

Meeting Date; 7/14/2026
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 14th of July 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, Billy Ray Hughes, and Tom Botkin were present. Madison County Attorney Jennie Haymond, Madison County Deputy Sheriff 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 Magistrate Combs to lead the Court in prayer.

Judge Taylor asked Deputy Sheriff Tony Terry to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 6-30-2026:

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on June 30, 2026.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

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

IN RE: Blue Grass Chemical Agent Pilot Plant Projects Update – Craig Williams:

Craig Williams presented an update on the Blue Grass Chemical Agent Pilot Plant and BGAD Projects. Also present was the Public Affairs Officer for the Blue Grass Army Depot, William Ritter. Craig stated there are currently 155 workers at BCAPP (Blue Grass Chemical Agent Pilot Plant), which is the plant that is destroying the agents. As of April 30, 2026, the project has completed 18,217,880 hours and 2,452 days without a lost time accident, which is a record in the chemical demilitarization program. In preparation of demolition, all waste removal activities and utility isolations were completed by March 2026, and the demolition commenced on April 15, 2026. The permit and administration closeout is estimated to be completed by December 2027. There are a couple of new projects that are coming to the Depot. The Metal Shipping Facility project is moving forward and is awaiting the final signature approval before seeking contractor bids. There is currently \$27 million dedicated to the facility and plant design through the FY2026 National Defense Authorization Act. Another project that is moving forward is the Blue Grass Army Depot SkyFoundry Innovation Hub. Some funding has been received, and some BGAD facility modifications have started with this project. The Energetics Plant project is moving forward, and the bids have passed. There are appropriations of \$903 million for energetic manufacturing expansion and \$54 million for resiliency. There is also a Centralized Security Monitoring project that is moving forward, in which all facets have been briefed to the Secretary of the Army, and they are awaiting additional guidance.

Magistrate Botkin stated that the safety record is amazing, and they should all be commended for that record. Craig stated that Bechtel Parsons did a great job.

Magistrate Hughes asked what the realistic time frame for the supplemental funds to be distributed for the Energetics Plant. Craig said that it should be in next year's authorization and appropriation bill.

Meeting Date; 7/14/2026
Meeting of; Madison County Fiscal Court
Meeting Type; Regularly Scheduled

Dr. William Ritter pointed out that the Army is targeting 2029-2030 to be up and running for the Energetics Plant. As far as the metal shipping container plant is concerned, it is currently at the stage where they have done the required environmental studies and is projected to be completed in 2028-2029.
Judge Taylor expressed his appreciation to Dr. Ritter and Craig for all they have done for the County.

IN RE: Resolution 2026-064 — Madison County Ethics Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-064 — 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 Skip Daugherty to the Madison County Ethics Board, with an expiration date of June 23, 2029.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-064 — Madison County Ethics Board Appointment, appointing Skip Daugherty to the Madison County Ethics Board, with an expiration date of June 23, 2029.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

James Brian Combs-Yes	Stephen Lochmueller- Not in Attendance
Billy Ray Hughes- Yes	Tom Botkin- No
Reagan Taylor – Yes	

IN RE: Resolution 2026-065 — Local Area Road Program (LARP) MOA:

Scott Shepherd, Road Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-065 — Local Area Road Program (LARP) MOA for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Madison County Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Highways for the Local Assistance Road Program funding (FD14) in the amount of \$555,000.00.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Tom Botkin to approve Resolution 2026-065 — Local Area Road Program (LARP) MOA.

Magistrate Botkin thanked Scott and Judge Taylor for their work on getting the funds for New Road. Scott stated that these funds will also go toward work on Simpson Lane, and he thanked Jared Carpenter and Deanna Frazier Gordon for their work on helping acquire these funds.

Judge Taylor explained that these are discretionary funds.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

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

IN RE: Resolution 2026-066 — Request for Approval to Exceed 65% Expenditure Limitation for FY 2026-2027 Road Fund Budget:

Sarah Stewart, Treasurer, presented Resolution 2026-066 — Request for Approval to Exceed 65% Expenditure Limitation for FY 2026-2027 Road Fund Budget for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution relating to a request for written authorization from the Department for Local Government (DLG) to exceed the sixty-five percent (65%) expenditure threshold for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Road Fund Budget.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-066 — Request for Approval to Exceed 65% Expenditure Limitation for FY 2026-2027 Road Fund Budget.

Judge Taylor stated that this was recommended by DLG due to the flooding disaster. He wants to create an extra line in the budget that is specific to the flooding damage to keep it separate from other items, so they will

Meeting Date; 7/14/2026
Meeting of; Madison County Fiscal Court
Meeting Type; Regularly Scheduled

have a distinct amount on what it costs to make repairs due to the flood. He explained that there is a very good chance that these funds will be reimbursed through FEMA, but it will take some time. Having the funds in a separate line item will help the new administration and Court when that reimbursement comes through.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

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

IN RE: Resolution 2026-067 — Emergency Paving Project:

Scott Shepherd, Road Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-067 — Emergency Paving Project for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court authorizing the award of an Emergency Paving Project to the Allen Company, Inc. under the existing Master Paving Contract for repairs resulting from the June 2026 flooding event.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-067 — Emergency Paving Project.

Magistrate Combs asked if the self-portal will still be open to turn in roads needing repair due to the flooding event. He was told that it would be.

Judge Taylor stated that making repairs on small sections of roads has a different pricing than when they do a full repaving, and that is why they are utilizing the State's Master Paving Contract.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

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

IN RE: Resolution 2026-068 — Adopt Indigo Run Subdivision, Phase 7 – Planters Row Drive, Provider Court, and Boatwright Drive:

Scott Shepherd, Road Supervisor, presented Resolution 2026-068 — Adopt Indigo Run Subdivision, Phase 7 – Planters Row Drive, Provider Court, and Boatwright Drive for the Court's approval.

Motion by Billy Ray Hughes seconded by Tom Botkin to approve Resolution 2026-068 — Adopt Indigo Run Subdivision, Phase 7 – Planters Row Drive, Provider Court, and Boatwright Drive.

Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:

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

IN RE: Employee Spotlight:

Tim Gray, EMA Director/Fire Chief, spotlighted Natasha Parsons, Fire/EMA Administrative Assistant since 2025. Kari Martin, a Madison County Citizen, informed the leadership of how thoughtful and kind Natasha has been, stating that she has been patient, understanding, helpful, empathetic, and responsive. Kari expressed her gratitude for Natasha and her professionalism as she is navigating the load she is under during this time. Tim stated that since June 27th they have been very busy, and Natasha has played a big part in making sure people are getting what they need.

RE: Judge's Report:

Meeting Date; 7/14/2026

Meeting of; Madison County Fiscal Court

Meeting Type; Regularly Scheduled

- Join us for the Liberty Tree Dedication Ceremony commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America at 9:00 AM on Friday, July 17, 2026, at White Hall Park in Richmond.
- 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:

Judge Taylor thanked Mayor Fraley and the Berea City Council for allowing them to use their chambers. He also recognized Greg McNeal, who is the new field representative for Senator Rand Paul's office for attending today.

Magistrate Botkin stated that he has been receiving a lot of calls and emails concerning different issues and encouraged people to continue contacting him with any issues. He also explained the process in getting those issues fixed and asked for the public's patience while they are getting completed.

Magistrate Combs thanked those that have been working in the flood disaster.

Magistrate Hughes didn't have anything to report.

Comments from Department Heads:

No Comments from Department Heads.

Public Comments:

Mary Kearns expressed her appreciation to the Court and all the Officials for their work during the flood disaster. She talked about the Geotech Exploration that was done in October 2025, and the Central Kentucky Business Park Authority. She stated that she is hopeful that the integrity of the property on Lexington Road will be maintained. She is hopeful that everyone within the Authority has read over the Geotech Exploration data and has thought through their decision to build on the property.

Mary McMahan asked when the final Geotech report will be. Judge Taylor stated that would be up to the Central Kentucky Business Park Authority. She also asked when the new administration would be included in the information. Judge Taylor stated that anytime the new administration would like to contact them.

IN RE: Approve the Transfers and Pay the Claims:

Motion made by Tom Botkin 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 July 28, 2026, in the 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 10:22 AM.

Meeting Date; 7/14/2026
Meeting of; Madison County Fiscal Court
Meeting Type; Regularly Scheduled


REAGAN TAYLOR MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE