

Meeting Date: 4/28/2026
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 28th of April 2026 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, Jailer Larry Brock, 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 Eric Espada, Richmond First United Methodist 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 4-14-2026:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on April 14, 2026.

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).

She also explained, in order to satisfy DLG requirements, she would have the full draft budget for FY 2026-2027 to the Court by May 1st.

IN RE: Sheriff's Office Quarterly Financial Report:

Mary Margaret Young, Administrative Director, presented the 2026 First Quarter Financial Report for the Sheriff's Department. She stated that the receipts they brought in for the 1st quarter were \$322,389.74, the total claims that were paid \$1,696,088.20, giving them a balance of -\$1,373,698.46. This is normal for the Sheriff's Department, as they don't start bringing in the tax fee funds until October. She also stated that they have paid the majority of their line items. However, they are already at \$50,000 through the 1st quarter for fuel costs. Magistrate Combs thanked Mary Margaret for the presentation.

IN RE: Resolution 2026-028 — County Road Aid Cooperative Agreement FY 2027:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-028 — County Road Aid Cooperative Agreement FY 2027 for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a County Road Aid Cooperative Program contract between the Madison County Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026, as provided in the Kentucky Revised Statutes and accepting all roads and streets referred to therein as being a part of the County Road System.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2025-028 — County Road Aid Cooperative Agreement FY 2027.

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Judge Taylor stated that the amount they had in their budget last year was \$1.78 Million but he doesn't believe they would receive all of this as the State has already cut the 2nd allotment, which is 30% of that budget amount. He explained that they get 60% of the amount at the beginning of the Fiscal Year, then normally in January they will get 30%, and the final 10% to the very end to determine how the fuel tax adjusted. The 30% was cut down by about \$130,000 due to the fuel tax "roller coaster."

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that it is important that they pay attention to the fuel tax. As they have spoken with legislators in the past and will continue to talk with them, the fuel tax formula needs to be altered.

Judge Taylor stated that they do participate in the emergency fund in which 3% of the funds they receive goes into an emergency fund for emergency uses.

Magistrate Botkin asked if they take 3% off the full amount or at each allotment. Judge Taylor stated that it was taken from each distribution.

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 2026-029 — Adopt Updated Madison County Information Security Policy:

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented Resolution 2026-029 — Adopt Updated Madison County Information Security Policy for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution adopting an updated Information Security Policy and replacing prior Information Technology Policies established under Resolution No. 2016-11. Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2026-029 — Adopt Updated Madison County Information Security Policy.

Chris stated that this had to be updated since 911 (MCECC-911) has become a County Department and brings the County into compliance with these new regulations. There are certain requirements and training that must be maintained to safeguard sensitive information, including Criminal Justice Information (CJI), and ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all of Madison County's information systems.

Judge Taylor stated that it also protects anyone from hacking into the County's system.

Magistrate Botkin thanked Chris for answering his questions.

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 hiring of Jessica Baker as Road Office Assistant, at a rate of \$16 per hour, effective May 06, 2026; and the hiring of Josephine Hilton as HR Assistant, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective May 06, 2026.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the hiring of Jessica Baker as Road Office Assistant, at a rate of \$16 per hour, effective May 06, 2026; and the hiring of Josephine Hilton as HR Assistant, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective May 06, 2026.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Yes
Billy Ray Hughes- Yes	Tom Botkin- Yes
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IN RE: Employee Spotlight:

Kenny Barger, Clerk, spotlighted Jennifer Chambers, Deputy Clerk since 1997. A colleague stated that Jennifer brings a wealth of knowledge to the County Clerk's Office. She is extremely helpful when it comes to completing the proper forms for motor vehicle or boat transfers and is a team player who doesn't hesitate to step in to help citizens or colleagues. Her kindness, professionalism, reliability, and attention to detail contribute to the office operations running smoothly.

Clerk Barger stated that Jennifer is Chief Deputy at the Clerk's Office. There is not much that they come across that Jennifer can't answer, and they are blessed to have her.

Magistrate Combs expressed his congratulations to Jennifer for the spotlight.

Magistrate Lochmueller concurred.

IN RE: Judge's Report:

- On behalf of the Madison County Fiscal Court, I want to take a moment to thank Ms. Howard for the memory tree donation to White Hall Park. This beautiful tree will be enjoyed by park visitors for many years to come. We appreciate your generosity.
- Join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 2nd to kick off the Madison County Farmers Market 2026 season. They will be set up in the First Street parking lot each Saturday beginning May 2nd and continuing through October from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM.
- National Day of Prayer will be on Thursday, May 7th:
 - Berea – Berea City Hall beginning at 11:00 AM.
 - Richmond – Madison County Courthouse lawn beginning at noon.
- Visit our website at www.madisoncountyny.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 Botkin stated that the State is out doing storm clean up, as well as the County, and asked the public to use caution if they see them out.

Magistrate Combs stated all was good in the 1st District.

Magistrate Lochmueller didn't have anything to report.

Magistrate Hughes stated that May 12th is Madison County Beef Day, and there will be a free hamburger drive-thru at the Richmond Ag Credit Office.

Sheriff Coyle asked Major Terry to discuss an award that one of their deputies received. Major Terry stated that Deputy Charles Tinsley received the Region 6 School Resource Officer of the Year award. Deputy Tinsley protects the staff and students at Kirksville Elementary School, as well as being a mentor to the students. He has a field day for the students, is asked to attend birthday parties, and goes above and beyond for the students. Major Terry expressed his appreciation to Deputy Tinsley, stating that they are very proud of the job he does.

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Magistrate Lochmueller expressed his appreciation and congratulations to Deputy Tinsley and the Sheriff's Department.

Magistrate Botkin stated that Deputy Tinsley is a professional in every sense of the word and is thankful that he is a member of the Madison County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Coyle thanked the Court for allowing the Sheriff's Department to serve as SROs within four (4) schools.

Comments from Department Heads:

Chris Iseral provided an update on the copier contract that was signed at the end of 2025. They have installed all 28 machines and provided pin codes and badge access for secure printing and user tracking. He also shared an email from Canon who expressed their appreciation to the IT team and the County departments for their efficiency and professionalism.

Jill Williams thanked everyone for taking the time to complete the Comprehensive Plan survey; they have had over 690 responses to date. She also thanked the 35 citizens that attended the public visioning workshop. Magistrate Lochmueller complimented Jill on the fact that they have been open and transparent concerning the comprehensive planning, and it is encouraging to see that 35 people participated in the workshop.

Chief Gray addressed the storm calls from last night, stating that they had 8 fire calls concerning trees and power lines down. He also stated that Deputy EMA Director Asbury and himself attended a meeting with Jessamine County's EM Director, Fayette County's EM Director, the Valley View Ferry Board, NOA Weather Service, and National Weather Service to discuss putting a weather gauge in at Valley View. Currently, there is about a 30–35-mile distance between the nearest 2 gauges, and there is a lot of difference between the river elevation within that distance. The gauge will enable them to monitor river elevations and make predictions that could impact flooding situations like they saw last year.

Magistrate Botkin stated that he is so thankful that Madison County has Department Heads and employees that provide efficient and professional services and partnerships.

Public Comments:

Mary McMahan of Richmond stated that after they had their data center forum on April 21st, there were some questions asked by the public about a data center coming to the Depot. Judge Taylor stated that he hadn't heard any news of that at this time.

Mary also asked if the sale of the Carr property had been completed, and where the money for the purchase would come from. Judge Taylor stated that it has not been. The funding in the budget bill, HB900, the State has allocated \$20 Million to the Central Kentucky Business Park Authority (CKBPA), which is a board comprised of 2 members from Madison County, 2 members from Fayette County, and 2 members from Scott County. The sale price of the property is just under \$19 Million (\$26,250 per acre at 722 acres). She asked about the cost of the infrastructure. Judge Taylor stated that it would have to be planned further down the road as it hasn't been determined yet.

IN RE: Pay Claims and Approve Transfers:

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

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

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Judge Taylor announced the next court date for May 12, 2026, in the Council Chambers' Courtroom in Berea, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from Billy Ray Hughes to adjourn, seconded by James Brian Combs. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR, MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE