

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY FISCAL COURT
MINUTES**

March 19, 2025

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a public hearing and a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 5:30 PM, at the Campbell County Administration Building, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky. Campbell Media recorded the public hearing and the regular meeting and broadcast both 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, Justin Otto
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

Public Hearing

Annexation of Campbell County Fire District 1 by Campbell Fire/Rescue District

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 PM and County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld conducted the hearing.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the annexation of Campbell County Fire District 1 by Campbell Fire/Rescue District. The Campbell Fire/Rescue District and Campbell County Fire District 1 filed a joint petition on February 28, 2025.

Campbell County Fire District 1 Chairman, Paul See was present in the audience and said that he thought this was the best decision for the citizens of Campbell County.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery said based on the facts, this is the right thing to do, and he appreciates all the work that has been done to make it happen.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Regular Meeting

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

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 Regular Fiscal Court Meeting on March 5, 2025.

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting on March 5, 2025 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

New Business

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

Motion

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to accept the proposal from Environmental Enterprises, Inc. for household hazardous waste services for the Northern Kentucky Solid Waste Management Area (NKSWMA) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic Waste Collection Event.

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 accept the proposal from Tri State Escrap for electronics waste services for the Northern Kentucky Solid Waste Management Area (NKSWMA) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic Waste Collection Event.

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

Solid Waste Coordinator, Megan Clere Abrams was present to answer any questions.

Personnel

Executive Order

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to advance Police Officer Paul Wagner to Police Officer 3 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement effective February 28, 2025.

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

Board Appointment

Executive Order

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to recommend Mark Schroer, MD (Physician) to the Kentucky Department for Public Health to be reappointed to serve on the Northern Kentucky District Board of Health for a two-year term effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.

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

County Attorney’s Report

County Attorney, Steve Franzen did not have a report but wanted to mention the passing of former Northern Kentucky University (NKU) President, Dr. James Votruba. Mr. Franzen said he was a great man, a great President for NKU, and a great advocate for Northern Kentucky in general. Dr. Votruba saw the wisdom and the value in having a thriving community, not just a thriving university. Mr. Franzen said Dr. Votruba made an impact on Northern Kentucky and is someone the community will miss a lot.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery said that even after Dr. James Votruba retired, he was a tremendous asset working for the future of Northern Kentucky and was a wonderful person and will be sorely missed.

County Commissioners’ Report

Commissioner Geoff Besecker said he did not have a report but echoed the same sentiments.

Commissioner Tom Lampe said his thoughts and prayers were with Dr. Votruba’s wife, Rachel and his extended family and friends.

Commissioner Brian Painter said that he, Judge Pendery, and Commissioner Lampe attended the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Eggs ‘N Issues which featured the new Northern Kentucky University (NKU) President, Cady Short-Thompson. Commissioner Painter said President Short-Thompson was very pleased to report the university is no longer in deficit and is now on budget. Commissioner Painter said NKU’s Nursing School licensing success is running 100% which is unheard of and the university is in good hands.

Judge/Executive's Report

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery gave the following announcements about Severe Weather Awareness Week:

Spring and summer bring warmer weather, but also storms, high winds, flooding, and tornadoes. Campbell County's Severe Weather Awareness Week reminds everyone to prepare before bad weather happens.

We are a Storm Ready community, meaning there are strong safety plans in place. Our teams track storms and send alerts through Smart911, a free service that delivers weather warnings to your phone. Do us a favor and sign up at Smart911.com. It could save your life.

To improve park safety, we've installed a new lightning detection system to warn visitors when lightning is near.

Everyone should have a severe weather plan. If severe weather is coming, stay indoors, avoid windows, and never take shelter under a tree.

For more safety tips and emergency updates, visit the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management Facebook page.

Finance Director/Treasurer's Report

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

Motion

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to authorize staff to issue an invitation to bid the construction of the AJ Jolly Golf Course Irrigation System Interconnect. Ms. Lewis explained the completion of this backup water main prior to work beginning on the AJ Jolly Dam Spillway or dredging of AJ Jolly Lake is critical to ensuring the high quality of water used for golf course irrigation. The project's estimated cost of \$157,000 will be included in the FY26 budget.

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

Motion

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to reject all bids submitted for the AJ Jolly Asphalt Paving on March 5, 2025. Ms. Lewis explained the price per ton of asphalt received in all three bids was significantly over budget, and the project can be completed in-house within the originally estimated budget of \$45,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery.

Commissioner Tom Lampe commented that he appreciates that the Facilities & Fleet Director, Mike Braun is knowledgeable enough to save the Fiscal Court money. Commissioner Lampe thanked Mr. Braun and his crew for a job well done.

All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Motion

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to accept the bid from Rudd Equipment for a long reach excavator for a total cost of \$323,294.00.

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

Claims & Claims per Standing Order Claims

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

- March 12, 2025
- March 19, 2025
- March 13, 2025 (Community Development Block Grant)

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

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

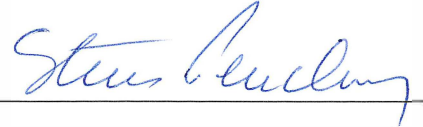
Adjournment

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 5:49 PM

Attachments

- Claims & Claims per Standing Order:
 - March 12, 2025
 - March 19, 2025
 - March 13, 2025 (Community Development Block Grant)

Approved:



STEVE PENDERY
Judge/Executive

Attest:



JANIE PATTERSON
Fiscal Court Clerk