County fire presence. He explained that it is easy to identify an area that you would like to have a station at, but it isn't easy to get a location. When they look at the map and overlay the radius, this location allows them to help the most people.

Chief Gray reiterated that this location covers all the way to Fort Boonesborough, because of the coverage of the 5-road mile radius.

Magistrate Hughes also stated that he has had some citizens express concerns about them moving the location that is central to the county to the northern part of the county, it will take them longer to get to areas like Waco or Newby. Judge Taylor stated that they have mutual aid agreements, and automatic aid agreements; they aren't

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changing their footprint. They have invested in the volunteer fire departments to provide the assistance needed as well.

Chief Gray stated that they respond to the Waco area from Station 2 right now instead of the Keeneland Dr. location, that is being moved. The Newby area will still be responded to by the County but due to the agreements that are in place now, other departments could respond faster anyway. The main goal is to help the citizens as fast as possible, no matter what name is on the trucks that are being pulled. No one will lose any response time with this move.

Magistrate Lochmueller suggested they have a public display to show the coverage areas and explain the mutual agreements they use. He expressed his appreciation to Chief Gray.

Magistrate Combs thanked Chief Gray for supporting the City of Louisville during their recent fire due to a plane crash.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-112 — Professional Engineering Services Agreement for the Northern Madison County Fire Station.

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:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, recommended the status change of Dwayne A. Clark from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Haiden G. Holcomb from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Jena M. Sidle from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Kenneth Jeff McHone from Head Golf Shop Attendant to Director of Golf and Parks, at a rate of \$25.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the hiring of Taylor Moore as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the hiring of Courtney Briden as Administrative Assistant II-Animal Care and Control, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, effective November 25, 2025; and the hiring of Richard Owens as CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective November 13, 2025.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Stephen Lochmueller the status change of Dwayne A. Clark from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Haiden G. Holcomb from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Jena M. Sidle from a Firefighter Recruit to a Firefighter, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the status change of Kenneth Jeff McHone from Head Golf Shop Attendant to Director of Golf and Parks, at a rate of \$25.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the hiring of Taylor Moore as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective November 19, 2025; the hiring of Courtney Briden as Administrative Assistant II-Animal Care and Control, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, effective November 25, 2025; and the hiring of Richard Owens as CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective November 13, 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:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, spotlighted Tony Kidd, Head Grounds Superintendent, who has been with the County since 2004. A colleague stated that Tony takes pride in keeping the grounds maintained at

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Battlefield Golf Course, and has improved the condition of the grounds, which has made the course a more desirable place to play a round of golf. He is kind to his team, treats them with respect, helps them with anything they may need, is a team player, and a hard worker.

Jill stated that Tony and his team do a great job of taking care of the course, and since the passing of Gary, he has taken on some additional roles that Gary did with a very lean staff but with patience.

Magistrate Combs stated that he has heard nothing but good things about the course. The fact that the seasonal employees want to come back each year shows what type of leader Tony is.

RE: Judge's Report:

- Today, we proudly recognize the vital role of Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (APRNs) and their many contributions to Madison County. Across hospitals, clinics, schools, and community programs, these highly skilled professionals provide compassionate, quality care that improves the health and well-being of our citizens. Their dedication, expertise, and leadership strengthen our healthcare system and ensure that families throughout Madison County receive the care they deserve. We are truly grateful for their service and commitment to our community. We just received notice of their designated week late Monday, but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to let them know how much we appreciate their service to the community.
- Kentucky River Foothills is accepting applications for the Subsidy portion of their Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through December 12, 2025, or until funds are depleted. The agency encourages all potentially eligible or vulnerable households to apply as soon as possible.
- The Battle of Richmond is hosting two holiday giving initiatives. Donations for both initiatives can be dropped off at the Battle of Richmond Visitors Center, located at 101 Battlefield Memorial Highway, Richmond, KY.
 1. The Operation Stars and Stripes campaign is encouraging the community to drop off signed Christmas cards (only include your name and address-no personal messages) by November 21st.
 2. The Santa Claus Sock Drop encourages the community to purchase new, calf-length athletic socks for the less fortunate. The collection event will kick off November 17th and continue through December 19th.
- 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:

Magistrate Hughes stated that the Union City Ruritan will be having their annual Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, and College Hill Methodist Church is having their Annual Christmas Bazaar this Saturday as well.

Magistrate Botkin expressed his appreciation to Melissa Settle and Scott Shepherd at the Road Department, and Brandon McIntosh at the State Road Department. He stated that he had been a recipient of the Christmas cards through the Operation Stars and Stripes campaign, and explained that they do mean a lot for those that are away from home during the holidays.

Magistrate Combs stated there was nothing to report in the 1st District.

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Magistrate Lochmueller stated there was nothing to report in the 2nd District.

Comments from Department Heads:

No comments from Department Heads.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

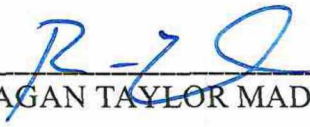
Motion made by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve to pay claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for November 25, 2025, in the Fiscal Courtroom of the Courthouse Annex Building in Richmond, 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 10:22 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE