

Meeting Date; 3/10/2026
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 10th of March 2026 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 and Tom Botkin were present. Madison County Assistant Attorney Brooke Bowman, Madison County Chief Deputy Tony Terry, 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 Randy Calico, Pilot Knob Missionary Baptist Church, to lead the Court in prayer.

Judge Taylor asked Magistrate Tom Botkin to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 2-24-2026:

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on February 24, 2026.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Not in Attendance
Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance	Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Hope's Wings Jail and Bail Fundraiser Update — Jennifer Lainhart, Executive Director:

Jennifer Lainhart, Executive Director of Hope's Wings, spoke on the upcoming Jail and Bail Fundraiser event. She explained that fundraisers are more important than ever, due to budget cuts from the Federal and State level. At the shelter, it takes about \$27,000 a month to operate. This past year, they were able to provide roughly 87 women and children with shelter in the facility. The shelter works on providing the women opportunities to finish their education through GED's or help gain jobs when they haven't had employment for a while and then help with a deposit and first month's rent when they leave the shelter to help them be more successful in leaving abusive relationships. This year they would like to provide 100 women and children with shelter. With this year's Jail and Bail Fundraiser, they would like to raise \$35,000 to \$40,000. The bail set for every volunteer arrested is \$800, but she encouraged the participants to raise more if possible. This event will begin on March 27th at Central Bank in the Community Room, with breakfast and lunch provided. She expressed her appreciation for the support they have received from the local governments and community members.

Judge Taylor stated that you can participate without being arrested. Jennifer stated that they will take any donation amount. They have always been good stewards of the donations they receive and strive to turn \$5 into \$50.

Magistrate Botkin asked how they accept donations. Jennifer said they take check, through Venmo on their website, or you can even make a pledge, and they will contact you for payment.

IN RE: 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-001 — Land Use Change 165 & 167 Charlie Norris Road from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-4 General Business:

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Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-001 — Land Use Change 165 & 167 Charlie Norris Road 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 165 & 167 Charlie Norris Road, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the official zoning map of Madison County, Kentucky.

Motion by Tom Botkin was seconded by James Brian Combs to approve 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-001 — Land Use Change 165 & 167 Charlie Norris Road from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-4 General Business.

Judge Taylor stated that this was a pre-existing, non-conforming property.

Magistrate Botkin thanked Bert for providing maps, as they are helpful in trying to figure out where the property is at and what it would be with the zoning around it.

There were no public comments.

Motion carried on roll vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Not in Attendance
Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance	Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Resolution 2026-014 — FY 2026 Spring Road Paving:

Scott Shepherd, Road Department Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-014—FY 2026 Spring Road Paving for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court relating to spring road paving of the roads outlined in the county road list as allocated and based on the greatest need.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-014—FY 2026 Spring Road Paving.

Magistrate Combs explained that the cost of asphalt to blacktop a 16-foot wide, one mile long, one-and-a-half-inch thick section of roadway is \$89,100 and that doesn't include the cost of providing the base of the roadway. The cost is the reason why the roads don't get re-paved as often as they would like, and right now, they are on a 30-year re-pavement cycle.

Magistrate Botkin explained that the roads that are being re-paved are the roads that need it the most. He also thanked Judge Taylor, because this allotment is in addition to what they normally are able to do.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Not in Attendance
Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance	Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Personnel:

Jessica Coffey, HR Director, recommended the hiring of Carter Shrader as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Allie Foltz as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Noah Eastham Assistant Golf Shop Attendant, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Andrew Frazier as Seasonal Assistant Golf Shop Attendant, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Brooklynn Floyd as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Gary Tyree as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Danny Isaacs as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of David Hall as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of William McGuire as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Carl McCray as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring

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of Daniel Wood as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Ronnie Lakes as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Rick Brammer as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the change of status for Richard Gray from CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer to Heavy Equipment Operator, at a rate of \$21 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Alaina Kieckhefer as Part-time Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Elizabeth Stapleton as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective March 25, 2026; and the hiring of Taiyler Hayes as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective March 25, 2026.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Tom Botkin to approve the hiring of Carter Shrader as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Allie Foltz as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Noah Eastham Assistant Golf Shop Attendant, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Andrew Frazier as Seasonal Assistant Golf Shop Attendant, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Brooklynn Floyd as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Gary Tyree as Seasonal Grounds Maintenance, at a rate of \$12 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Danny Isaacs as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of David Hall as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of William McGuire as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Carl McCray as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Daniel Wood as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Ronnie Lakes as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Rick Brammer as Seasonal Outside Cart Attendant, at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the change of status for Richard Gray from CDL Truck Driver/General Laborer to Heavy Equipment Operator, at a rate of \$21 per hour, effective March 11, 2026; the hiring of Alaina Kieckhefer as Part-time Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective March 18, 2026; the hiring of Elizabeth Stapleton as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective March 25, 2026; and the hiring of Taiyler Hayes as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective March 25, 2026.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Not in Attendance
Billy Ray Hughes- Not in Attendance	Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Employee Spotlight:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, spotlighted Sissy Slone, Animal Care & Control Director, since 2024. A colleague stated that Sissy's love and compassion for shelter animals is simply amazing. She works with rescues and citizens every day to give the animals a chance to live their best life through adoption or fostering. She is knowledgeable, resourceful, and goes non-stop when it comes to ensuring the animal's needs are met, and they are grateful to have Sissy on their team.

Jill explained that Sissy has had a tough job but how she has been able to build her team and implement services has been impressive. They take in about 1,000 animals annually and about 500-600 of those are able to go to rescues in parts of the country that don't have an animal overpopulation issue, thanks to Sissy's leadership and her team.

Judge Taylor expressed his appreciation to Sissy.

Magistrate Botkin also expressed his appreciation to Sissy and all that she does at the Animal Shelter; it is a thankless job.

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Magistrate Combs stated that Sissy has done a tremendous job in a short amount of time.

RE: Judge's Report:

- Parlor in Richmond is inviting all first responders and County employees to join them for complimentary bites on Tuesday, March 24th from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Dine-in or call- in carryout is available.
- Kentucky River Foothills is hosting a Support Families Summit on Thursday, April 16th from 9:30 AM until 2:30 PM at Madison Hills Church in Richmond. This is a no-cost training opportunity for parents and professionals. Email cccbluegrass@foothillsscap.org to secure your spot.
- Now is the time to reserve a pavilion at one of our parks for birthday parties or family get-togethers. Contact Battlefield Golf Course at 624-8005 to make reservations.
- Visit our website at www.madisoncountyky.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:

Judge Taylor expressed his appreciation to Mayor Bruce Fraley and the Berea City Council for allowing them to use their Council Chambers. He also thanked the Leadership Madison County Group for being in attendance.

Magistrate Botkin stated that it is campaign season and asked the public to give those candidates room as they see them on the road. He also asked the public to remember Brandon McIntosh and his family in their prayers as he lost his father recently.

Magistrate Combs stated he was glad to serve the community.

Comments from Department Heads:

Bert Thomas stated that they will be having a Public Visioning Workshop on April 20th from 5:00 PM -7:00 PM at the Fiscal Courtroom in the Courthouse Annex. This will be an open house format with displays, information, and answering questions from the public on updating the Comprehensive Plan.

Public Comments:

Mary McMahan asked how many contracts they have with MWM Consulting in Madison County and how many projects they are working on. Judge Taylor stated that they have one contract with them. MWM Consulting is the County's Economic Development Consulting firm, who is hired through a contract to help the County when job creation happens. The Central Kentucky Business Park Authority board, which is a partnership between Berea, Lexington, Scott County, and Madison County Fiscal Court, has also retained MWM Consulting for their consulting. They are working on a Berea project and potential project for the northern park for that authority board. They are on retainer for the County, which is more cost effective than hiring an employee to focus on economic development.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

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

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ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for March 24, 2026, in the Fiscal Courtroom of the Courthouse Annex Building in Richmond, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Tom Botkin to adjourn, seconded by James Brian Combs. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE