

**RUSSELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY JANUARY 13, 2025
10:00 AM**

The Russell County Fiscal Court held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 13 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 Wayne Keith to pray followed by the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES: Judge Marcum presented the minutes from the regular meeting on December 9, 2024 & called meeting on December 20, 2024 with noted correction. Magistrate Skaggs made a motion to approve the minutes with Magistrate Garner 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: Jailer Dunbar read the jail report as follows: Nurse Visits \$68.56; Prescription Co-Pay \$90.89; HB 452 \$393.25; HB 556 \$5,064.00; State Inmate Housing \$41,701.20; Other County Inmate Housing \$8,133.00; Booking Fees \$1,927.50; Fee Claim \$390.77; Phone Commission \$1,538.45; Reimbursement \$601.85; Per Diem \$2,323.97; Interest \$35.23; Transfer from general \$176,707.65.00 for a total income of \$238,976.32. The expenses were \$130,633.40. The difference between actual receipts (less the \$176,707.65 transfer from general) to expenses is (\$68,364.73). The average inmates for the month is 94. There were 3 ½ hours of overtime. As of today, there are 36 state inmates, 10 from Clinton County; 1 from Green County and 44 from Russell County for a total of 91 inmates. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the detention center report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sheriff Polston provided the Sheriff's report for the month of December. He stated there were 505 calls for 911 service; 47 arrests; 5 Domestic; 95 Traffic Stops; 19 1045's; 7 1046's; 24 Motorist Assist; 12 Alarm Calls; 3 Animal Complaints; 31 Requests for Deputy; 0 Shots Fired; 22 Suspicious Persons; 13 Welfare Checks; 0 Trespassing; 274 other; 3 mental health transports; 8 Juvenile Summons; 7 Subpoenas; 3 Eviction Notice; 25 Civil Summons; 1 EPO; 1 Criminal Summons; 45 court papers served; 77 Prisoner Transports; 1763 court security transport miles; 367 vehicle inspections and 2 CCDW permits. Sheriff Polston stated there was \$897,530.43 in taxes. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to accept the report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY & QUARTERLY SETTLEMENT REPORTS & PRE-APPROVED MONTHLY AE TRANSFERS: Judge Marcum stated the treasurer's monthly settlement & quarterly reports 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 Wilson seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$127,000.00 FROM GENERAL TO JAIL: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$127,000.00 from the General fund to the jail fund. Magistrate Garner made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

TRANSFER \$79,476.00 FROM GENERAL TO 911 DISPATCH: Judge Marcum stated we needed to transfer \$79,476.00 from the general fund to 911 dispatch as budgeted. Magistrate Richardson made a motion to do the transfer with Magistrate Skaggs 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.

1ST READING BUDGET AMENDMENT 25-01: Treasurer Blanchet read the ordinance which was for unbudgeted receipts since this was the first reading there was no vote. The 2nd reading will be at the February Fiscal Court meeting.

1ST READING AMENDED ORDINANCE 05-08 DOG ORDINANCE: County Attorney Shearer read the proposed amended ordinance 05-08/25-03. He highlighted the changes which was to impose a fee for owner surrenders of dogs. Since this was the 1st reading no vote is required. The 2nd reading will be at the February meeting.

1ST READING AMENDED ORDINANCE 92-1 SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE: County Attorney Shearer read the proposed 92-1/25-02 ordinance. He stated the original ordinance was from back in 1992 and needed to be updated. 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. This was the first reading so no vote is required. The 2nd reading will be at the February meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL PER KRS 67.710(7): Judge Marcum stated the employee roster was in the packets which listed all county employees, job titles and rate of pay. He stated this was required to do every year in January. Magistrate Garner made a motion to accept the appointment of county employees with Magistrate Waddell seconding. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

PAY FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD SUPPORT AS BUDGETED: Judge Marcum stated we needed to vote to pay our annual support to the local Fire Departments and Rescue Squad. These funds are budgeted items. Funds budgeted are \$20,000 to Jamestown Fire Department which is now merged with South Russell Fire Department, \$10,000 to Russell Springs Fire Department, \$10,000 to Eli Fire Department, \$4,000 to Faubush Fire Department and \$10,000 to Rescue Squad. Motion was made by Magistrate Waddell to distribute the funds with a second by Magistrate Richardson. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

ROAD CHANGES: Judge Marcum stated there was one road change. He stated a letter had been received by Mr. Steve Lane requesting Paul Kean Road be taken out of the county road system. He went on to state Mr. Lane owned all the surrounding property around said road. Magistrate Waddell made a motion to remove Paul Kean Road from the County Road System with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor, none opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS: Judge Marcum stated alcohol fees collected for the month of November sales were \$3,545.29.

Judge Marcum wanted to remind everyone the kickoff for the county's bicentennial will be on Saturday January 18 at the Russell County Auditorium. Susan Melton provided some highlights of the upcoming celebration and also asked everyone to attend.

Judge Marcum urged all magistrates to reach out to their legislatures to remind them how the county lost money from the road fund last year in hopes the legislatures will make up for it this year when they go into session.

Judge Marcum stated County Attorney Shearer had discovered it was legal for us to do a memorial to fallen officer Josh Phipps. There was some discussion with types of memorials such as naming Highway 127 from the Casey County Line to the Clinton County Line as Josh Phipps Memorial Highway. Other ideas were a radio-a-thon to raise money for the memorial as well as types of plaques for both the courthouse & the judicial center. Judge Marcum asked the family to discuss things they would like to see and bring those ideas back to the fiscal court so we could proceed.

Judge Marcum stated we had discussed at last month's meeting possibly going a different direction with The Inn. He went on to state he had contacted a potential organization that expressed interest on managing the facility but unfortunately that had not come to fruition. He stated he would continue to find other alternatives.

Judge Marcum stated there had been much discussion in the state about how counties will handle the situation with employees that had been prescribed medical cannabis. County Attorney Shearer expressed his views on the situation stating he had been in discussion with various organizations in the county as well as surrounding counties on the matter. He stated if it were the courts' pleasure, he would work on a policy to be incorporated in the Fiscal Court's Administrative Code to address the issue and present it at the February meeting. The court agreed and asked the County Attorney to do so.

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 10:25 a.m.



Randy Marcum
County Judge Executive



Kim Blanchet
County Treasurer & Fiscal Court Clerk