

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

The Russell County Fiscal Court held their regular monthly meeting on Monday September 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 and County Treasurer Kim Blanchet. County Attorney Shearer was absent from the meeting.

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

MINUTES: Judge Marcum presented the minutes from the August 14, 2023, regular meeting and the called meeting from September 6, 2023. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to approve the minutes with Magistrate Wilson 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 \$252.68; Nurse Visits \$88.39; HB 452 (2 checks) \$780.25; HB 556 (4 checks) \$24,200.00; State Inmate Housing \$60,537.42; Clinton Co Inmate Housing (2 checks) \$8,443.10; Booking Fees \$2,233.71; Phone Commission \$3,849.30; Reimbursement \$789.71; Per Diem \$2,732.99; Interest \$40.05; for a total income of \$103,947.59. The expenses were \$180,333.82 which makes a difference of income and expenses (\$76,386.23). The average inmates for the month were 108. There was 85 hours overtime. As of today, there are 51 state inmates, 7 from Clinton County and 41 from Russell County for a total of 99 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: Deputy Wooldridge provided the sheriff's report for the month of August. He stated there were 911 calls for service; 21 arrests; 19 Domestic; 17 1045's; 2 1046's; 46 traffic stops; 50 request for officers; 4 mental health transports; 8 Criminal Summons; 81 court papers served; 2378 court security transport miles; 50 Vehicle Inspections; 37 CCDW and \$149.58 collected in Oil & Franchise tax. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the sheriff's report with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY SETTLEMENT REPORT & PRE-APPROVED AE TRANSFERS: Judge Marcum stated the treasurer's report 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 Waddell seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

TRANSFER \$368.00 FROM 911 TO JAIL FUND TO CORRECT CODING ERROR: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$368.00 from the 911 dispatch fund to the jail fund. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to make the transfer with Magistrate Garner seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

2023 TAX RATES FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS: Judge Marcum stated the county and a one of the other taxing districts had presented the rates at the last meeting but the other districts would be presenting the tax rates tonight. Lindsey Westerfield from the library presented the tax rates for the library district. Those rates are 5.9 for real property; 6.83 for tangible and 6.83 for watercraft. Treasurer Blanchet presented the extension office rates. Those rates are 3.8 for real property; 5.76 for tangible and 2.39 for watercraft. A spokesperson from the Ambulance board presented their tax rates. Those rates were 6.5 for real property; 9.2 for tangible; 9.2 for watercraft. Scott Thompson from the hospital presented their rates. Those rates were 6.6 for real property; 9.2 for tangible; 9.2 for watercraft. Judge Marcum stated the rates for the conservation district remained the same at .009 for real property. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept all the rates from the districts with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum asked Tourism Director Danielle Wilson to come before the court. Ms. Wilson approached the court and stated she had been in contact with folks from Fat Head Promotions regarding hosting a 2 day event at the former drag strip for some drag racing and other festivities. She stated the promotion company stated it would not cost the county any money and they would take care of all the expense. She asked the court for their approval to allow the event. Magistrate Garner made a motion to allow the event with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

OPEN BIDS FOR JUDICIAL CENTER MAINTENANCE & JANITORIAL CONTRACTS: Judge Marcum stated we had received only one bid for the judicial maintenance contract which was from the current vendor Dwight Kerr. He opened the bid and stated the bid was for \$.68 per square foot for 44,500 square feet which comes to \$30,260.00 per year. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the bid with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Judge Marcum stated there were two bids for the janitorial services. The first bid was from the current vendor, Linda Barnes Cleaning which came in at a yearly cost \$9.85 per sq ft which totals \$4,432.50 per month. The next bid was from J&F Janitorial Services which came in at \$7,224.00 per month without disposables or \$7,574.00 including disposables. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the bid from Linda Barnes Cleaning with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

OPEN BIDS FOR THE TRACTOR: Judge Marcum stated we had some bids for the new tractor. He stated the first was for a 2023 590E cab tractor, John Deere from Wright Implement which was \$73,250.00. He stated the next bid was for a 2023 5100E cab tractor, John Deere also from Wright Implement which was \$79,950.00. Magistrate Garner made a motion to table these bids and give Judge Marcum and Road Foreman Conner permission to look for a good used tractor without dep. Magistrate Waddell seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Judge Marcum asked the price limit and the response was to go up to the \$40,000.00 threshold.

ROAD CHANGES: Judge Marcum stated we had a road change. He stated Jenkins Road in district 1 the length needed to be corrected and we needed to add 0.27 mile to the road length making the total road length 0.136 mile. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the change with Magistrate Garner seconding. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Judge Marcum asked County Clerk Patti Glover to come and speak to the court. Clerk Glover stated her election board commissioners had met and had been in touch with the State Board of Elections and they are going to open the Jabez election precinct for the next election because those folks have to drive so far to cast their votes. She went on to state she had a feeling when they do this she may have to open up the Creelsboro precinct as well and if that happens they may just have to go back to the old way and do precinct voting. She stated this would come at a cost and she presented an estimate from Harp for the equipment needed which was estimated to be \$39,432.00. This estimate was only for the equipment and staffing the precinct would be an additional expense for workers & a port-a-potty. She also stated the state had told her there was still money on the table for Russell county she could file for. She stated at this time she was going to need some money from the court to handle the situation and asked for the courts approval to order the equipment. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to pay the fees for the Jabez precinct to be opened with Magistrate Garner seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated the court had passed a resolution last year committing ARPA funds to Duo-County to put fiber optic in the Jabez community. He stated Duo-County had requested those funds be paid now that the project was nearing completion. He asked for direction from the court on their desires. Magistrate Garner stated since we've already committed to pay it they should send us an invoice and then we can pay it. Magistrate Wilson made a motion to get the invoice and pay it with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum asked Police Chief Kearns to come before the court to address them. Chief Kearns and School Superintendent Michael Ford came before the court and express their gratitude to the court for sharing the expense of the SRO's for the schools in the county. They continued with asking for their support to keep and SRO at Jamestown Elementary. After some discussion, Magistrate Richardson made a motion to sign the SRO agreement with the Board of Education and the City of Jamestown to share the cost for the SRO at Jamestown Elementary which was still in the same amount as last year at \$7,000.00. Magistrate Skaggs seconded the motion. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum shared with the court how Climavision was going to be installing a new weather alert system in the county at no cost to the county. He stated this would be a huge benefit to the citizens to provide them with a much faster alert system for inclement weather and emergencies.

Judge Marcum stated there was a certificate of liability in the packet from D & D Striping & Sealing. He stated this was a company the court had accepted the bid, contingent upon them providing the liability certificate and becoming a certified contractor on the state list. Judge Marcum asked the court were they satisfied with the contractor just being bonded or do they feel he needs to move on and get certified. Magistrate Skaggs stated he felt he should move on with getting the certification from the state before we accept him completely. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to have D & D get the certification with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated we had received \$21,552.21 from alcohol sales for the month of July which was collected in August.

ADJOURN: With nothing further to discuss, Magistrate Richardson made a motion to adjourn with Magistrate Wilson seconding. All was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Randy Marcum
County Judge Executive



Kim Blanchet
County Treasurer & Fiscal Court Clerk