

**GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT**  
**March 14, 2019**

The meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on March 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gallatin County Senior Center, Warsaw, Kentucky. Magistrates present were Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, Joel Shinkle and M.J Haddix. County Attorney John G. Wright was also present. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance.

**Minutes:** Magistrate M.J Haddix noted that an addition should be made to the minutes to reflect the several questions he asked and concerns he had about the cost of the airport in reference to a 5% match from the county. Judge Morris clarified that the land acquisition via state funds will go toward the county's match. Funds from the county will be kept at a minimum. Motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2019 with the additions were approved by Ethan Moore and seconded by Joel Shinkle. All ayes.

**Recognition of Audience:** Dan Reinhardt of Mars Place informed the court that they will be forming a Neighborhood Watch. An organizational meeting will take place on Tuesday at 7:00 pm at Verona New Bethel Church. He noted that Magistrate Shinkle is helping the group to get some signs.

**Approval of Agenda:** Joel Shinkle moved to approve the meeting agenda. M.J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

**Vendor Claims:** Claims were presented for approval to pay, which included the added blue sheet. Treasurer Bullard noted that checks for Jim Hansen, Joe Mylor and Steve Huddleston for Planning and Zoning were not included in the report. M.J Haddix asked about an expense of \$1,400 to IKT for Labor. He was informed that it was to correct a problem on the 2015 Ambulance. It was noted that the ambulance is now working fine. Magistrate Haddix also questioned an amount of \$1,025 for a Cotton Candy Machine. He was informed that was for tourism. He also asked whether the phone at the Concord Fire House was necessary. Treasurer Bullard answered that she thought it was needed for Election Days. County Clerk Miles explained that it is not needed for her election workers, but will double check to make sure there are not service issues there. The court will consider disconnecting the line if it is not needed. Ethan Moore moved to approve the claims as presented. Donnie Sullivan seconded. All ayes.

**February 2019 Financial Reporting**

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the report for the month ending February 28, 2019. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and M.J Haddix seconded. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Ethan Moore moved to approve the budget transfers for the month of February. Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.
3. Interfund Cash Transfers – Donnie Sullivan moved to approve the interfund cash transfers for the month of February. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.
4. Budget Amendment #022119 #4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: General Fund Surplus, Gallatin Fire Thermal Imaging Grant and 911 Lightning Reimbursement. Treasurer Bullard noted that the amendment has been approved by DLG. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the budget amendment. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

5. Budget Amendment #031419 #5 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Surplus Revenue (General, Road, Jail & Dispatch). Ethan Moore moved to approve the budget amendment. M.J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **KY TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT / RURAL ROADS**

Judge Morris brought back before the court the matter of the Rural Secondary Roads Program which includes plans for paving on Hwy 16 and Craig's Creek. Ken McCarty reminded the court that the flex funds have been retained for the last two years and have not been used. The total of those funds being held is \$174,733. Magistrate Shinkle expressed his fear that there are significant areas of concern that could have to hit that account really hard. Mr. McCarty noted that Knox Lillard has already been bid and will begin once weather allows. That \$120,000 project was from discretionary funds that are already allocated. Magistrate Shinkle also noted that there are considerations for guardrails from the slips repaired last year. Joel Shinkle moved to proceed with the Rural Secondary Roads Plan as presented minus the flex funds. M.J Haddix seconded the motion.

M.J Haddix made a motion to retain the flex funds. Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **GALLATIN COUNTY DISPATCH OPEN RECORDS POLICY**

County Attorney Wright explained to the court that there should be a policy in place and while he doesn't feel that it is a huge hurry it is an area of need. Judge Morris and Ryan Bailey have both worked on preparing a draft. Judge Morris noted that he felt it was prudent to have time to review the policy further and work out any kinks by the next meeting in April. Joel Shinkle made a motion to table the issue until April. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

### **2020 CENSUS UPDATE**

Judge Morris provided the court with an update in regard to the upcoming 2020 Census. He has spoken to the Census Bureau and they are in need of workers. The pay is \$14 per hour plus 52 cents per mile if the worker is using their own vehicle.

### **KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CENTER; SAFETY CIRCUIT PROGRAM**

Judge Morris notified the court that the county has received a \$5,000 Grant from the University of Kentucky via their Safety Circuit Program, which allows for brush cutting, signage, etc to help improve roadway safety, based on crash data provided by the state.

### **GALLATIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL BUDGET**

The Gallatin County Conservation District Annual Budget was presented for review. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the annual budget. M.J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

### **AIRPORT UPDATE – SURPLUS PROPERTY**

Judge Morris informed the court of conversations from the previous week with the contractor. They are currently in the cost-benefit analysis phase and dirt should be moving by the end of summer. Judge Morris also noted that a Grant was received for \$250,000 from the state for filing fees and the like. Mr. Morris further explained that portions of the airport site could be

deemed surplus property and be sold by the County at their discretion. Magistrate Shinkle asked if there is any worthwhile timber on the site. Judge Morris reported that there is, but there could be some environmental issues to contend with in regard to an Indiana Bat. He will follow-up and report back. Mr. Shinkle added that the court should consider looking into a live auction format rather than sealed bids as a possibility. County Attorney Wright noted that the cost of a live auction, which could be up to 15% should be considered. Judge Morris concluded the discussion by reminding the court that the property must first be deemed surplus and then if it is the type of auction can be weighed. He would like to have a decision by the next meeting.

#### **DISCUSS EMERGENCY SERVICES CONCERNS**

Judge Morris explained to the court that he would like to conduct a cost benefit analysis of the Dispatch Building. A significant amount of water got in during February and there are concerns about a future incident ruining equipment. He has toured the facility with a builder and electrician, who reported the building to be solid but in need of roof and electrical updates. Some additional minor updates could be included and also in need of plumbing/bathroom repairs. These improvements and repairs should be compared to the possibility of adjoining with the Sheriff and how the differences in costs line up. Magistrate Moore asked if there is room at the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Neale answered that there is and noted that all the electrical has been updated, the basement is completely dry and the dispatcher could be more secure than in the current setup. M.J Haddix made note that if dispatch was relocated to the Sheriff's Office there could be personnel considerations with a backup rather than only one person being on site. Magistrate Shinkle mentioned that the utility bills at the Napoleon Firehouse are quite high and that someone needs to go to the facility with Bud Webster to address them. He also noted the high utility bills at the County Clerk's Office. County Attorney Wright offered his opinion that it is a good rolling discussion about building scenarios looking at all offices and a way to better the current situation.

Magistrate Haddix asked the court if they have reviewed or considered his proposals in regard to EMS Services and also asked how does the county keep them running? Judge Morris informed Magistrate Haddix and the court that he will begin quarterly meetings with Emergency Services Department Heads to help see where everyone is and how better collaboration can be achieved.

Magistrate Haddix questioned how many miles the fleet of ambulances currently have on them and what the annual maintenance cost is. This lead to an in-depth discussion of options to upgrade the fleet and how or if the services can be operated at less of an overall cost with transports down. Treasurer Bullard noted that with transports down there will be \$100,000 hit to revenue this year. She commented that these are services the county provides and of course at a cost, but at what cost. Magistrate Haddix commented that to him Public Safety is the Top Priority and there is room for improvement. Judge Morris agreed.

Joel Shinkle made a motion to go into closed session per KRS 61.810.1c to discuss litigation. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

M.J Haddix moved to come out of closed session and return to open session. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

With no further business before the court, M.J Haddix made a motion to adjourn. Joel Shinkle seconded his motion. All Ayes.