

**RUSSELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2025
10:00 AM**

The Russell County Fiscal Court held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, February at 10:00 a.m. Those in attendance were County Judge Executive Randy Marcum, Magistrates Terry Waddell, Mickey Garner, Zach Wilson, Steve Richardson, Larry Skaggs, County Attorney Kevin Shearer and County Treasurer Kim Blanchet.

WELCOME, PLEDGE & OPENING PRAYER: Judge Marcum welcomed those present and asked Brother Scott Grey to pray followed by the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES: Judge Marcum presented the minutes from the regular meeting on January 13, 2025. Magistrate Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. 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 were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

DETENTION CENTER REPORT: Treasurer Blanchet read the jail report as follows: Local Corrections Assist \$8,245.60; Nurse Visits \$34.77; Prescription Co-Pay \$27.48; Catastrophic Medical \$1,745.53; HB 452 \$339.31; HB 556 (2 checks) \$9,362.00; DUI Fees \$765.66; State Inmate Housing \$42,655.38; Social Security \$400.00; HB 413 \$1,733.36; Traffic School \$46.41; Other County Inmate Housing (2 checks) \$10,654.00; Old Bills \$1,195.46; Booking Fees \$2,225.19; Fee Claim \$301.54; Vending Commission \$31.79; Phone Commission (2 checks) \$2,674.18; Reimbursement \$802.47; Per Diem \$2,490.33; Interest \$39.91; Transfer from general \$127,000.00 for a total income of \$212,770.37. The expenses were \$170,251.31. The difference between actual receipts (less the \$127,000.00 transfer from general) to expenses is (\$84,480.94). The average inmates for the month was 91. There were 10 hours of overtime. As of today, there are 36 state inmates, 8 from Clinton County; 1 from Green County and 48 from Russell County for a total of 93 inmates. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the detention center report with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

OPEN BIDS FOR E-CIG & FOOD SERVICE: Judge Marcum stated we had received one bid for each service. Treasurer Blanchet open the bid for E-Cig which was from Custom Technologies. The bid came in at \$3.50 per unit. The next bid opened was for Food Service and that bid came in from Kellwell. That bid came in at a range depending on number of plates served. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept both bids with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sheriff Polston provided the Sheriff's report for the month of January. He stated there were 507 calls for 911 service; 23 arrests; 6 Domestic; 59 Traffic Stops; 19 1045's; 9 1046's; 24 Motorist Assist; 18 Alarm Calls; 10 Animal Complaints; 37 Requests for Deputy; 2 Shots Fired; 11 Suspicious Persons; 24 Welfare Checks; 0 Trespassing; 288 other; 5 mental health transports; 4 Juvenile Summons; 18 Subpoenas; 0 Eviction Notice; 41 Civil Summons; 3 EPO; 2 Criminal Summons; 68 court papers served; 82 Prisoner Transports; 3238 court security transport miles; 329 vehicle inspections and 6 CCDW permits. Sheriff Polston stated there was \$348,267.60 in taxes. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Sheriff Polston presented his final fee settlement account. He stated income for 2024 was \$1,456,563.46 and expenses were \$1,414,483.90 leaving \$42,079.56 in excess fees for the fiscal court. Magistrate Wilson made a motion to accept the 2024 final fee settlement report with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY SETTLEMENT REPORT & PRE-APPROVED MONTHLY AE TRANSFERS: Judge Marcum stated the treasurer's monthly settlement report and pre-approved AE transfers were in the packet and asked the court if anyone had any questions regarding those reports. There were no comments or questions. Magistrate

Garner made a motion to accept the reports & AE transfers with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$60,890.85 FROM PAYROLL TO GENERAL TO CORRECT A DEPOSIT ERROR: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$60,890.85.00 from the Payroll fund to the general fund. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$700.00 FROM ROAD FUND TO GENERAL FUND TO CORRECT A DEPOSIT ERROR: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$700.00 from the road fund to general fund. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$432,594.01 FROM GENERAL TO RUSSELL COUNTY IDA: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$432,594.01 from the General fund to the Russell County IDA. He stated this was for a grant they had received and we were the pass through agency. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Wilson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2ND READING BUDGET AMENDMENT 25-01: Treasurer Blanchet read the ordinance which was for unbudgeted receipts. Magistrate Garner made a motion to adopt the ordinance with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2ND READING AMENDED ORDINANCE 05-08 DOG ORDINANCE: County Attorney Shearer read the proposed amended ordinance 05-08/25-03. He highlighted the changes which were to impose a fee for owner surrenders of dogs. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to adopt the ordinance with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2ND READING AMENDED ORDINANCE 92-1 SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE: County Attorney Shearer read the proposed 92-1/25-02 ordinance. He went over the highlighted changes which was to require anyone hauling garbage in an open vehicle will be required to have a secure tarp covering it. He also stated an update was made in the nuisance section to only require 1 certified letter be sent to property owners instead of 2. Magistrate Garner made a motion to adopt the ordinance with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK'S 2024 FINAL FEE ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT: Judge Marcum asked Clerk Patti Gover to come forward. Ms. Glover presented her 2024 final fee settlement report and stated there was \$96,385.87 to turn over in excess fees. She also stated she had a concern with the one dealership in the county taking all their registrations to a neighboring county which results in less funds for the county. She indicated she was in the process to alert legislative officials on this to see what could be done. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the final fee settlement report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$9,000.00 FROM AIRPORT PROJECT TO AIRPORT GENERAL: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$9,000.00 from the airport project fund to the airport general fund. Treasurer Blanchet stated this was the American Rescue grant and it was to cover costs of personnel. Magistrate Garner made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

EMERGENCY SHELTER INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT: Judge Marcum stated we had entered into this inter-local agreement with both cities to address the need in the county. He stated it had worked well in the past and if the county wanted to continue then we would sign and then send to each of the cities for their agreement to participate. Magistrate Garner made a motion to sign the agreement with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

MARTY KAZUK – ELI FIRE DEPARTMENT: Judge Marcum invited Mr. Kazuk to come before the court to address them. Mr. Kazuk thanked the court for allowing him to speak. He explained his reasons for addressing the court were due to the rising costs their department was facing and stated there hadn't been an increase in the amount provided by the fiscal court for many years. He explained it was their desire to support the community in whatever capacity they could but were hoping the county would consider raising the support by the Fiscal Court in the upcoming budget cycle.

ROAD CHANGES: Judge Marcum stated there were a few road changes. Treasurer Blanchet stated Paul Kean Road in District 1, length 0.026 was being requested to discontinue county road maintenance by the home owner which owned all surrounding property. Treasurer Blanchet stated Kays Drive in District 2, length 0.110 was being requested to discontinue county road maintenance by the home owner which owned all surrounding property. She stated W.E. Thomas Road in District 4, length 0.219 was also being requested to discontinue county road maintenance by the homeowner which also owned all the surrounding property. Treasurer Blanchet stated this would serve as the First Reading of the Discontinuance and the process of road viewers, signage & advertisements would follow and we would have the Second Reading at the March meeting. Magistrate Garner made a motion to discontinue county road maintenance on all 3 roads with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Judge Marcum stated we needed to provide an update to the county's Administrative Code. He went on to state Section 5.10 was updated with subsection C to allow employees who are called out by the County Judge or Road Foreman after hours receive a minimum of 3 hours pay. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the updated Administrative Code with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated he had received a Memorandum of Understanding with courthouse tenant Cumberland Family Medical. He stated County Attorney Shearer had reviewed the MOU and found it acceptable to sign. Judge Marcum asked for the court's approval to sign the MOU. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to allow the Judge to sign the agreement with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Judge Marcum asked the courts approval to allow him to utilize the salary budgeted for the deputy judge as hourly to provide payment for Grants/Communications Susan Melton. He stated her position was part time but with the Bicentennial Event she was working many more hours. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to allow the change with Magistrate Skaggs seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated he needed the court to pre-approve a transfer for the Rescue Squad grant. Treasurer Blanchet stated the court was the pass through agency for this grant and the Rescue Squad had been notified they would be receiving the grant, however, the funds have not been deposited yet. She went on to state the Rescue Squad had a 15 day window to purchase the items from the grant so the funds would need to be transferred as soon as received. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to pre-approve the transfer when the funding was deposited with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated we had discussed at last month's meeting to have County Attorney Shearer prepare a resolution/policy to be included in to the County Administrative Code to address medical cannabis. County Attorney stated he had prepared Resolution 25.01 to address the recently passed state regulations associated with medical cannabis. He read the resolution/policy. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to accept the Resolution 25-01/policy with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

County Attorney Shearer stated the adopted Resolution 25-01 should be incorporated into the County Administrative Code. Treasurer Blanchet stated since we had presented an update to the Administrative Code earlier in the meeting could we incorporate the Resolution/Policy in it to which County Attorney Shearer stated yes. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to include Resolution/Policy in the Administrative Code with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Judge Marcum stated alcohol sales for the preceding month was \$6,143.36.

ADJOURN: With nothing further to discuss Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to adjourn with Magistrate Garner seconding. All was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.



Randy Marcum
County Judge Executive



Kim Blanchet
County Treasurer & Fiscal Court Clerk