

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY FISCAL COURT
SPECIAL MAYOR’S MEETING
MINUTES**

JANUARY 27, 2026

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a Special Mayor’s Meeting for elected officials and representatives on January 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM, at the Campbell County Administration Building, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky. The meeting was for informational purposes only, and no action was taken.

Topics and Speakers:

1. Cybersecurity in Local Government
 - City of Fort Wright Mayor Dave Hatter

2. Trades & Career Pathway Development
 - Campbell County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shelli Wilson & Associate Superintendent Adam Ritter
 - Campbell County Area Technology Center Principal Carolyn Stewart
 - Trades NKY President Phil Griffin

Campbell County Fiscal Court Members & Staff Present:

County Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery
County Commissioner, Brian Painter
County Commissioner, Tom Lampe
County Commissioner, Geoff Besecker
County Attorney, Steve Franzen
County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld
Assistant County Administrator, Justin Otto
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell
Communications & Public Outreach Coordinator, Kim Caniff

Welcome & Introductions

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the Campbell County Special Mayor’s Meeting to order at 6:02 PM, and invited attendees to introduce themselves.

Topics & Speakers

**Cyber Security in Local Government
*City of Fort Wright Mayor Dave Hatter***

City of Fort Wright Mayor Dave Hatter provided an informational overview of cybersecurity risks and best practices relevant to local government operations. He emphasized that human behavior is the primary vulnerability in cyber incidents, noting that phishing and spoofing attacks frequently lead to account

takeovers within minutes if credentials are compromised. Mayor Hatter stressed that preparation, rather than hope or denial, is essential in addressing cyber threats. Key discussion points included the importance of maintaining an accurate asset inventory, using a layered “defense in depth” security approach, implementing strong and unique passwords supported by password managers and multi-factor authentication, and updates across all devices. The presentation also highlighted the need for endpoint protection, regular and tested data backups, and overall resiliency planning. Additional takeaways included building a culture of cybersecurity awareness through training, focusing on risk-based assessments, leveraging enterprise-grade technology and monitoring, maintaining business continuity and incident response plans, and utilizing available resources to strengthen cybersecurity.

Trades & Career Pathway Development

Campbell County Schools

Superintendent Dr. Shelli Wilson & Associate Superintendent Adam Ritter

Campbell County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shelli Wilson and Associate Superintendent Adam Ritter provided an informational overview of Campbell County Schools’ operations, student demographics, academic performance, and long-term educational pathways. They outlined current district statistics, including enrollment, staffing levels, transportation activity, meals served, and the composition of district facilities. Demographic information was shared regarding economically disadvantaged students, special education services, gifted identification, and students experiencing homelessness. Academic data highlighted recent growth in reading and math proficiency, ACT performance, and postsecondary outcomes such as scholarships awarded, dual credit and Advanced Placement coursework, and industry certifications earned by students.

Dr. Wilson and Mr. Ritter described the district’s “Profile of a Graduate” framework and pathway alignment from preschool through postsecondary education, emphasizing structured exposure, exploration, and experience across grade levels. They detailed career pathways, exploratory courses, and destination programs designed to support college, career, and skilled trade readiness, along with the use of transition readiness checkpoints at key grade levels. Additional information included district recognition for family-friendly practices, comparisons of local and regional tax rates, and SEEK funding levels relative to surrounding districts.

Campbell County Area Technology Center

Principal Carolyn Stewart

Campbell County Area Technology Center (ATC) Principal Carolyn Stewart provided an informational presentation outlining the mission, vision, programs, and certifications offered by the ATC Center. Ms. Stewart emphasized preparing students for careers or postsecondary education through strong partnerships and technical skill development. She reviewed current programs offered at ATC, including Auto Body/Collision Repair, Auto Technology, Carpentry, Electricity, Fire Science, Health Science, HVAC, and Welding.

Ms. Stewart summarized industry-recognized certifications available across programs, including NCCER construction trades credentials, welding certifications, automotive ASE certifications, and certifications in

Health Science and Fire Science such as Certified Nursing Assistant, CPR/AED/First Aid, OSHA 10, National Incident Management System courses, Firefighter Level 1, and Emergency Medical Responder.

She also highlighted student participation and achievements in SkillsUSA competitions at the state and national levels and reviewed the role of required steering and advisory committees, which meet twice annually and are comprised of stakeholders, feeder school districts, high education institutions, and Chamber of Commerce Unions.

Trades NKY
President Phil Griffin

Trades NKY President Phil Griffin outlined the nonprofit’s mission and core activities and provided context for its role in regional workforce development. Trades NKY is a Kentucky-based nonprofit organization that promotes awareness of skilled trades as career options for students from kindergarten through high school, with an emphasis on long-term career readiness. The organization supports age-appropriate instruction, curriculum, partnerships, and programming designed to introduce students to the skilled trades, develop career awareness and competencies, and support transitions into postsecondary workforce opportunities. Its mission includes providing career planning related to the trades that parallels guidance commonly associated with college preparation. Trades NKY works in collaboration with schools, employers, and educational partners throughout Northern Kentucky to expand access to trade-related education and to support regional workforce development efforts.

Announcements

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery opened the floor up for announcements.

Campbell County Sheriff Mike Jansen announced that he is the new CEO of the Northern Kentucky Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team and would send new MOUs to participating cities. Sheriff Jansen also announced the former Boone County Sheriff, Michael Helmig had passed away.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery announced that future Mayor’s Meetings are scheduled for 6:00 PM on the following dates:

- April 28, 2026
- October 27, 2026

Adjournment

The Fiscal Court Special Mayor’s Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Approved:



STEVE PENDERY
Judge/Executive

Attest:



JANIE PATTERSON
Fiscal Court Clerk

Date: February 18, 2026