

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY FISCAL COURT  
MINUTES**

**February 5, 2025**

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 9:00 AM, at the Campbell County Courthouse, 8352 East Main Street, Alexandria, Kentucky. Campbell Media recorded the regular meeting and broadcast it on the Campbell Media website.

**Present:**

County Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery  
County Commissioner, Geoff Besecker  
County Commissioner, Tom Lampe  
County Commissioner, Brian Painter

County Attorney, Steve Franzen  
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld  
Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra  
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis  
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell  
Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter  
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

**Regular Meeting**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Following the roll call, a quorum was declared present.

**Minutes**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Fiscal Court Meeting on January 22, 2025.

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the Special Fiscal Court Meeting on January 22, 2025 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

## Guests

### ***Kentucky Child Support Attorney of the Year, Michelle Eviston***

County Attorney, Steve Franzen announced Assistant County Attorney, Michelle Eviston was awarded the Kentucky Child Support Attorney of the Year for the second time, which makes her the only attorney in the state to have received the award twice. Mr. Franzen said Ms. Eviston is an incredibly thorough researcher and attorney, and she does a great job keeping within the boundary lines of the law. Mr. Franzen said he appreciates her very much and wants the community to understand what an important award this is. She has been instrumental in changing and improving child support systems across the state.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery congratulated Ms. Eviston and said she has an excellent bedside manner.

### ***Police Department Employee of the Year, Nikki Owen***

Police Chief, Craig Sorrell presented Police Records Specialist, Nikki Owen with the Police Department Employee of the Year award. Chief Sorrell said Ms. Owen is the heartbeat that keeps the agency running.

Ms. Owen said she is very proud to work for the Fiscal Court and represent the Police Department and that it has been an honor to serve with everyone.

### ***Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Retirement, Jim Pfister***

Police Chief, Craig Sorrell introduced Jim Pfister, who is retiring from the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his many years of service. Mr. Pfister started volunteering for the Campbell County Police Department in July 2013.

### ***Police Department Retirement, Major Jeremy Newberry***

Police Chief, Craig Sorrell said Major Jeremy Newberry had served with the Police Department for 21 years and he appreciated him.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, on behalf of the Fiscal Court, congratulated Major Newberry for his retirement and presented him with a watch as a token of appreciation. Judge Pendery said we have a high-quality Police Department and that he has never received a complaint.

Commissioner Tom Lampe thanked Major Newberry for his years of service and the safety he provided the community and said that he will be missed and wished him a long healthy retirement.

Commissioner Geoff Besecker said he has known Major Newberry since he was a student at Campbell County High School and that he was his baseball coach. Commissioner Besecker said Jeremy was a good baseball player but a better leader of people, and people looked up to him because of the way he carried himself and it carried over into his career with the Campbell County Police Department. Commissioner Besecker thanked him for the relationship they built over the years and for his service.

Major Jeremy Newberry thanked the Fiscal Court, Commissioners, and the Judge/Executive for their support throughout his career and said that it was a wonderful career. Major Newberry also thanked his family.

### **New Business**

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

#### ***O-01-25 Ordinance***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for the first reading of Ordinance O-01-25, “An Ordinance of the Campbell County Fiscal Court enacting and adopting the S-48 Supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the County of Campbell, Kentucky (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024).”

There will be a request for a motion to adopt Ordinance O-01-25 after the second reading.

#### ***O-02-25 Ordinance***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for the first reading of Ordinance O-02-25, “An Ordinance discontinuing segments of Fairlane Short Road and Plum Creek Road that are no longer in use based upon the realigned intersection of Plum Creek Road and US 27 completed by KYTC and updating the official County Maintained Road List in Campbell County, Kentucky.”

Director of Planning and Zoning, Cindy Minter gave a brief overview of the Ordinance and asked if there were any questions and there were none.

A Campbell County resident expressed traffic safety concerns near Fairlane Short Road. Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery said these are issues KYTC would need to address and the Fiscal Court would act as a go between.

There will be a request for a motion to adopt Ordinance O-02-25 after the second reading.

#### ***R-07-25 Resolution***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-07-25, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court amending the Campbell County Police Policy and Procedure Manual.”

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-07-25 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker.

### **Personnel**

#### ***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to designate Justin Faul, Building Inspector III, as the “Building Official” with the state effective February 9, 2025.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to appoint Donald Schuckmann as a part-time OEM Response Officer in the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management effective February 6, 2025.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion appoint John Michael Ward as a part-time OEM Response Officer in the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management effective February 6, 2025.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

**County Administrator’s Report**

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld gave an in-depth presentation about the AJ Jolly Lake Restoration Project. He said AJ Jolly Lake is a 200-acre recreational lake located within the 1,000-acre AJ Jolly Park making it the largest county park in Kentucky. Mr. Elberfeld explained the history of the lake and that over time sediment and other natural factors have gone without maintenance and have dramatically lowered the lakes water levels and it needs to be addressed. He presented aerial visuals to show water changes from 1999 to 2023 and said the main focus of the project will be on three coves: Racetrack West Cove, Racetrack East Cove, and Flatwoods Road Cove. The golf course ponds are also in need of restoration but the work is on a smaller scale.

Mr. Elberfeld explained option one is to contract a full dredge project and gave an estimated cost of \$14,460,000+ and the breakdown of that estimated cost:

- Racetrack West: \$2.56M estimate
- Racetrack East: \$1.4M estimate
- Flatwoods: \$10.1M estimate
- Bridge: \$400K estimate
- Phase II Engineering: Unknown
- Road Repairs: Unknown

Mr. Elberfeld explained option two is to complete the dredging in-house and gave an estimated cost of \$3,095,000+ and the breakdown of that estimated cost:

- Racetrack West: Environmental Education Center will maintain as a wetland (minimal in-kind labor/equipment from Campbell County Road Department as needed)
- Racetrack East: \$345k estimate to maintain as a wetland
- Long Reach Excavator: \$350K estimate
- Additional Road Maintenance Specialists: \$2M estimate (2 additional employees for next ten years)
- Flatwoods: Dredge in-house
- Bridge: \$400K estimate
- Phase II Engineering: Unknown

Mr. Elberfeld explained the AJ Jolly Lake Dam Spillway is also in need of work and the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, Division of Water has notified the County of the need to investigate and provide a remediation plan for the sub slab flow in the channel spillway. The preliminary estimated project cost is \$2,000,000.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery said this has been a long and involved process and this conversation has been ongoing for a long time.

Commissioner Geoff Besecker said a price tag can't be put on how many people have used the lake for the benefits of recreation and fishing over the years, and we want to keep the lake from filling in. He thanked Mr. Elberfeld for the work that has went into this.

Commissioner Brian Painter said it is unique to have a county government that has developed the expertise and desire to keep one of our largest capital projects to be useable.

Commissioner Tom Lampe thanked the staff for keeping them very well informed on this project and how to move forward.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion for permission to bid a long reach excavator. There are funds available in the FY25 budget, subject to equipment availability.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tom Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to authorize staff to advertise, interview and make hiring recommendations for two additional road maintenance specialists. The Fiscal Court will begin the hiring process late spring with an anticipated start date after July 1, 2025.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to authorize staff to seek proposals for Phase II engineering services for the AJ Jolly Lake restoration project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tom Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion for permission to bid the replacement of the 8' culvert near the Flatwoods Cove section of the lake with a bridge. The bridge is being designed now with an anticipated construction date in FY26.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to authorize staff to accept the proposal from Verdantas for AJ Jolly Dam Improvements. There are funds available in the FY25 budget and part of the engineering will carry forward to FY26. The project design, planning and bidding is estimated to take approximately one year.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

**Judge/Executives Report**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery gave the following announcement:

***AJ Jolly Park Camping and Shelter Reservations***

AJ Jolly Park camping and shelter reservations for the 2025 season opened on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Reservations can be made on-line at [ajjollypark.com](http://ajjollypark.com) or by calling the park office at 859-547-3681. The Ranger Station opens on Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> and the RV campground opens on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. All camping opens on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Finance Director/Treasurer’s Report**

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented the Finance Director/Treasurer’s Report.

***R-08-25 Resolution***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-08-25, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to enter into a contract with the Commonwealth of Kentucky to accept Emergency Management Assistance Program Grant Funds to support operation of the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management.” Ms. Lewis stated this is a 50/50 match grant for administrative expenditures such as salaries on a monthly reimbursement basis in the amount of \$30,905.08 to be utilized in FY26.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-08-25 by Commissioner Tom Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted “Aye” and Resolution R-08-25 passed.

***R-09-25 Resolution***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-09-25, “A Resolution adopting and approving the execution of a Rural Secondary Program Agreement between the Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, and accepting all roads and streets referred to therein as being a part of the County Road System.”

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-09-25 by Commissioner Brian Painter, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and Resolution R-09-25 passed.

***Motion***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to award a bid to Mago Construction Company for Spring FY25 resurfacing and striping projects.

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Motion***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to approve a change order for Smith Construction concerning slip repairs on Visalia and Upper Tug Fork to be applied to all invoices due.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tom Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Budget Transfers***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to approve Budget Transfers dated:

- January 31, 2025

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Interfund Transfers***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to approve Interfund Transfers dated:

- January 31, 2025

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Claims & Claims per Standing Order***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to approve Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order dated:

- January 29, 2025
- February 5, 2025
- February 1, 2025 (Employee Benefits)

County Attorney, Steve Franzen commented that he had reviewed the Claims, and had determined that everything appeared to be appropriate.

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe agreed with payment of the claims however, recused himself from approving any claims related to employee benefits due to his employer’s relationship with those companies.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

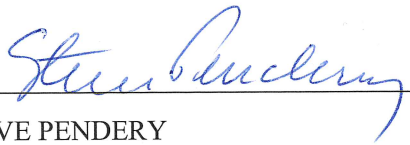
**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, Commissioner Geoff Besecker made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Brian Painter offered a second to the motion. All voted "Aye" and the meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM.

**Attachments**

- R-07-25: Amend Police Policy and Procedure Manual
- R-08-25: Enter into a contract with Kentucky Emergency Management
- R-09-25: Adopt and approve the execution of a Rural Secondary Program Agreement
- Budget Transfers: January 31, 2025
- Interfund Transfers: January 31, 2025
- Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order:
  - January 29, 2025
  - February 5, 2025
  - February 1, 2025 (Employee Benefits)

Approved:

  
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STEVE PENDERY  
Judge/Executive

Attest:

  
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JANIE PATTERSON  
Fiscal Court Clerk