

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY FISCAL COURT  
MINUTES**

**August 20, 2025**

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a regular meeting on Wednesday August 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM, at the Campbell County Administration Building, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky. Campbell Media recorded the 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 Captain, Donald Dornheggen  
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

**Regular Meeting**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 August 6, 2025.

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting on August 6, 2025 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

**New Business**

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

***R-54-25 Resolution***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-54-25, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court establishing the 2025 ad valorem tax rates for Campbell County.”

The Fiscal Court established the following ad valorem property tax rates per \$100 of assessed value for all taxable property within the jurisdiction of Campbell County for 2025:

<u>Class of Property</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
• Real Property	15.30 cents
• Tangible Personal Property	29.46 cents
• Motor Vehicles	13.10 cents
• Watercraft	13.10 cents

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-54-25 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe. All voted “Aye” and Resolution R-54-25 passed.

***R-55-25 Resolution***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-55-25, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Boone County Fiscal Court for the provision of veterinary services for animals through the Boone County Animal Shelter.”

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-55-25 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Brian Painter thanked Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra and Animal Services Director, Lisa Krummen for making another effort to build the community by researching if there were any local veterinarians who wanted to take on this project for Campbell County.

All voted “Aye” and Resolution R-55-25 passed.

**Personnel*****Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to advance Police Sergeant William McGohan to Sergeant 2 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement effective August 3, 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 advance Police Officer John Merson to Police Officer 6 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement effective August 15, 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 advance Police Sergeant Jacob Daley to Sergeant 2 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement effective September 7, 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 to advance Police Captain Christopher Lauer to Captain 2 in accordance with the current FOP working agreement effective September 7, 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 Tanner Nelson to the position of Police Officer (PO1) with the Campbell County Police Department effective September 15, 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 to appoint Sally Bauer as the full-time Administrative Assistant – Planning & Zoning effective August 21, 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 to appoint Kevin Pfefferman as a Parks & Recreation Maintenance Worker (PTNB) for the 2025 Facilities Maintenance, Parks and Golf season effective August 21, 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 Joeci Arn as a full-time Animal Control Officer at Campbell County Animal Services effective September 4, 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 to appoint Jade King as a full-time Kennel Technician at Campbell County Animal Services effective September 9, 2025.

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

**Board Appointments**

***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read a motion to reappoint Kelley Raleigh and Jonathan S. Cullick to the Campbell County Public Library Board of Trustees for a four-year term effective October 1, 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 to appoint Kevin Sell to the Northern Kentucky Convention Center Corporation Board of Directors for a four-year term effective August 21, 2025 through August 20, 2029.

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 to appoint Frank Twehues to the Campbell County and Municipal Board of Adjustments as a Campbell County Representative for a four-year term effective August 21, 2025 through August 20, 2029.

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 to appoint the following five initial voting members to the Transportation Improvement District Board of Trustees for the listed terms and effective dates:

- Jeff Earlywine, County Member, four-year term effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2029
- Phil Griffin, Chamber of Commerce Member, four-year term effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2029
- Angela Mulbery, Chamber of Commerce Member (Build + Elevate NKY Growth Partnership), two-year term effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027

- Robert Hans, three-year term, effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2028
- Kyle Newman, one-year term effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026

Motion was made by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe.

Commissioner Besecker asked if these would eventually be four-year terms

Mr. Elberfeld said yes that eventually everyone will be appointed to a four-year term, but the initial appointments are staggered to avoid everyone's term being up at once.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

### **County Administrator's Report**

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a report.

#### ***Executive Session***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld requested a motion to meet in Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) for deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency.

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

Motion was made to come out of Executive Session by Commissioner Brian Painter, seconded by Commissioner Geoff Besecker. All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

### **County Commissioners' Report**

Commissioner Geoff Besecker expressed gratitude to Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra, Parks and Recreation Director, Larry Harrod, and Facilities and Fleet Director, Mike Braun and their crews for the ample hours they spent to organize the Festival on the Lake which was a great festival. Commissioner Besecker said that even despite the heat there was a little more than 1,500 people in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Lampe reported there was a press conference that announced professional football is coming to Northern Kentucky, in Campbell County. The latest expansion in the Arena Football One League will be known as the Kentucky Barrels and their home will be the Truist Arena on the campus of Northern Kentucky University (NKU). Commissioner Lampe explained the team is locally owned by Corey Cunningham, who is a graduate of NKU and a successful entrepreneur. They looked at other venues in the area and were immediately sold on Truist Arena due to the welcome they received from NKU's administration and the people who run the arena. It's unique and another reason to bring people into Campbell County and the campus of NKU. Commissioner Lampe said they are excited to be a part of Northern Kentucky, and that we are excited to have them.

Judge/Executive Steve Pendery said Commissioner Tom Lampe's report was well done.

Commissioner Brian Painter reported the 2025 Alexandria Fair Parade would be held on August 27 at 6:00 PM, and the Alexandria Fair would be over Labor Day Weekend. Commissioner Painter said it is a ton of fun and encouraged people to come out.

### **Judge/Executive's Report**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Disaster and Emergency Management University announced its 2026 Executive Public Information Officer cohorts, and Assistant Administrator and Public Information Officer for Campbell County, Justin Otto was selected for the very prestigious Executive Public Information Officer Program. Judge Pendery explained this program is the highest level of public information officer training offered by FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, and since its launch in 2015, only about 200 public information professionals nationwide have completed the program. Mr. Otto is the first participant from Northern Kentucky ever to be selected.

### **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 change the model to be purchased on PO 34097 awarded by the Fiscal Court to Rudd Equipment in March 2025. Ms. Lewis explained the original award was for a Hitachi 60ft long reach excavator with premier warranty and delivery for \$323,294. However, the manufacturer is no longer willing to fulfill the order awarded to Rudd Equipment and has become non-responsive to the distributor. Rudd Equipment is able to acquire a Volvo model EC260FLR with warranty. The machine specs and software have been evaluated by Road Supervisor, Luke Mantle, and he believes it will be a superior purchase with additional camera availability. The county selected the model with the best capability and value for the project and not the lowest price. The vendor sales representative at Rudd, has worked with Mr. Mantle to provide an alternate piece of equipment that will fulfill the county's needs close to the original timeframe of delivery at the exact same price as the original Hitachi award. Due to the changing landscape of large equipment purchases, Ms. Lewis recommended moving forward with the purchase of the Volvo.

Motion was made by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Tom Lampe.

Commissioner Geoff Besecker asked Ms. Lewis for clarification that there will not be additional cost or an additional fee.

Ms. Lewis said yes, that was correct.

All voted "Aye" and the motion passed.

***R-56-25 Resolution***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis read the title summary for Resolution R-56-25, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing the Judge/Executive to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD) for operations at the Campbell County Senior Center for Fiscal Year 2026.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-56-25 by Commissioner Geoff Besecker, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and Resolution R-56-25 passed.

***Motion***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion for permission to purchase an OEM Staff Truck from the state master agreement MA 758 2300000797. Ms. Lewis explained this 2026 Ram Tradesman will replace the older Dodge truck which has a large number of miles on it. The old truck’s engine is losing compression, and it will be retired to light duty in the Parks Department. Several vendors on the state master contract were contacted with Bachman Commercial Auto Group responding with the low quote of \$41,224 which is included in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

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 authorize staff to seek proposals for inmate medical services at the Detention Center. Ms. Lewis explained the jail is required to offer medical services to its population and it is necessary to staff those services by qualified medical professionals on site. The jail is also seeking information on mental health, dental services, and administrative and records management.

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

***Motion***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis requested a motion to authorize staff to issue an invitation to bid for snow removal for the 2025/2026 winter season. Ms. Lewis explained snow removal commences when accumulation reaches 1 ½ inches or more without notification. Snow will be removed by 7:30 AM Monday through Friday except for at the Detention Center which will require removal seven days per week. Continuous snowfall during business hours shall not accumulate more than 1 inch before being removed. Sidewalks shall follow the same schedule, using sidewalk-safe snow/ice melting compounds. No rock salt or sodium-based chemicals shall be used on sidewalks. No subcontracting of the work will be permitted.

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

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

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

- August 13, 2025
- August 20, 2025

County Attorney, Steve Franzen commented that the claims had been reviewed, and everything appeared to be appropriate.

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

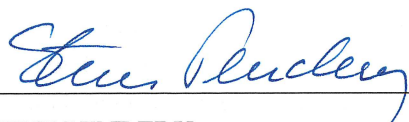
**Adjournment**

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 6:27 PM.

**Attachments**

- R-54-25: Establish the 2025 ad valorem tax rates
- R-55-25: Enter into an agreement with Boone County to provide veterinary services to animals in the care of Campbell County Animal Services
- R-56-25: Execute a memorandum of agreement with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District for operations at the Campbell County Senior Center
- Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order:
  - August 13, 2025
  - August 20, 2025

Approved:

  
STEVE PENDERY  
Judge/Executive

Attest:

  
JANIE PATTERSON  
Fiscal Court Clerk