

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
January 14, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on January 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office Annex, Warsaw, Kentucky. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live. Magistrates present were Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, Joel Shinkle and M. J Haddix. County Attorney John G. Wright was also present. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Judge Morris asked to amend the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020 to reflect that the total funding amount from the CARES Act received by the county is \$447,323.36. Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Donnie Sullivan. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None.

Approval of Agenda: Judge Morris presented the meeting agenda for approval with one addition, the inclusion of a Jail Update in New Business. M. J Haddix made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with the addition. Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval to pay, including the added blue sheet. Judge Morris made note that the jail bill was down for the month. Joel Shinkle moved to pay the bills as presented. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

December 2020 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending December 31, 2020. Ethan Moore made a motion to approve the report and Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Donnie Sullivan made a motion to approve the budget transfers for the month of December. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.
3. Interfund Cash Transfers – Ethan Moore made a motion to approve the interfund cash transfers. Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.
4. Quarterly Financial Statement – Treasurer Bullard presented the quarterly financial statement for the second quarter of fiscal year 2020-21. She reported that the statement is in balance and has been uploaded to the Department for Local Government.

Judge Morris asked if it is yet known what the total of payroll taxes were for the 2nd quarter. Treasurer Bullard answered that the total is not yet known, as the payments are now beginning to come in.

Donnie Sullivan moved to approve the quarterly financial statement for the second quarter, ending December 31, 2020. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Budget Amendment #121020 #2 – 2nd Reading Phase I Cities CARES Act Grant/Phase II CARES Act Grant & 911 Console Grant. Budget Amendment approved by M. J Haddix and seconded by Donnie Sullivan. All ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

FARM to FAMILY UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that the Farm to Family program will be continued from January through April at this time. The dates will be on Fridays at the High School around 9:00 am. Specifically noted as:

January 29, 2021

February 19, 2021

March 12, 2021

April 9, 2021

ANIMAL SHELTER HIRING UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that four candidates have been interviewed for the position, which resulted in the hiring of Annie Miller to be hired as the new Director, working roughly 32 hours per week. Additionally, part time employee Daria Kelleher will work 8-10 hours weekly.

FIRE HYDRANTS BLUE HERON SUBDIVISION UPDATE

Judge Morris reported to the court upon the request of Magistrate Ethan Moore at the November meeting, that the problem with adding hydrants in the subdivision stems from there only being a four-inch line there. He explained that there is also a 10-inch line near the back of the subdivision on Meadowlark Lane that would support the addition of hydrants. He is currently putting costs together to report back to the court.

SEWER EXPANSION UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that the City of Warsaw is interested in participating in a BLOC grant with the county to provide service out Highway 35 via an expansion of their plant. Conversations are on-going in that regard and communication is continuing with Carrollton Utilities.

SPEEDWAY BLVD UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that he has spoken with the Speedway about the closure of Speedway Blvd. He explained that their concern is over safety and maintenance. After further discussion with them, they are in agreement to move the barriers blocking the road on January 19, 2021. In-turn, the county will post No Truck Traffic signs and create an ordinance to help with the Speedway's concerns. This will also help the Sheriff monitor and enforce the restrictions. Judge Morris explained that his intent is to have the 1st Reading of said ordinance at the February meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court.

Magistrate Sullivan applauded Judge Morris for his efforts. He added that he wants to make sure we have a good working relationship with the Speedway but wants to do what's best to support the citizens of Gallatin County at the same time.

Further discussion in regard to the Speedway and the trailers presently stored there took place. Judge Morris reported that from his and Planning & Zoning Director Jim Hansen's research, the storage is permitted within their current zone. Magistrate Shinkle argued that reading the zoning where accessory uses is mentioned, he was not sure that the accessory use of storing items for someone else falls outside of their normal operations of the Speedway, and thus not accessory by nature. Further discussion took place in regard to the vague wording of the zone and it was decided to have Mike Duncan provide an opinion on the definition of accessory use and how it pertains to the current zoning at the Speedway.

NEW BUSINESS

JAIL UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that there are currently 166 inmates housed at the Carroll County Detention Center, 35 of which are from Gallatin County. Of the 166 inmates, there were 67 total COVID-19 cases in their recent outbreak, with 10 of those being Gallatin County inmates.

Magistrate Haddix asked how the inmates are being treated for COVID. He was informed that the Carroll County nursing staff is taking care of those with cases and they are being isolated and monitored. He added that due to the outbreak, no new inmates are being accepted currently. Judge Morris reported that he has been in contact with both Boone County and Oldham County as a backup, if and when needed. Currently Grant County does not appear to be an option as they are dealing with an outbreak of their own. He also noted that Henry and Trimble offenders are going to Oldham County currently which has freed up some space at Carroll County. County Attorney Wright noted that either of those options would be good from a court standpoint. Magistrate Haddix asked what the cost of treatment or tests for the inmates is. Judge Morris explained that there is no charge at this time. If there are expenses the max liability to the county is \$1,000 per inmate, which would equate to approximately \$10,000 in that situation and does not foresee a large expense for this going forward.

COVID-19 CRISIS SICK PAY POLICY EXTENSION

Judge Morris presented three options in regard to the sick pay policy for COVID -19. Those being to keep the policy the same, which allows for 2 weeks of paid leave. Changing the policy to one week of paid leave or dropping all special leave accommodations related to COVID-19. He noted that Option 1, which the county was operating under, expired on Dec 31, 2020. Ethan Moore commented that he thinks option 1 should be extended. Magistrate Shinkle asked how many had been affected. Judge Morris answered that roughly 10-12 that have had the virus or were required to quarantine out of approximately 60 employees. He noted he felt to drop the special accommodations would be a bad idea and would encourage the court to consider option 1 or 2. Magistrate Joel Shinkle agreed with Mr. Moore, saying that sticking with Option 1 as had been done previously would be his preference. Ethan Moore moved to approve the extension of 2 weeks paid leave for those affected by COVID-19 through March 31, 2021. Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Judge Morris noted that the current CDC guidelines for quarantine is 10 days if in contact and 7 days with a positive test.

NORTHERN KY COMMUNITY ACTION AUDIT

Judge Morris informed the court that the Community Action Audit has been provided for review and no action is needed.

APPOINTMENT TO CARROLL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Judge Morris informed the court of the need to make an appointment to the Carroll County Water District and complete the term due to the untimely passing of Ron Courtney. Ryan has spoken to four individuals interested in the position. Those are Leroy Mason, Barry Brown, Lawrence Roding and Dickie Bethel. Obie Cox of the Carroll County Water District has spoken to each of the interested parties and recommended Barry Brown to fill the seat. Joel Shinkle made a motion to appoint Barry Brown to the Carroll County Water District. M. J Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.

PROCLAMATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

Judge Morris informed the court that January is School Board Recognition Month. He explained that in the proclamation he tweaked the wording some to include all staff as they have all played

a very vital role in the school operations every year, but especially in this year under unordinary circumstances. He acknowledged the exceptional job that the school system has done this year during such challenging times and read the proclamation out loud. Motion in support of the proclamation naming January School Board Recognition Month in Gallatin County was made by Ethan Moore and seconded by Donnie Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS

Judge Morris informed Magistrate Shinkle that he would forward the address provided to the Code Enforcement Officer to investigate.

With no further business before the court, M. J Haddix made a motion to adjourn. Ethan Moore seconded his motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug Miles
Gallatin County Fiscal Court Clerk