Meeting Date: 9/22/2026
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 22nd of September 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, Madison County 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 Ben Slusher, First Christian Church Children & Youth Minister, to lead the Court in prayer.

Judge Taylor asked Sheriff Mike Coyle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes 9-8-2026:

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the minutes from the regularly called meeting on September 8, 2026.
Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:
James Brian Combs- Yes Stephen Lochmueller- Yes
Billy Ray Hughes- Abstained 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: Joint Proclamation — Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

The Madison County Fiscal Court, the City of Richmond, and the City of Berea proclaimed October 2026, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Richmond, Berea, and all of Madison County. They urged all citizens to reach out to victims and help end domestic violence.
Kaylynn Carpenter, Hope's Wings Assistant Director, was in attendance to accept this proclamation. She thanked the Court for recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, stating that this recognition tells survivors that their community sees them. At Hope's Wing, they have provided over 1,500 services, sheltered 55 survivors and their children, helped 22 families move into safe and stable housing; the advocates answered over 650 crisis calls over the past year. She thanked the advocates, law enforcement, the Court, and the community for their help and standing with Hope's Wings.

IN RE: 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-010 — Land Use Change 113 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-2 Multi-Family Residential:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-010 — Land Use Change for 113 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-2 Multi-Family Residential for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance of the Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky, approving the zone change of 113 Carr Lane, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the Official Zoning Map of Madison County, Kentucky.

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Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-010 — Land Use Change for 113 Carr Lane from UC-1 Single-Family Residential to UC-2 Multi-Family Residential.
Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:
James Brian Combs- Yes Stephen Lochmueller- Yes
Billy Ray Hughes- Abstained Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-011 — Land Use Change 2485 Colonel Road from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-1 Single-Family Residential:

Bert Thomas, Planning and Development Director, presented 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-011 — Land Use Change for 2485 Colonel Road from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-1 Single-Family Residential for the Court's approval. This is an Ordinance of the Madison County Fiscal Court, Kentucky, approving the zone change of 2485 Colonel Road, Richmond, Kentucky, and authorizing the amendment of the Official Zoning Map of Madison County, Kentucky.
Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 2026-011 — Land Use Change for 2485 Colonel Road from UC-7 Agriculture to UC-1 Single-Family Residential.
Motion carried on roll call vote as follows:
James Brian Combs- Yes Stephen Lochmueller- Yes
Billy Ray Hughes- Abstained Tom Botkin- Yes
Reagan Taylor – Yes

IN RE: Resolution 2026-081 — SCALE Computing Hardware and Software Maintenance Bid Award:

Chris Iseral, Chief Information Officer, presented Resolution 2026-081 — SCALE Computing Hardware and Software Maintenance Bid Award for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the Madison County Fiscal Court to approve a bid award for SCALE Computing Hardware and Software Maintenance.
Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-081 — SCALE Computing Hardware and Software Maintenance 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: Resolution 2026-082 — Adopt FY 2026-2027 Madison County Detention Center Policy and Procedures Manual:

Larry Brock, Jailer, presented Resolution 2026-082 — Adopt FY 2026-2027 Madison County Detention Center Policy and Procedures Manual for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution of the Madison County Fiscal Court adopting the FY 2026-2027 Madison County Detention Center Policy & Procedures Manual.
Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-082 — Adopt FY 2026-2027 Madison County Detention Center Policy and Procedures Manual.
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 2026-083 — Madison County Board of Health Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-083 — Madison County Board of Health Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the appointment of the Madison County Fiscal Court to the Madison County Board of Health, appointing Stephanie Moore to the Madison County Board of Health, with an expiration date of December 31, 2027.

Motion by James Brian Combs seconded by Stephen Lochmueller to approve Resolution 2026-083 — Madison County Board of Health Appointment, appointing Stephanie Moore to the Madison County Board of Health, with an expiration date of December 31, 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 2026-084 — Madison County Public Library Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-084 — Madison County Public Library Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the appointment of the Madison County Fiscal Court to the Madison County Public Library Board, appointing Angie Daniels to the Madison County Public Library Board, with an expiration date of December 31, 2030.

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-084 — Madison County Public Library Board Appointment, appointing Angie Daniels to the Madison County Public Library Board, with an expiration date of December 31, 2030.

Magistrate Botkin expressed his appreciation to all the board appointees for stepping up to be on these boards.

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 2026-085 — Madison County EMS Board Appointment:

Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, presented Resolution 2026-085 — Madison County EMS Board Appointment for the Court's approval. This is a Resolution for the appointment of the Madison County Fiscal Court to the Madison County EMS Board, appointing Lora King to the Madison County EMS Board, with an expiration date of April 1, 2028.

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve Resolution 2026-085 — Madison County EMS Board Appointment, appointing Lora King to the Madison County EMS Board, with an expiration date of April 1, 2028.

Judge Taylor stated that Lora will be a great addition to the EMS Board.

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:

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Jill Williams, Deputy Judge Executive, recommended the hiring of Kaitlyn Reardon, as 911 Telecommunicator Recruit (Non-Certified), at a rate of $21 per hour, effective October 7, 2026; and the hiring of Kristie Lynch, as 911 Telecommunicator Recruit (Non-Certified), at a rate of $21 per hour, effective October 7, 2026.
Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to approve the hiring of Kaitlyn Reardon, as 911 Telecommunicator Recruit (Non-Certified), at a rate of $21 per hour, effective October 7, 2026; and the hiring of Kristie Lynch, as 911 Telecommunicator Recruit (Non-Certified), at a rate of $21 per hour, effective October 7, 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: Enter Executive Session:

Motion by Stephen Lochmueller seconded by James Brian Combs to enter into Executive Session at 9:48 AM to discuss deliberation on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency. This Executive Session is allowable under KRS 61.810, Section 1, subsection B to discuss deliberation on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency.
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: Exit Executive Session:

Motion by Tom Botkin seconded by James Brian Combs to exit Executive Session at 10:11 AM. No action was taken at this time.
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:

- Homecoming Parade Schedule:
  - Berea Community – Wednesday, September 23rd at 6:00 PM
  - Madison Southern – Thursday, September 24th at 6:00 PM
  - Madison Central – Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 PM
  - EKU – Friday, October 23rd at 6:00 PM

  Please be mindful of road closures and increased traffic in the area.

- The 17th Annual Paint the Town Pink Kick-off Celebration will be on Friday, September 27th at 7:00 PM on Water Street in Richmond.
  - There is also a Neon Night Run/Walk (a Paint the Town Pink event) on Friday, September 27th. The Block Party is from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM. The race begins at 8:00 PM.

- The Household Hazardous Waste Tox Away Day will be on Saturday, October 3rd from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Madison County Road Department South located at 208 Clarksville Lane in Richmond. Visit

Madison County, KY's Facebook page, or call the Solid Waste department at 859-624-4709 for more information.

- The 2026 Millstone Festival will be on Saturday, October 3rd on Main Street in downtown Richmond. Contact Richmond Parks and Recreation for more information. Please be mindful of road closures and increased traffic in the area.

- KACo is currently accepting submissions for their "I Love My KY County" art contest. All students from kindergarten through 8th grade are eligible to submit artwork depicting a scene in your county that illustrates a reason why you love your county. The top three winners will receive cash prizes. In addition, the winners will be invited to attend the KACo annual conference and will be featured in *County Line* magazine. The deadline for submissions is October 16th. Please visit kaco.org for more information.

- Visit our website at 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:

Magistrate Botkin stated that they have gotten the blacktop down in the 4th District and have started getting some trees cut down. There are still some ongoing projects that they will be getting to.

Magistrate Combs asked if they had any numbers on the Farristown drive-thru clinic. Jill stated that they completed over 500 vaccines, in partnership with the Health Department, Dr. Gary Short, and PETCO. Magistrate Combs expressed his appreciation to those that helped during this event.

Magistrate Lochmueller stated that District 2 has had several road projects completed, with a couple still ongoing.

Magistrate Hughes stated that solar farms are a big concern in his district; explaining that these go to the Board of Adjustments for approval, not the Fiscal Court. He is hopeful that the Board looks closely at the concerns of the citizens. Also, this weekend is the Union City Volunteer Firefighter Department benefit auction, and encouraged the public to come out to it.

Comments from Department Heads:

Chief Tim Gray stated that October 1st starts Fall Forestry Season, explaining that there is a burn ban between the hours of 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Outside those hours, they ask that the public call 859-624-4706 if they do want to do a burn. He also provided an update on the new fire station; the structure is up, starting on the roofing, and should start with the walls at the end of the week.

County Clerk Kenny Barger stated they need poll workers, particularly Republicans in Berea as alternates.

Public Comments:

Mary Kearns addressed the roadsides and the maintenance on keeping them mowed. She stated that when a property has been rezoned, there needs to be something in place that requires that property to be maintained; sighting the Day Farm as an example of a rezoned property that has grown up after the rezoning. She also spoke

on the cost of the 6.01 acres the new fire station will be at, in comparison to the initial cost of the entire property.

Julia Katherine Adams spoke on the longing feeling that people are experiencing in today's world and encouraged everyone to think about how they are spending their time. She stated that Kirksville Baptist Church is having a Fall Festival on Friday, October 9th from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

IN RE: Approve the Transfers and Pay the Claims:

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

ANNOUNCE NEXT COURT DATE:

Judge Taylor announced the next court date for October 13, 2026, in the Council Chambers' Courtroom in Richmond, Ky at 9:30 AM.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion from James Brian Combs to adjourn, seconded by Stephen Lochmueller. Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM.

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REAGAN TAYLOR, MADISON CO. JUDGE/EXECUTIVE