

Meeting Date; 6/9/2026
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 9th of June 2026 at 9:30AM 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 Pastor Chad Snellgrove, White Oak Pond Christian 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 5-26-2026:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on May 26, 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	

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 6-1-2026:

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by Tom Botkin to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on June 1, 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	

IN RE: Operation Unite Update – Carl Varney, Expansion Coordinator & Area Prevention Coordinator:

Carl Varney, Expansion Coordinator and Area Prevention Coordinator for Operation Unite, provided information on Operation Unite (Unlawful Narcotics, Investigation, Treatment, and Education). Carl thanked the Court for allowing him to speak today. Operation Unite started serving Central and Eastern Kentucky and has moved into Madison, Garrard, Estill, Powell, and several other surrounding counties. Carl goes into middle and high schools to talk with the kids about issues around them, including vaping, the internet, addiction, making good decisions, etc.; this year, he has spoken with 3,500 students in Madison County alone. He informed the Court that on Monday, June 15th, they will be doing a free Basketball Camp with Jarrod Polson at Farristown Middle School, and he encouraged everyone to attend. They also have a free overnight camp at the University of the Cumberlands for middle schools for kids who are at more risk than others. He invited the Court to be a part of Camp Unite and stated that Operation Unite wants to be a tool to help the Court govern the county and help the kids of the county.

Magistrate Botkin stated that he was very impressed with Carl and what he does for the children and expressed his appreciation for what he does for Madison County.

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Magistrate Combs expressed his appreciation to Carl and all he does for the county.

IN RE: 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-002 — Administrative Code for FY 2026-2027:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-002 — Administrative Code for FY 2026-2027 for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance relating to the adoption of the FY 2026-2027 Madison County Administrative Code and Repealing Ordinance 2025-007.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-002 — Administrative Code for FY 2026-2027.

Magistrate Combs stated that this was a very good document.

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 2026-048 — Madison County Road Department Annual Bid Awards:

Scott Shepherd, Road Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-048 — Madison County Road Department Annual Bid Awards for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court approving the Madison County Road Department FY 2026-2027 Annual Bid Awards for Asphalt to The Allen Company, Inc.; Bulk Engine Oil to Cadence Petroleum (f/k/a Apollo Oil); Concrete to Concrete Materials Company, LLC; Culverts to Interstate Construction Products, Inc.; Deicing Road Salt to Morton Salt, Inc.; Fuel to Kentucky Fuel Supply, LLC; and Rock to The Allen Company, Inc.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2026-048 — Madison County Road Department Annual Bid Awards.

Magistrate Botkin asked, overall, if this was an increase from last year. Scott stated that asphalt increased 14-16%, bulk engine oils increased 18-30%, concrete was a 3% increase, culverts was a decrease of 10 cents up to an increase of \$26 depending on the type of pipe, road salt was a 3.4% increase, and fuel stayed the same due to the market.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes Stephen Lochmueller- Yes

Billy Ray Hughes- Yes Tom Botkin- No

Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2026-049 — Kentucky Animal Control Advisory Board Spay & Neuter Grant Application:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-049 — Kentucky Animal Control Advisory Board Spay & Neuter Grant Application for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Fiscal Court approving application and administration of the 2026 Kentucky Department of Agriculture Animal Control Advisory Board Spay and Neuter Grant Funds.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-049 — Kentucky Animal Control Advisory Board Spay & Neuter Grant Application.

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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Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2026-050 — Annual Standing Order to Pre-Approve Recurring Expenses for FY 2026-2027:

Sarah Stewart, Treasurer, presented Resolution 2026-050 — Annual Standing Order to Pre-Approve Recurring Expenses for FY 2026-2027 for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court approving an Annual Standing Order to pre-approve certain recurring expenses for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by Billy Ray Hughes to approve Resolution 2026-050 — Annual Standing Order to Pre-Approve Recurring Expenses for FY 2026-2027.

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 2026-051 — Madison County Tax Assessment Board

Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-051 — Madison County Tax Assessment Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the appointment of the Madison County Fiscal Court to the Madison County Tax Assessment Board, appointing Tina Witt to the Madison County Tax Assessment Board, with an expiration date of June 9, 2030.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2026-051 — Madison County Tax Assessment Board Appointment, appointing Tina Witt to the Madison County Board of Adjustment, with an expiration date of June 9, 2030.

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 2026-052 — Madison County Ethics Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-052 — Madison County Ethics Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the appointment of the Madison County Fiscal Court to the Madison County Ethics Board, appointing Jim Caldwell to the Madison County Ethics Board, with an expiration date of June 9, 2030.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by Billy Ray Hughes to approve Resolution 2026-052 — Madison County Ethics Board Appointment, appointing Jim Caldwell to the Madison County Ethics Board, with an expiration date of June 9, 2030.

Magistrate Combs expressed his appreciation to everyone who serves on all the Boards.

Jill explained that Jim Caldwell is Magistrate Hughes' appointment from his district.

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

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IN RE: Resolution 2026-053 — FY 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Application:

Tim Gray, Fire Chief/EMA Director, presented Resolution 2026-053 — FY 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Application for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for application and administration of Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Grant Programs Directorate Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Funds.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2026-053 — FY 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Application

Magistrate Hughes asked what the odds were that they might get this grant. Chief Gray stated that he didn't think they would get it, but they wanted to try just in case.

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 change of status for Davis Nesselrode from Part-Time Firefighter to Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective June 23, 2026; the hiring of Conner Bricking as Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective June 17, 2026; the hiring of Carter Shrader as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective June 17, 2026; the hiring of Jeremy Hamm as Director of Public Safety and Emergency Communications Center (911), at a rate of \$92,000 per year, effective June 17, 2026; and the hiring Chandlyn Honeycutt as Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective June 17, 2026.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the change of status for Davis Nesselrode from Part-Time Firefighter to Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective June 23, 2026; the hiring of Conner Bricking as Firefighter, at a rate of \$11 per hour, effective June 17, 2026; the hiring of Carter Shrader as 911 Telecommunicator, at a rate of \$19 per hour, effective June 17, 2026; the hiring of Jeremy Hamm as Director of Public Safety and Emergency Communications Center (911), at a rate of \$92,000 per year, effective June 17, 2026; and the hiring Chandlyn Honeycutt as Kennel Technician, at a rate of \$13 per hour, effective June 17, 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	

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.
- Madison County Government and its related offices will be closed Friday, June 19th for the Juneteenth holiday. Offices will re-open on Monday, June 22nd at 8:00 AM.

Comments from Magistrates:

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Magistrate Botkin stated that the State has started slope mowing and asked the public to use caution as they see those mowers out. He also stated that they are doing some striping work on Fort Estill Hill and suggested to those that are going out of Richmond to avoid Highway 25 if at all possible.

Magistrate Combs stated that he is glad to see the claims for the abatement funds and that they are being utilized.

Magistrate Lochmueller didn't have anything to report.

Magistrate Hughes thanked those that came to Court today.

Comments from Department Heads:

No Comments from Department Heads.

Public Comments:

Mary McMahan asked about the progress of the new Northern Fire Station. Chief Gray stated that KU is moving the powerlines off the road frontage, and that the building is onsite, but they do still have a little excavating work to do. They are hopeful that by the middle of next month they can have the concrete poured. She also asked if she could have a copy of Ordinance 2026-002. Attorney Jennie Haymond explained that it has to be approved at the 2nd Reading, which is what they did today, so it will be available online after the Court is adjourned.

IN RE: Approve the Transfers and Pay the Claims:

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

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for June 23, 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 Stephen Lochmueller. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 AM.



REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE