

**CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
FISCAL COURT  
MINUTES**

**May 6, 2026**

The Campbell County Fiscal Court held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 9:00 AM ET / 8:00 AM CT, at the Campbell County Courthouse, 8352 East Main Street, Alexandria, Kentucky. Campbell Media recorded the meeting and broadcast it on the Campbell Media Website.

**Present:**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery  
County Commissioner, Tom Lampe  
County Commissioner, Brian Painter  
County Attorney, Steve Franzen

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld  
Assistant County Administrator, Kim Serra  
Assistant County Administrator, Justin Otto  
Police Chief, Craig Sorrell  
Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis  
Human Resources Director, Ashley Murray  
Planning and Zoning Director, Cindy Minter  
Fiscal Court Clerk, Janie Patterson

**Absent:**

County Commissioner, Geoff Besecker

**Regular Meeting**

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery called the meeting to order at 9:00 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.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery stated that Commissioner Geoff Besecker's absence was due to travel.

## Minutes

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Fiscal Court Meeting held on April 15, 2026.

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

## Guests

### ***The Campbell County Fiscal Court presented a “National Public Works Week” Proclamation***

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery presented members of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Public Works Association with a Proclamation recognizing May 17 through May 23, 2026 as National Public Works Week “Rooted in Service Powered by Community.”

Judge Pendery thanked them for the work that they do, and said that their recognition is absolutely deserved.

### ***The Campbell County Fiscal Court presented Fred Macke Jr. with a Certificate of Achievement***

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery on behalf of the Fiscal Court, presented a Certificate of Achievement to Fred Macke Jr. in recognition of his decades of leadership, public service, and contributions to economic development and county infrastructure projects. Judge Pendery noted Mr. Macke’s instrumental role in assisting the county with complex real estate acquisitions, including assembling multiple properties for the Campbell County Administration Building in Newport and securing property for the new Campbell County Public Safety Complex. The Court recognized that Mr. Macke provided his professional real estate expertise and advisory services at no cost to the County, resulting in significant savings to taxpayers over many years.

The Certificate of Achievement further recognized Mr. Macke’s more than 28 years of service with the Campbell County Economic Progress Authority, including his leadership as chairman, and highlighted his contributions to major county development initiatives. The proclamation also acknowledged his extensive commercial real estate career, civic leadership, and service on numerous regional boards and organizations.

The Fiscal Court expressed their sincere gratitude and appreciation for Mr. Macke’s dedication, strategic vision, and lasting impact on Campbell County.

Lindsey Rehtin, President and CEO of the Northern Kentucky Water District (NKWD), congratulated Fred Macke Jr. on receiving the Certificate of Achievement and thanked the Campbell County Fiscal Court for recognizing his service. Ms. Rehtin noted that Mr. Macke has served on the Northern Kentucky Water District Board since 2004, holding every officer position, including five terms as chair, and currently serving as treasurer. She stated that his steady leadership helped guide the NKWD through significant infrastructure investment and growth while serving nearly 300,000 residents across the region, and she expressed appreciation for his longstanding public service and leadership.

***The Campbell County Conservation District presented an update***

Campbell County Conservation District Board Member, Kirt Hill and Conservation District Manager, Patti Dischar presented an annual update on the Conservation District's programs and activities in conjunction with Soil and Water Stewardship Week. Ms. Hill stated the Conservation District's mission is to partner with citizens and private landowners as well as other organizations to promote the sustainability of the land, water, and other natural resources by encouraging the use of best management practices. The District carries out this mission by providing expertise and financial assistance, and by hosting educational programs. She briefly explained how Conservation Districts were founded in the 1940s due to the long-term economic and environmental impacts of the Dust Bowl and lack of conservation practices on land.

Ms. Hill gave an overview of the recent Farm and Livestock Expo, which featured educational demonstrations, livestock exhibitions, historic tractors, vendors, and an equipment auction for local farmers.

The Conservation District started a seed library program in partnership with the Campbell County Public Library. They also gave an overview of the new Campbell County Homegrown Directory which promotes local agricultural producers, ongoing stewardship and planning efforts at the St. Anne's Wetland and Hawthorne Crossing properties, and preparations for the Campbell County Backroads Farm Tour.

Commissioner Brian Painter said that he attended the Farm and Livestock Expo and that it was well run.

The Fiscal Court thanked the Conservation District for their continued efforts to preserve green space, support local agriculture, promote environmental stewardship, and provide educational opportunities for Campbell County residents.

***NorthKey Community Care presented an overview of its services***

NorthKey Community Care Chief of Operations and Strategy, Rob Vonckx and Chief of Clinical Services and Development, Jennifer Miller presented an overview of NorthKey's mental health, substance use, and intellectual and developmental disability services provided throughout Northern Kentucky, with a focus on Campbell County. NorthKey served more than 2,000 Campbell County residents in 2025 and provided over 30,000 services through its Newport office. They highlighted crisis response services including the 988 crisis hotline, school-based therapy programs within Campbell County schools, substance use treatment programs, and the Assisted Outpatient Treatment program currently operating in Campbell County. They also discussed recent service expansions, including mobile crisis response and the Crisis Stabilization Unit.

The Fiscal Court thanked NorthKey for their continued partnership and commitment to supporting behavioral health services for Campbell County residents.

**Recognition of Citizens & Public Officials**

Campbell County resident Gary Hamilton addressed the Fiscal Court regarding an increase in his property tax bill due to the reassessment of his home.

County Attorney, Steve Franzen explained that the Fiscal Court does not have anything to do with property assessments and that it is all done through the Property Valuation Administration which is a state agency and is not funded by the Fiscal Court. Mr. Hamilton was notified he could go before the Board of Assessment Appeals and argue his case.

### **New Business**

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented new business.

#### ***Ordinance O-03-26: First Reading***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Ordinance O-03-26, “An Ordinance updating the Official County-Maintained Road List in Campbell County, Kentucky for Lonesome Lane, Awesome Place, Parkside Drive, Cloverleaf Court, Creekside Court, and Boyd Road.”

A motion to adopt Ordinance O-03-26 will be requested following the second reading.

#### ***Ordinance O-04-26: First Reading***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Ordinance O-04-26, “An Ordinance updating the official zoning map for unincorporated Campbell County to rezone 3 parcels at 27 Moreland Road, referred to as PIDNs 999-99-23-234.00, 999-99-23-242.01, and 999-99-23-233.00 spanning approximately 6.13 acres and associated rights-of-way to the centerlines of the adjacent roads for a total of approximately 8 acres from Residential One A (R-1A), Rural Commercial (RC), and Industrial Two (I-2) Zones to Residential Three (R-3) Zone.”

Planning and Zoning Director, Cindy Minter was present to answer questions and provide additional information if requested.

A motion to adopt Ordinance O-04-26 will be requested following the second reading.

#### ***Resolution R-25-26***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-25-26, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court approving funding for the County Attorney’s Office for Fiscal Year 2027.”

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-25-26 by Commissioner Tom Lampe, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

Judge/Executive, Steve Penderly stated that the County Attorney’s Office does great work.

### **Personnel**

#### ***Resolution R-26-26***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld read the title summary for Resolution R-26-26, “A Resolution of the Campbell County Fiscal Court authorizing staff to execute an agreement with Carrot Fertility, Inc. to

provide family-building and fertility care coverage to all full-time benefit eligible employees of the Campbell County Fiscal Court and Detention Center.”

Human Resources Director, Ashley Murray was present to answer questions and provide additional information if requested.

Motion was made to adopt Resolution R-26-26 by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter.

Commissioner Tom Lampe recused himself due to his employer’s possible relationship with this company.

All voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint Kimberly Phillips as the full-time Housing Director with the Campbell County Housing Department effective May 7, 2026.

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 presented a motion to authorize staff to advertise, interview, and make a hiring recommendation for a full-time Housing Inspector to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of Kimberly Phillips.

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

***Executive Order***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to appoint Jeffrey Goshorn as a part-time OEM Response Officer in the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management effective May 7, 2026.

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 presented a motion to appoint JR Stull to the Campbell County Board of Assessment Appeals for a three-year term effective June 1, 2026 through May 31, 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 presented a motion to reappoint Brian Ellerman to the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) Board of Directors for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2030.

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 presented a report.

***Motion***

County Administrator, Matt Elberfeld presented a motion to accept the bid from Prus Construction for the AJ Jolly Spillway Reconstruction project.

Mr. Elberfeld reported that two bids were received for the project. The lowest bid, in the amount of \$3,518,256.50, was submitted by Prus Construction and falls within the engineer’s cost estimate. He further noted that project planning and construction have been accounted for in both the Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 budgets.

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

Mr. Elberfeld explained that the lake spillway replacement project, which has been in planning for approximately ten years, is underway due to concrete deficiencies identified during annual inspections, though the spillway is not at imminent risk of failure. The lake must remain lowered during construction, resulting in temporary park and campground closures. Mr. Elberfeld also reported that the County is using the lowered water levels to conduct dredging operations and other lake improvements, with full park operations expected to resume in approximately one year, weather permitting.

Judge Pendery noted that weather conditions could impact the project timeline and asked for public patience during the improvement process.

**County Attorney’s Report**

County Attorney, Steve Franzen recognized the county’s poll workers and expressed his sincere appreciation for their dedication and professionalism. He thanked both returning and new poll workers for taking their responsibilities seriously and contributing to the county’s longstanding tradition of free, fair, and accurate elections, and he wanted to ensure they were acknowledged.

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery stated the county has a strong election administration record, noting that in a prior three county senatorial race recount, the vote totals were confirmed without discrepancy.

### **County Commissioners' Report**

Commissioner Brian Painter reported on the Agricultural Expo, and said that it was a good event. He thanked Cooperative Extension Agriculture Agent, Michelle Simon and Conservation District Manager, Patti Dischar for organizing and coordinating the program and that they did a great job.

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

Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery gave the following two announcements.

#### ***Solid Waste Spring Cleanup Event***

The Campbell County Solid Waste Spring Cleanup Event will be Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at three locations: Frederick's Landing in Wilder, Pendery Park in Melbourne, and the Campbell County Road Department in Alexandria. A complete list of accepted items and event guidelines is available on the Campbell County website.

#### ***Celebrate America 250***

Campbell County Parks & Recreation and the Campbell County Public Library are partnering to celebrate America 250 with the dedication of a new permanent Picture Path at AJ Jolly Park, Saturday, May 9 at 12:00 noon. The Book Bus will be on-site with free books for all ages.

### **Finance Director/Treasurer's Report**

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

#### ***Motion***

Finance Director/Treasurer, Laura Lewis presented a motion to authorize the Judge/Executive to enter into a contract with Microsoft for software licensing.

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 presented a motion to authorize staff to purchase an inmate transport van for the Campbell County Detention Center.

Ms. Lewis stated this vehicle will be used to improve capacity and safety to accommodate the increased inmate population and for the transportation of federal inmates. It is the recommendation of Jailer Jim Daley to select the proposal from Duval Ford in the amount of \$107,440, which is included in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget with the possibility of rolling over to Fiscal Year 2027 depending on lead time.

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

### ***Budget Transfers***

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

- April 30, 2026

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

### ***Interfund Transfers***

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

- April 30, 2026

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

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

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

- April 22, 2026
- April 29, 2026
- May 1, 2026 (Employee Benefits)
- May 6, 2026

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Brian Painter, seconded by Judge/Executive, Steve Pendery.

Commissioner Tom Lampe stated that he supported payment of the claims; however, he 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.

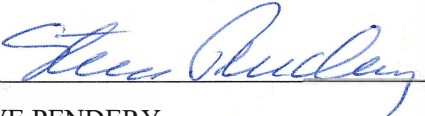
### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Fiscal Court, Commissioner Tom Lampe made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brian Painter. All voted “Aye” and the meeting adjourned at 10:24 AM.


**Attachments**

- R-25-26: Approve funding for the County Attorney's Office for Fiscal Year 2027
- R-26-26: Authorize an agreement with Carrot Fertility, Inc.
- Interfund Transfers: April 30, 2026
- Budget Transfers: April 30, 2026
- Claims & Claims Paid per Standing Order
  - April 22, 2026
  - April 29, 2026
  - May 1, 2026 (Employee Benefits)
  - May 6, 2026

Approved:

  
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STEVE PENDERY  
Judge/Executive

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JANIE PATTERSON  
Fiscal Court Clerk

Date Approved: May 20, 2026