

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025
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 25th of November 2025 at 9:30 AM in the Fiscal Courtroom of the Courthouse Annex Building 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, 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 Tony Christian, Pastor at GracePoint 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 11-12-2025:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on November 12, 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

Treasurer's Report:

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

IN RE: Red Lick Volunteer Fire Department Update — Elliott Stoddard, RLVFD

Treasurer:

Elliott Stoddard, Red Lick Volunteer Fire Department Treasurer, provided an update on the RLVFD. He started out by thanking the Court for granting them \$20,000 last fiscal year, which, along with a State grant and RLVFD fundraising, helps them deliver a high level of professional emergency services on a small budget of less than \$50,000. The Red Lick Fire District is in southeast Madison County, covering less than 1,800 addresses from the Blue Grass Army Depot down south to the county line, and Highway 421 eastwards to the county line. They work closely with the Madison County Fire Department, Blue Grass Army Depot Fire Department, Berea Fire Department and Berea Volunteers, as well as departments in surrounding counties providing tanker support, and fighting grass and wildfire fires. RLVFD provides emergency services to structure fires, automobile fires, hay fires, grass fires, and wildlife fires, as well as car and farm accident extractions, and search and rescue operations.

Elliott stated that Madison County has an incredible system of mutual aid between fire departments that is seldom seen. It works so well, in part due to the unified dispatch and radio system. The first person on scene can radio dispatch to tell them what tools, skills, and manpower are needed. The volunteers are on call 24/7 and live and work throughout the district, so there is a good chance that one of them is close to an emergency call when it happens.

Last year, they responded to 98 calls in the district, as well as in Berea, Richmond, Waco, White Hall, Estill County, and Jackson County. Out of those 98 calls, 51 were for various fire responses and the rest were for traffic accidents. To date this year, they have responded to 131 calls, with 78 of those being for various fire responses.

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025

Meeting of: Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type: Regularly Scheduled

The RLVFD has 30 members, and half of those are professional firefighters and/or EMS personnel. These professional volunteers are important to community safety by bringing a level of expertise and dedication that couldn't be provided without them. The non-professional volunteers benefit greatly from the professional's knowledge and expertise. Their training and leadership lead to a better emergency response and a lower rate of injuries on scene. They also have important contacts and resources with other fire departments that saves the RLVFD tens of thousands of dollars each year.

The Red Lick volunteers are building a legacy of firefighting by training junior firefighters, who in turn are more likely to service their communities as professional firefighters in local departments.

They also have three response vehicles: a small fire engine, a brush truck, and a tanker. All of these vehicles are 1998 models, and the volunteers have worked hard to keep them running without spending a lot of money on repairs.

Judge Taylor asked Elliott about their training containers. Elliott stated they have cargo shipping containers that they have purchased from the Army Depot to use as a training facility. These containers are stacked together and are designed to be used for training search and rescue, providing confidence to firefighters that they can get out of any situation, as well as training on the use of the ladders.

Magistrate Combs thanked Elliott for their service to the community.

IN RE: Firefighter Pinning Ceremony:

Tim Gray, Fire Chief, presented a pinning ceremony to recognize William Cooper, who had his sister, Emery Foster, present for the pinning. William was hired on August 14, 2024, and was sent to Greenville for the Kentucky Fire Academy Recruit class a week later. On November 15, 2024, he graduated from the Fire Academy with his completion of Kentucky Firefighter I and Kentucky Firefighter II. He then started shift work on November 20, 2024, and was able to acquire his Hazmat Tech Certification in April 2025 and his EMT Certification in July 2025.

IN RE: 2nd 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.

Motion by Tom Botkin was seconded by Billy Ray Hughes to approve 2nd Reading Ordinance 2025-013 — Land Use Change 2719 Robbinsville Loop from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business. Valerie Himes, Attorney with Luxon and Himes, PLLC representing the applicant, stated that this property and the property at 119 Greens Crossing are currently zoned as an UC-1, and the applicant is asking that it be changed to UC-4. She provided pictures of the properties before and after the applicant had cleaned them up. This property and the property at 119 Greens Crossing are both adjoined to a property that the applicant owns and operates as a business which is already classified as a UC-4 zone change. This zone change would be in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan, and the property already has the utilities and the infrastructure in place.

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

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025

Meeting of: Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type: Regularly Scheduled

IN RE: 2nd 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.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes was seconded by James Brian Combs to approve 2nd Reading Ordinance 2025-014 — Land Use Change 119 Greens Crossing from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-4 General Business. Judge Taylor stated that the plan for these properties is to be one continuous tract. Bert stated that he was correct, and the applicant has an agreement to purchase the tract in front of these as well.

There were no public comments.

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 2025-113 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Hockaday Cemetery:

Preston Worley, Member, McBrayer PLLC, provided an update on the Hockaday and Crigler Cemeteries. He reminded the Court that Kentucky law states that an abandoned cemetery can only have the graves removed by the landowner if the Fiscal Court deems the property has been abandoned. During the last reading of the Hockaday and Crigler Cemetery removal and reinterment, the Court wanted to make sure that any descendant they could find in the community had been contacted and had the opportunity to weigh in if possible, and to think more on how the process would proceed. Chase Thomas, Project Manager, Funeral Director and Embalmer Apprentice at Oldam, Roberts, & Powell Funeral Home, stated that by doing more work on the descendancy and lineage of both cemeteries, they were able to identify descendants of both the Hockaday and Crigler families. He was able to reach out to those descendants and in both cases the descendants have said they agree with the removal and reinterment process. The process will be done in a respectful and dignified manner that will honor those buried there and allow the families an opportunity to reconnect with their ancestors. Magistrate Botkin thanked Magistrate Combs for his research into the descendants, and commended Mr. Worley and Mr. Thomas for their additional work.

Magistrate Combs also thanked Mr. Worley and Mr. Thomas for going above and beyond and honoring the Court's request for more information. He has no doubt that the process will be done with dignity and respect. Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2025-113 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Hockaday Cemetery for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution pursuant to KRS 381.755 and 901 KAR 5:090 authorizing the removal and relocation of graves in an abandoned cemetery located upon property known as Hockaday Cemetery, located on the road south from Duncannon Lane, past rear of I-75 rest area, following gravel lane 0.2 miles from end of pavement, owned by Begley Properties, LLC, a Kentucky Limited Liability Company.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-113 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Hockaday Cemetery.

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

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025

Meeting of: Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type: Regularly Scheduled

IN RE: Resolution 2025-114 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Crigler Cemetery:

Judge Taylor presented Resolution 2025-114 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Crigler Cemetery for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution pursuant to KRS 381.755 and 901 KAR 5:090 authorizing the removal and relocation of graves in an abandoned cemetery located upon property known as Crigler Cemetery, located on Langley Drive, owned by Begley Properties, LLC, a Kentucky Limited Liability Company.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-114 — Petition for Grave Removal and Reinterment – Crigler Cemetery.

Preston thanked the Court for working with the property owner to try to resolve an unusual issue in a way that satisfies the public interest, the Fiscal Court, and the property owner.

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 2025-115 — EMA/CSEPP Outdoor Warning Sirens Removal and Transportation to a Designated Storage Site Bid Award:

Tim Gray, Fire Chief/EMA Director, presented Resolution 2025-115 — EMA/CSEPP Outdoor Warning Sirens Removal and Transportation to a Designated Storage Site Bid Award for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court approving a bid award for EMA/CSEPP outdoor warning sirens removal and transportation to a designated storage site to West Shore Services, Inc.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2025-115 — EMA/CSEPP Outdoor Warning Sirens Removal and Transportation to a Designated Storage Site Bid Award.

Magistrate Botkin asked where these sirens would be stored at. Judge Taylor stated it would be at the Emergency Storage building or at the EOC. Chief Gray added that the polls would probably be stored at the Road South lot, but the other components had to be stored inside.

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 2025-116 — Madison County Joint Information Center Deed Transfer:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-116 — Madison County Joint Information Center Deed Transfer for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution relating to the deed transfer of the Madison County Joint Information Center from Madison County EMS to Madison County Fiscal Court.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-116 — Madison County Joint Information Center Deed Transfer.

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 2025-117 — Madison County Joint Information Center Facility MOU for Madison County EMS:

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025

Meeting of: Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type: Regularly Scheduled

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-117 — Madison County Joint Information Center Facility MOU for Madison County EMS for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Madison County Fiscal Court and Madison County EMS regarding the use of the Joint Information Center Facility.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-117 — Madison County Joint Information Center Facility MOU for Madison County EMS.

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: 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-015 — Land Use Change 107 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-6 Public & Semi-Public:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-015 — Land Use Change 107 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-6 Public & Semi-Public for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance of the Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky approving the zone change of 107 Carr Lane, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the official zoning map of Madison County, Kentucky.

The 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-015 — Land Use Change 107 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-6 Public & Semi-Public was read and acknowledged by the Court.

Bert stated that there have been some questions on whether they needed to do this zone change or not, but they wanted to make sure the zoning map was accurate.

IN RE: 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-016 — Land Use Change 220, 226, & 230 Waco Loop from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-4 General Business:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-016 — Land Use Change 220, 226, & 230 Waco Loop from UC-7 Agriculture 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 220, 226, & 230 Waco Loop, Waco, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the official zoning map of Madison County, Kentucky.

The 1st Reading Ordinance 2025-016 — Land Use Change 220, 226, & 230 Waco Loop from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-4 General Business was read and acknowledged by the Court.

Magistrate Botkin asked if there were any complaints. Bert stated that there was none. These properties are located in the "downtown" area of Waco, and a lot of that area is used for commercial purposes already, as it isn't an appropriate area for agriculture.

IN RE: Resolution 2025-118 — Fiscal Court Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2026:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-118 — Fiscal Court Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2026 for the Court's approval. This Resolution is to approve the Madison County Fiscal Court meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2026.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-118 — Fiscal Court Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2026.

Motion carried on roll vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller- Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- Yes

Reagan Taylor – Yes

Meeting Date: 11/25/2025

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IN RE: Resolution 2025-119 — Freelance Media Content Specialist Services Bid Award:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2025-119 — Freelance Media Content Specialist Services Bid Award for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court approving a bid award for freelance media content specialist services with Landry Luxon Consulting, LLC. Motion by Stephen Lochmueller was seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-119 — Freelance Media Content Specialist Services Bid Award.

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, HR Director, recommended the hiring of Daryl Frosty as CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective December 1, 2025; the hiring of Alexis Young as Part-time Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective December 1, 2025; and the status change of Nathaniel R. Wells from Part-time Firefighter to Full-time Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective December 3, 2025.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the hiring of Daryl Frosty as CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer, at a rate of \$18 per hour, effective December 1, 2025; the hiring Alexis Young as Part-time Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective December 1, 2025; and the status change of Nathaniel R. Wells from Part-time Firefighter to Full-time Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective December 3, 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: Judge's Report:

- Mayor Fraley's Merry Mingling will be on Saturday, November 29th from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at the Old Town Artisan Village. Join him for the annual tree lighting, caroling, free refreshments, marshmallow roasting, and much more.
- Shop Small Saturday will be Saturday, November 29th. Shop Small Saturday encourages patronizing the small, locally owned shops for the Christmas season.
- Christmas Parades
 - Richmond's Christmas parade will be on Friday, December 5th beginning at 6:00 PM. It should arrive on Main Street around 7:00 PM.
 - Berea's Christmas parade will be on Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 PM.Please be mindful of road closures and increased traffic in these areas.
- 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.

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- Madison County Government and its related offices will be closed Tuesday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th for Thanksgiving Break. Offices will reopen on Monday, December 1st.
Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Comments from Magistrates:

Judge Taylor commended Chief Gray for his work with the Waco Volunteer Fire Department on their ISO rating. Chief Gray stated that the Waco Volunteer Fire Department had a 9-10 ISO rating, which relates to the community having a higher homeowner's insurance premium. After getting some paperwork to the ISO, and there now being fire hydrants within a 5-mile radius of the station with adequate water flow, they can perform a field survey to possibly bring the ISO rating down to a 4, 5, or 6 rating depending on the type of equipment the Waco Volunteer Fire Department has. This will result in a lower homeowner's insurance premium for those that live within the 5-mile radius of that station. Chief Gray stated that the Union City and Red Lick Volunteer Fire Departments both have a rating of 5, but they are working with the Kirksville Volunteer Fire Department to get their rating down within the next year.

Magistrate Hughes expressed his appreciation to all the volunteer fire departments. He asked if it was possible to have a diagram on the website to demonstrate where calls have originated from. Chief Gray stated they could work with IT and 911 to get that data and input it onto a heat map.

Elliott stated that on the Red Lick Volunteer Fire Department website at www.RLVFD.com, they have a map that is linked within the dispatch system that tells the area of each of their calls and what those calls were for, while keeping within HIPPA regulations.

Magistrate Hughes also stated that he has had comments about the CSEPP advertisements and who was paying for those advertisements. Jill stated that all of those advertisements, mailers, etc. are considered a part of the close-out messaging and are 100% paid for by CSEPP funds. Jill explained that these advertisements not only thank those that have been involved in the CSEPP program over the years but also encourage the public to sign up for Smart911 and the alert notifications.

Magistrate Hughes also asked about the \$27 Million that Senator Mitch McConnell was able to secure for the Blue Grass Army Depot. Judge Taylor stated that the OLDCC study that they participated in led to the information concerning the need for the manufacturing of the military storage containers within the United States, which will hopefully be done at the Depot. Jill stated that the initial feasibility study determined five (5) possibilities for the Depot after the demilitarization, and the manufacturing of the storage containers was one of those possibilities, which could provide 400-1,200 jobs.

Magistrate Botkin stated that he has received several calls about potholes within the 4th District, which he has relayed to the State. He asked the community to be in prayer for Brandon McIntosh and wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Magistrate Combs wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He thanked the 4-H for the hams and Judge Taylor for preparing the ham biscuits.

Magistrate Lochmueller also wished everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Attorney Haymond wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Comments from Department Heads:

No Comments from Department Heads.

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Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

Motion made by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Tom Botkin to approve to pay claims and transfers.

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for December 16, 2025, in Fiscal Courtroom of the Courthouse Annex Building in Richmond, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Billy Ray Hughes to adjourn, seconded by Tom Botkin. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR, MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE