

The Gant County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on Monday, July 16, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. at the Grant County Courthouse in Williamstown, Kentucky 41097, with Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, Present; Brian Linder, Magistrate 2nd District, Present; Bobby Young, Magistrate 3rd District, Present, and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, Present and Presiding.

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Magistrate Linder opened in prayer. Judge Link then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present were: Bernard Mardis-Cable TV, James Perkins and Phil Knarr. Judge

Link stated that there were no Additions/Deletions to the Agenda.

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Motion of Brian Linder and seconded by Bobby Young it is hereby ordered to approve the minutes of the July 02, 2007, meeting as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Brian Linder, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Bobby Young, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and approval the Claims in the General Expense Fund, Road Fund, Jail Fund and L.G.E.A. Fund for the month of July, 2007, along with the transfers needed to pay said claims. He then asked if there were any questions. He said that the biggest part of the Claims in each Fund was for the County's Insurance Premium for this fiscal year. We are paying this all at once in order to save on the premium.

Discussion was also held on the Food Bill and the Purchase of Locks for the Jail, as well as the Juvenile Housing bill in the General Fund. Judge Link will take a look at those bills before making payment.

Motion of Richard Austin and seconded by Brian Linder it is hereby ordered to approve Claims No. 01-0052 in the amount of \$3,958.32, and Claims No. 01-0053 thru 01-0109

in the amount of \$290,028.44 paid out of the General Expense Fund; Claims No. 02-0018 in the amount of \$415.82 and Claims No. 02-0019 thru 02-0053 in the amount of \$98,583.21 paid out of the Road Fund and Claim No. 03-0013 in the amount of \$12,347.12, and Claims No. 03-0014 thru 03-0053 in the amount of \$279,788.75 paid out of the Jail Fund, and Claims No 04-00000 in the amount of \$500.00 paid out of the L.G.E.A. Fund, for the month of July 2007, along with the transfers presented to pay said claims.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Brian Linder, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Bobby Young, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented the Canine Control Officer's Report for June 2007, and also the Quarterly Report for April – June, 2007. No action is required. They are as follows: Magistrate Austin asked if the new box had been installed and Judge Link updated that it has been and looks very good. Judge Link also presented the Building Inspector's Report for June, 2007. No action is required. It is as follows:

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Judge Link presented the County Treasurer's Monthly Financial Report for June, 2007. No action is required. It is as follows: He stated that this was the end of the year and correlates with the county budget. He said that we still maintain a balance at the end and don't always spend all that is budgeted which is carried over into the new budget. He said that we are still in a very good position financially, and that his fourth quarterly report will give a more detailed report of our financial condition and it tells you who tries to be good with the taxpayers money.

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Judge Link announced that Open Discussion for the “Good of the County” would be at this time and said that anyone who wanted to address the Court could do so. Phil Knarr commented on the Animal Shelter. He said that he visits there, and as of July 16, 2007, he feels it is the best Animal Shelter we have ever had in the history of Grant County. He said that we have a very good Canine Control Officer and there are several Jail inmates working there. He also asked about the guy who escaped and said that he can’t understand how that man got out of Jail, how he did that. He asked “Don’t they carry a gun anymore?” Judge Link asked “Does who carry a gun?” Mr. Knarr said “He escaped and they haven’t even found him yet”. Judge Link said “He did escape and he hasn’t been found yet”. Mr. Knarr said that he must have had a pretty good plan on how to get away. Judge Link responded “They must have”. Mr. Knarr said that doesn’t say much for our Jailer”. Judge Link said hopefully he will take the necessary action to plug that hole so that it doesn’t occur again, right?” Mr. Knarr said that sometimes they make other holes. He also asked about the Financial Report and if it would be in the paper. Judge Link said that we put a Notice in the paper and we provide a summary of the budget in the Paper, but it is so huge that it would be costly to the taxpayers if we put in everything; so what we do is that we put a Notice in there that the budget may be obtained by coming to his office and we will give it to you in its entirety and you may take it home with you, and we will be glad to print that out for you. We also have one hanging in the Courthouse. Mr. Knarr said that he noticed the men looking over it and asked if they just received that when they came in and haven’t had a chance to look at it before. Judge Link said they have an opportunity to go over the Budget in its entirety before we ever pass it. What he provided to them this evening was the Claims which they have to

approve. The Magistrates approve every claim before we can write the check. We will write the checks tomorrow based upon their approval, and so that information would have been faxed to them or dropped off to their business earlier today. They would have had an opportunity to review that. He said if Mr. Knarr was asking about the Cash Position Report, we all receive it at the same time, and it is from our Treasurer, and he is giving them the balances on these specific funds this evening, and so you, he, they, we all receive it at the same time. Mr. Knarr said he was not worried about the money". Judge Link said "I am". Mr. Knarr said "We all knew you had a slogan when you got elected "The Buck Stops Here". Judge Link responded "It does" and Mr. Knarr replied "and you have done a good job". Judge Link thanked him. Mr. Knarr said he came tonight because he knew it would be three weeks before we had another meeting and he wanted to check the Judges handwriting and asked if it has gotten any better. Judge Link replied, "No, sir, so you and my mother will be very disappointed. He said that he has to sign his name so much that he tries to do it as quickly as possible". Mr. Knarr said he was just kidding and Judge Link replied "That's okay". Mr. Knarr said "but it is pretty bad" and Judge Link replied again, "Yes sir, it is, but just so you know Mr. Knarr, I never said anything in my campaign that I would improve my handwriting". Mr. Knarr said "No you didn't. Just "The Buck Stops Here". Mr. Knarr commented that Grant County has always been a dry county and here lately certain areas of the county have gone wet and since then things have happened in the county that shouldn't have happened. He is hoping the people, and you only see this in a certain area of the county, he hopes they will consider when this comes up again, and they are hoping the whole county will go wet, but he is hoping, it will be reversed and he is hoping that anybody sitting at home

with their remote control and a beer in hand that they will think about that. We are not saying that you can't drink here. It is just that we don't want to sell it in the county and time to go somewhere else. He said he might cause enemies, but at least he has said his peace. Judge Link replied "You have and we will give every citizen the opportunity to say their peace". He thanked Mr. Knarr for attending and for his comments and said that he thinks laughter is a good medicine. We should do it more often. He concurs with Mr. Knarr and thinks our Animal Shelter is one of the best in the state and it has been acknowledged by the Department of Agriculture that it is one of the best in the State. They recommend that other counties actually come up here and review our operation and take into account that not only does he run a good operation financially, but it is usually clean given the amount of animals that he has to keep over there. He said that we have been very proud of the improvements that have taken place in those facilities since we have been here and hopefully the taxpayers will continue to acknowledge just as Mr. Knarr has done that they likewise are proud and that we have put that monies to good use so that we all may embrace the idea that we are doing the best that we can. He thanked Mr. Knarr for visiting over there and asked if he adopted a dog. Mr. Knarr said he just visits once in a while, and they are just doing things all the time and he is real impressed. Magistrate Austin gave an update on the Jam Fest that was held Friday night and all day Saturday on Barnes Road and said that it was a huge success. He thanked all who were involved and all who donated to this event and for those churches who made it available to the county. There was a good attendance both days, all food and drinks were free and there was no admission fee and he feels they should be commended and hopefully it will bring about some good results. Judge Link said there was no admission fee and that he

heard there was 3,000 in attendance one night, and 5,000 one night according to his preacher who gave him an account of it. He said that his preacher was very pleased with the turnout and the main purpose was to provide some activity for the kids and the teenagers specifically where they would have fun at no cost. They provided the drinks and refreshments at no cost and for people who may not otherwise be associated with a church, it was a good faith effort to try to connect them with people from the three or four churches in the community with hopes that they could reach out to them and let them know that there are people who care about them here in our community, so that was the overall objective. He stated that the Just for Him organization provided for most of the physical plan that was seen over there, and he said this organization was from Florida and they brought it up here and set it up at no charge. All they asked for was volunteers to support and hand out refreshments and then to minister to those who came and it was very nice and well done and it was a first class operation and well done. He also updated on Summer Splash at the County Park. It is in its second week at the Grant County Park and is doing very well. He was down there last week and updated on some of those who were there helping from CETA. Scott Lahner and Amy Roe were there teaching kids how to make flower containers out of concrete. They had a mold there where they were making those flower containers and it was pretty neat watching over 40 kids getting dirty and being pleased with themselves, and it was ok to get dirty. They were provided rubber gloves and containers and it was something they could take home. He said they made baskets the day before. He stated that he saw Gary Rose, a Youth Minister at Sherman Baptist Church, serving as Group Leader and people were calling him Gary and that was okay. He was pleased to see him there and taking part in a county sponsored event and

said that he thinks and advocates that other Youth Ministers really ought to step out of their box and do likewise as Gary has because it is a wonderful opportunity to be with kids and meet with kids who otherwise may never come in across the threshold of a Church door. It is just a wonderful opportunity. If there are other Churches out there who heard that hopefully they will be encouraged by what he said and get hooked in with Tabatha and get hooked in for next year because he thinks she said we had well over 100 Kids, and she will give a report on how many kids attended, but by all reports this thing will be even larger next year. He said now we have Summer Splash, and then in the Fall we have the Senior Bash and at Halloween we have the Monster Mash. He doesn't know what else they might come up with, but all these things are low cost but yet well planned and well done. They are quality events and people respond to them and that suggest to all of us you don't have to spend a lot of money to take care of our families, but they will respond if well planned and well organized. He also said that Tabatha has to see a surgeon on Friday, and he hopes all will keep her in their thoughts and prayers as she goes thru the process of full and complete healing and that she is not off her feet too long. Magistrate Austin asked what the age groups were for the Summer Splash and Judge Link said it was somewhere between five and six years old and age thirteen. He said that you had to pre-register so it is not the case where someone could go down there tomorrow and drop off kids because we really couldn't handle that. Everybody had to be pre-registered so we could better plan taking care of them. He said that one of the things that is absolutely phenomenal is the number of agencies and departments in the county that are working together. He can't name them all but said you got the Health Department people; you got School people. They were able to bring in the Agency that

does the School lunches and served those on sight. There was no cost to them and the kids are getting breakfast and lunch thru the schools. He said he thought he saw a school bus down there so he wasn't sure if the Schools are doing transportation, but CETA is down there; the Extension Office is down there. Many departments are down there making this a successful event and the number of adults to children ratio is amazing. It is great organization and he urged the Court to stop by and encourage them to continue to do things like that. Magistrate Austin asked what the hours were. Judge Link said they were dropping kids off at 7:30 in the morning and he thought it concluded at 2:30 or 3:00 PM each day. He feels that there will be good things in the paper plus there will be a good report from Tabatha so that we can meet the demand that obviously is going to increase next year because of this successful trial year. He thanked the Fiscal Court for their support of this event and said he knows they continue to support Recreation and they try to do new things to meet the demand so everybody working together makes it successful. Magistrate Young mentioned that Friday night was Grant County Night at Florence Freedom Ball Park in Florence and said that anyone can see Tabatha for tickets which are \$8.00 each. Judge Link thanked him for reminding him of this event and said that anyone interested in attending this event could call Tina at the Grant County Chamber of Commerce or Tabatha Fryman, Parks Director, for tickets or information. He said that the first 100 people there get a free Tee-Shirt and that is an incentive to call early and it is Grant County Night and he knows that people from Grant County will have fun. Magistrate Linder updated on his second so far Town Hall Meeting that was held at Jonesville. He said the first one was back in April and it looks like it is something he is going to do quarterly. Even though Macedonia Baptist Church had their VBS they

still had over fifteen to show up. He said it is nice, not only does he go over and meet with them and talk with them on things that are going on in the county and issues they have, but their organizations in that community also take the chance to try to communicate on what they are doing, so it is just a real nice thing that he started and he would like to take that to the rest of our district and maybe try to hold some meetings in different places and listen to people and see what they have to say. He said speaking of Jonesville, he got a unique call the other day. He said that Raising Grant County is going to go on the road to some of these small communities and has asked him to step into Tony's shoes and be a Co-Host when they do Jonesville, so he is looking forward to that and hooking up with his buddy Pam, and see how that will go. He said that the qualifications for that is he likes to talk and that is what they told him, so he will take that as a positive sign. Judge Link said "Good, he thinks that is very commendable that he would take time of his what he knows to be a very busy life, and take time away from his family to go into these smaller communities and hold those discussions, and said sometimes those tend to be confrontational, but they also more importantly are very informational and to start that dialogue and to be able to provide concrete and truthful answers is very important. He said if he is ever needed to come and entertain or sit in on his behalf he certainly will do that. Magistrate Linder said that it has all been positive, but you never know what you are stepping into though.

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Judge Link reminded the Fiscal Court that the next Caucus meeting will be at 5:30 P.M. on Monday, July 30, 2007, and that the next meeting of the Fiscal Court will be on Monday, August 06, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

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Motion of Richard Austin and seconded by Brian Linder it is hereby ordered to Adjourn until Monday, August 06, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Brian Linder, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Bobby Young, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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GRANT COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE