

**RUSSELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY DECEMBER 11, 2023
5:30 P.M.**

The Russell County Fiscal Court held their regular monthly meeting on Monday December 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. Those in attendance were County Judge Executive Randy Marcum, Magistrates Terry Waddell, Mickey Garner, Zach Wilson, Steve Richardson, Larry Skaggs, County Attorney Shearer and County Treasurer Kim Blanchet.

WELCOME, OPENING PRAYER & PLEDGE: Judge Marcum welcomed those present and Brother Wayne Keith led the prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES: Judge Marcum presented the minutes from the November 13, 2023, regular meeting. Magistrate Garner made a motion to approve the minutes with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

PAY BILLS: Judge Marcum submitted a list of regular bills to be approved along with a list of bills that came in late. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to pay the bills with Magistrate Wilson seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

DETENTION CENTER REPORT: Jailer Dunbar read the jail report as follows: Prescription Co-pay \$411.87; Nurse Visits \$133.96; HB 556 \$4,196.00; State Inmate Housing \$63,187.92; Clinton Co Inmate Housing \$10,521.62; Booking Fees \$1,563.60; Vending Commission \$19.86; Phone Commission \$3,430.32; Refund \$46.65; Reimbursement \$785.75; Per Diem \$1,572.18; Interest \$33.23; Transfer from General \$250,000.00; for a total income of \$335,902.96. The expenses were \$158,587.79 which makes a difference of income and expenses (\$177,315.17). The average inmates for the month were 111. There was 79 ¼ hours overtime. As of today, there are 50 state inmates, 8 from Clinton County and 43 from Russell County for a total of 101 inmates. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the detention center report with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sheriff Polston provided the sheriff's report for the month of November. He stated there were 336 911 calls for service; 17 arrests; 4 Domestic; 25 1045's; 9 1046's; 24 Traffic Stops; 25 Request for Officer; 75 Other Requests; 2 Mental Health Transports; 67 Court Papers Served; 91 Prisoner Transports; 2062 Court Security Miles; 52 Vehicle Inspections; 12 CCDW Permits and \$1,261,586.10 collected in Real Property tax. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to accept the sheriff's report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Sheriff Polston presented his 2024 budget to the court for approval along with the state advancement and maximum salaries for deputies. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the presented 2024 budget with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. The maximum salaries for deputies was presented which was \$725,000.00. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the maximum salaries for deputies with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Lastly the state advancement was presented which was for \$375,000.00. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the state advancement with Magistrate Wilson seconding All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY SETTLEMENT REPORT & PRE-APPROVED AE TRANSFERS: Judge Marcum stated the treasurer's reports and pre-approved AE transfers were in the packet and asked the court if anyone had any questions regarding those reports. Magistrate Garner made a motion to approve the monthly settlement report and accept the pre-approved AE transfers with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

1st READING ORDINANCE 23-08 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Treasurer Blanchet read the ordinance which was for unbudgeted receipts. No vote is required until the 2nd reading which will be at the January 8, 2024 meeting.

2ND READING ORDINANCE 23-07 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Treasurer Blanchet read the ordinance which was for unbudgeted receipts. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the budget amendment ordinance with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor none opposed. Motion passed.

1st READING ORDINANCE 23-09 GREASY CREEK BRIDGE GRANT PROJECT: Treasurer Blanchet read the ordinance which was changing the classification and designation of a county owned bridge from a bridge to a fishing pier. No vote is required until the 2nd reading which will be at the January 8, 2024 meeting.

TRANSFER \$175,000.00 FROM GENERAL TO JAIL FOR OPERATING EXPENSES: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$175,000.00 from general to the jail account for normal operating expenses. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

TRANSFER \$453.56 FROM 911 TO AMBULANCE FOR ENHANCED MEDICAID: Judge Marcum stated this was where the state was putting the Ambulance's money for Enhanced Medicaid into the 911 account and had to be paid to the Ambulance Service. Magistrate Garner made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$13,000.00 FROM GENERAL TO LGEA FOR VEHICLE: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$13,000.00 from general to the LGEA account to pay for the vehicle the court voted to purchase at last months meeting for the coroner. Magistrate Garner made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

TRANSFER \$906.43.00 FROM GENERAL TO JAIL FOR MEDICAL CLAIM DEPOSIT ERROR: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$906.43 from general account to the jail account to correct a deposit error done by the state. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

PAY PULASKI COUNTY \$13,375.00 FOR REGIONAL SHELTER: Judge Marcum stated we contract with Pulaski County for our regional dog shelter. We pay them \$13,375.00 every six months and it's time to pay them again. He stated this is a budgeted item but needs fiscal court approval to pay the bill. Magistrate Garner made a motion to pay Pulaski County with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Judge Marcum stated we follow the states holiday schedule and the schedule was in the packet for the magistrates to review. Magistrate Garner made the motion to accept the state holiday schedule with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

RC CLERK FINAL SETTLEMENT 2022 – SUE BROCKMAN: Judge Marcum stated we had received a letter and final settlement from former clerk Sue Brockman. Treasurer Blanchet read the received letter and presented to the court the final fee settlement for her account in 2022. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to accept the 2022 final fee settlement with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

RC CLERK – 2024 BUDGET & SALARY SCHEDULE: County Clerk Glover presented to the court the 2024 budget for the clerk's office and the maximum salaries for deputies. She stated the 2024 budget was \$5,000,000.00 and the maximum salary was \$300,000.00. Magistrate Wilson made a motion to accept the 2024 budget with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to accept the maximum salaries for deputies with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Clerk Glover also submitted a letter to the court asking for the courts approval to maintain the startup money of \$2,000.00 in her account through the end of her term. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to approve the retainage of the \$2,000.00 start up funds with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

EXTENSION BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Judge Marcum stated he had received a letter of recommendation from the Extension board for the appointment of Neal Dalton to the board. He also stated there were currently 2 positions on the board that were expiring at the end of the year but the Extension board was only replacing one of those board seats. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the recommendation to appoint Neal Dealton for a term of 3 years beginning 1/1/24 through 12/31/26. Magistrate Richardson seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

AIRPORT BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Judge Marcum stated there were 2 airport board appointments that were expiring at the end of the month. He recommended the re-appointment of Mr. Tim Wilson for another term beginning

1/1/24 – 12/31/27 and the re-appointment of Scott Turner for another term also beginning 1/1/24 – 12/31/27. Magistrate Richardson made the motion to accept the judge's recommendation with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Judge Marcum stated he needed to bring up the issue regarding the Inter-Local 911 agreement between the county, the ambulance board and the two cities. He stated both the City of Russell Springs along with the City of Jamestown had amended the agreement to only pay the county \$25,000 per year for dispatch support instead of the agreement amount of \$35,000.00. He stated the City of Russell Springs had submitted their agreement to his office along with a check for \$25,000.00 which was deposited while both he and Treasurer Blanchet were out of town for a conference. He also stated the City of Russell Springs had made a mark through on the agreement where it stated the fee and had replaced the \$35,000 fee with \$25,000 which he believed voided the contract. He asked the court for their permission to give them back the \$25,000 via check from the fiscal court since the agreement was not valid. There was discussion on having each city to handle their own calls for fire, emergencies and assistance and possibly the handling of any dog complaints that were within the city limits of either town. It was also discussed we get a count of the number of calls received at dispatch between now and the next meeting that were for both the City of Jamestown and the City of Russell Springs. Magistrate Garner made a motion to pay back the \$25,000 to the City of Russell Springs with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated Tuesday the 12th was the inauguration day for Governor Beshear who had officially closed all state offices on that day. He went on to state most of the surrounding counties were staying open and most of the offices inside the courthouse were planning on being open. He asked the court for their thoughts on closing the courthouse or having it remain a regular workday. Magistrate Wilson made a motion to remain open as a regular workday with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated we had received notification of a grant being awarded to the Rescue Squad in the amount of \$5,284.66. He asked the courts permission to turn these funds over to the Rescue Squad since we were the pass-through agency. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to pay the funds to the Rescue Squad with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated he had been contacted by a company called Hyper Reach that provided the same type of service CodeRed does however it was considerably cheaper and offered many other included services that would benefit the county and its constituents. He asked the court's permission to pursue a contract with them and cancel the auto renewal of the CodeRed contract that would be coming up in March of 2024. Magistrate Garner made a motion to allow the judge to sign a new contract with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Magistrate Garner stated in the road meeting there was discussion on purchasing a limb shearer for the skid steer which would assist the road department in trimming trees that lined the roadways. He made a motion to purchase the item at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00 and if necessary to transfer the money from the general fund. Magistrate Richardson seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Magistrate Garner also stated that at last month's meeting it was voted to set aside up to \$300,000.00 to update the 911 dispatch offices. He stated Mike Selby from the ambulance board was in the courtroom and they needed to present a plan on what they were interested in doing as far as building upgrades and those plans needed to be presented to the court and to the 911 board so they could be assured it would not affect the security needs of NCIC before they put it out to bid. Mr. Selby stated he was anticipating the plans within the next day or so.

Judge Marcum stated the court had set aside \$250,000.00 of the ARPA funds for the broadband project for Jabez. He stated he had asked a couple of different times for Duo-County to submit an invoice to us and they have never provided one nor had that responded to any of his requests. He wanted to know if the court was wanting to de-obligate the funds since Duo-County had been provided their own ARPA funds from both the federal government as well as the state. Both County Attorney Shearer and County Treasurer said we would need to see if this could be done and if so what would the process be. County Attorney Shearer stated he knew if the court decided to de-obligate the funds then the Resolution obligating those funds would need to be rescinded. The issue was tabled until the January meeting.

Judge Marcum stated we had received \$5,807.96 from alcohol sales for the month of October which was collected in November.

Judge Marcum asked the court if they would allow him to get some estimates on some mini split units for the offices upstairs and some new flooring. Magistrate Garner made a motion to allow him to get the prices with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

ADJOURN: With nothing further to discuss, Magistrate Garner made a motion to adjourn with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.



Randy Marcum
County Judge Executive



Kim Blanchet
County Treasurer & Fiscal Court Clerk