

The Russell County Fiscal Court  
Regular Meeting  
Monday November 10, 2025

The Russell County Fiscal Court held its regular monthly meeting on Monday November 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. with a packed house. Those in attendance were: County Judge Executive Randy Marcum, Magistrates Terry Waddell, Mickey Garner, Zach Wilson, Steve Richardson, Larry Skaggs, Attorney Don Byrom filling in for County Attorney Kevin Shearer and filling in for County Treasurer Kim Blanchet is Deputy Judge Susan Melton.

**Welcome, Pledge, Prayer:** Judge Marcum welcomed those present and asked Dennis Kiser to lead prayer followed by Pledge by Russell County High School ROTC cadets. Judge Marcum acknowledged the ROTC cadets, Chief Kiser and MA1 Boblett for their participation at the Bicentennial Fall Festival-appreciated their time and commitment to the community.

**MINUTES:** Judge Marcum presented the minutes from the Oct 12, 2025 regular meeting. Magistrate Waddell made 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 late bills that came in after posting. Magistrate Garner made motion to pay bills with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor-none opposed- Motion passed.

**DETENTION CENTER REPORT:** Jailer Dunbar read as follows: 2QTR Corrections Assist \$8346.32; Nurse Visits \$55.27; Prescription Copay \$632.82; HB 452 \$441.20; HB 556 Program/Attend \$11,784.00; State Inmate housing \$54,706.32; HB 413 \$1861.73; Traffic School \$57.33; Inmate Housing \$27,343.49; Booking Fees \$2739.33; Fee Claim \$349.81; Vending Commission \$27.14; Phone Commission (1) \$2426.65; Phone Commission (2) \$1184.00; D Harris reimb \$769.03; Per Diem \$3308.19; Interest \$42.61; Transfer \$375,000.00. Total Receipts \$491,075.24; Total Expenses \$139,313.03; The difference between actual receipts and expenses is (\$351,762.21). The average inmates for the month was 92. There were (41) hours of overtime. To date there are 92 inmates (7) from Clinton (85) from Russell County. Magistrate Waddell made motion to accept the Detention Center report with Magistrate Garner seconding. All were in favor-None opposed. Motion Passed.

**SHERIFFS REPORT:** Sheriff Polston provided the report for the month of October. He stated (451) calls for service; (25) arrests; (10) Domestic; (91) Traffic Stops; (25) 1045's; (1) 1046; (22) motorists Assists; (5) Alarm Calls; (6) Animal Complaints; (0) Request for Deputy; (1) Shots Fired; (16) Suspicious Person Complaints; (18) Welfare Checks; (5) Juvenile Complaints; (251) Other.

(3) Mental Health Transports (3 to Adanta 3 to Eastern State); (99) Court Papers Served; (106) Prisoner Transports; 1,731 Court Security Trasport Miles; (241) Vehicle Inspections; (19) CCDW; \$9,495,372.69 Real Estate Taxes collected. Magistrate Waddell made motion to accept Sheriff's report with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor-none opposed. Motion Passed.

**TREASURER'S MONTHLY SETTLEMETN REPORT & PRE-APPROVED MONTHLY AE TRANSFERS:**

Judge Marcum stated the treasure's monthly settlement & pre-approved AE Transfers and asked court if there were any questions. Magistrate Garner made motion to accept the reports & AE transfers with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor-none opposed. Motion passed.

**Transfer \$2,000.00 to Russell County Animal Welfare for Spay/Neuter Grant.** Judge Marcum stated that we are seeing results within the county. We now have a full-time spay/neuter clinic located in the DAV building. He stated we had received the grant funding of \$2,000.00. The court had previously agreed to also contribute \$2,000.00. Magistrate Waddell made motion to transfer \$4,000.00 to this organization with Magistrate Wilson seconding. All were in favor-none opposed Motion Passed.

**Attorney Chrisopher Davenport on behalf of Round Trip, LLC Solar Farms/parks:** Judge Marcum stated Christoper Davenport representing Round Trip LLC Solar Farms/ parks requested to speak. Mr. Davenport appreciated the opportunity to speak at short notice. He stated he was not here to debate the pros/cons of Solar Farms/ Parks but to question what type of ordinance the Russell County Fiscal Court pass that did not violate KRS. Mr. Davenport stated, "I encourage you to pause and get advice from other counties and be careful dipping toes in ordinance-since Russell County did not have a Zoning and Planning Committee or Comprehensive Plan." He referred to other counties who might be sued over ordinance. He stated, "You have options-take vote on ordinance to turn it down and wait -find middle ground or go into executive session."

Judge Marcum stated before the court went into executive session we would hear from Citizens Against Solar Parks/Farms. At this time Alana Grider came forward and presented the following: She stated she bought her home on Bottoms Road and the solar farm would literally be in her front door. This property was dear to her heart. She stated that 5,000 additional acres of farmland are available for more solar farms/ parks. "This is not just my issue but a county wide issue. I appreciate each of you who answered my phone-listened. I thank you for your being the gate-keepers of our community- I know your heart Randy." Ms. Grider then turned and addressed the audience of approximately 40 persons. Your voice matters, talk to your neighbors and elected officials. Go vote. Do not let this issue burden you as God has this. I appreciate Mr. Davenport for coming today his info was valuable. These issues should have been addressed at 1<sup>st</sup> reading you (the magistrates) have the opportunity to put words into action. Thank you"

**10:35** Another gentleman approached podium he did not offer his name and stated “He can’t let a few land owners dictate. Maybe we do need zoning who will pay for value of my land when it depreciates?”

**10:36** Mr. Davenport returned to podium in response to Ms. Grider my “job in Garrard County is not difficult-I ask you (magistrates) to table the issue.”

**10:39** Magistrate Wadell stated we have friends on both sides -no one wants to hurt anybody. Magistrate Waddell made motion to go into **Executive Session** per KRS with Magistrate Wilson seconding.

**10:49** Magistrate Skaggs made Motion to resume Fiscal Court Meeting with Magistrate Waddell seconding- All were in favor -no opposition -Motion passed to resume meeting.

**10:50 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of 25-10 Regarding Solar Farms/ Parks**

Attorney Don Byrom, filling in for County Attorney Kevin Shearer, read out loud, the (14) page Ordinance relating to Solar Farms/Parks.

**11:34 Attorney Byrom concluded the reading of Ordinance**

- Magistrate Richardson made motion to accept 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance 25-10 with Magistrate Skaggs seconding –a vote was taken with the following results:
- Magistrate Skaggs voted Yes
- Magistrate Richardson voted Yes
- Magistrate Wilson voted Yes
- Magistrate Waddell Voted Yes
- Magistrate Garner ABSTAINED (due to his absence at special called meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading -he felt he was not prepared to make an educated decision)
- Ordinance 25-10 Passed

The audience erupted in applause

**2025 COPS Grant Awarded \$166,960.00** for one law enforcement officer at Russell County Hospital. Magistrate Garner made motion to accept COPS Grant award of 166,960.00 with Magistrate Richardson seconding. All were in favor-no opposed -Motion Passed

**Soil Conservation Request for Dead Animal Program**

Daryl Selby approached the court with making request for \$5,000 for Dead Animal Removal. Magistrate Garner made motion to give Soil Conservation \$5,000.00 for Dead Animal Removal with Magistrate Waddell seconding- All were in favor-no opposed-Motion Passed to give Soil Conservation \$5,000.00

**ROAD CHANGES**

No Road Changes this date

**Other Business**

Judge Marcum brought up that one Tow Company with (2) different names from Adair County requested to be on TOW LIST. Magistrate Skaggs stated he wanted to keep the list to locals only- no motion made or vote was taken.

No other Business was discussed

**Adjourn:** Magistrate Garner made motion to Adjourn with Magistrate Richardson seconding-All were in favor-no opposed -motion passed to Adjourn at **11:40 a.m.**



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Randy Marcum  
County Judge Executive



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Kim Blanchet  
County Treasurer & Fiscal Court Clerk