

**Minutes
Grant County Fiscal Court
December 7, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Wood called to order the December 7, 2015 meeting of the Grant County Fiscal Court and advised inasmuch as there were three members of the court present, the court was legally constituted to do business.

Those in attendance were:

Judge/Executive Stephen Wood, Magistrates Bobby Newman and Shawna Coldiron, County Attorney Joe Taylor, Sheriff Chuck Dills, Deputy Judge Scott Kimmich, Chief Deputy Sheriff Brian Maines, and Deputy Sheriff Mike Webster.

Guests were: Vance Mitchell (Trace Construction), Josh Shuster and Eric Chambers (Brandstetter Carroll), Mrs. Patty Poor, Cooperative Extension District, Mrs. Carolyn Horne, President of the Grant County Homemakers, Teresa Wood.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judge Wood recognized Kyle Knarr, Minister of the Knoxville Christian Church to offer the invocation after which Judge Wood led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Judge Wood requested a motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

Magistrate Coldiron moved approval of the agenda and Magistrate Newman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Judge Wood requested a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 16, 2015. Magistrate Riley moved approval of the minutes and Magistrate Coldiron seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

DELEGATIONS:

Judge Wood advised no delegations have requested to make a presentation before the court.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS:

Executive Order 15-60

Judge Wood presented Order 15-60 providing for the re-appointment of Stanley Riley to the Grant County Cooperative Extension Council Meeting for a term to commence on January 1, 2016 and to expire on December 31, 2018.

Magistrate Newman moved approval and Magistrate Coldiron seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative; with the exception of Magistrate Riley who requested that the record reflect she was present but not voting on the measure.

Executive Order 15-61

Judge Wood presented Order 15-61 providing for the appointment of Patsy Kinman to the Grant County Cooperative Extension Council for a term to commence on January 1, 2016 and to expire on December 31, 2018.

Magistrate Riley moved approval and Magistrate Coldiron seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

FISCAL MATTERS:

Judge Wood asked for a motion and second to approve of the claims list dated December 7, 2015 against the General, Road, and Jail Fund.

Magistrate Riley questioned the expenditure of funds for maintenance at the Justice Center and was advised the bill, in the amount of \$4,000 was for the cleaning of and buffing of the floors at the justice center as well as cleaning of the carpets in the facility.

Magistrate Coldiron questioned the Road Fund expenditure in the amount of \$6,942.06 to PNC Bank. Judge Wood advised he would have staff report to the court on the expenditure.

Magistrate Riley moved approval and Magistrate Coldiron seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative with the exception that Magistrate Coldiron requested that the motion reflect her as present but not voting on those claims payable to Owen Rural Electric.

Judge Wood presented for the consideration of the court, the Court Order Transfer to provide for the payment of the claims.

Magistrate Riley moved approval and Magistrate Newman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

Judge Wood presented for acknowledgement the Treasurer's Cash Position Report in accordance with Kentucky Revised Statute.

Judge Wood advised the court that the authorization sought by the Treasurer to borrow funds from the reserve to cover payroll at the Detention Center had not been necessary as the state revenue had arrived prior to payroll.

Judge Wood presented for acknowledgement that check #022449 drawn on the General Fund has been voided as the Poll Worker had not actually worked and the claim had been filed

inadvertently.

Judge Wood advised the Treasurer has stopped payment on the following checks as more than 90 days has passed since their issuance. Check numbers #21975, #21984, #21998.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 15-15

Judge Wood presented Resolution 15-15 for consideration of the court.

The Clerk reported:

A RESOLUTION OF THE GRANT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FISCAL COURT AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE TO COMMUNICATE IN WRITING TO THE GRANT COUNTY JAILER AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS WITHIN THE KENTUCKY JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET, THAT THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE GRANT COUNTY DETENTION CENTER SUBMITTED IN REVISED FORMAT ON NOVEMBER 30, 2015, HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE GRANT COUNTY FISCAL COURT.

Judge opened the floor for discussion whereupon Magistrate Riley stated that there are a few minor changes needed in the document to insure consistency and therefore made the motion to table the action advised she would transmit her requested changes to the Jailer for his review and consideration for concurrence before the final vote. Magistrate Coldiron second the motion to table the action before the court.

There being no further discussion Judge Wood asked the clerk to call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request of City of Williamstown for Assistance in Repairing Ford 350.

Les Whalen, Williamstown Fire Chief requested assistance from the Fiscal Court for financial assistance in the amount of \$18,500 to replace the engine in a 2009 Ford 350 at the Williamstown Fire Department.

Mr. Whalen explained that this is an item not budgeted in the city budget and explained in the past the county has assisted department in making equipment acquisitions and repairs from the funds received from residents based on the \$25.00 fire dues.

Judge Wood opened the floor for discussion and Magistrate Riley questioned whether proposals had been sought from more than one vendor and was advised quotes had been received from Sechrest Garage and Dry Ridge Auto Parts.

Magistrate Riley questioned whether the city is participating in the financing of this project and was advised that the city has invested \$2,500 in seeking make repairs to the vehicle.

Magistrate Coldiron questioned whether this vehicle is used exclusively for the city or whether this truck is used countywide and was advised the truck is used daily in providing services

county-wide and houses the jaws of life which are frequently used outside the city.

Magistrate Riley explained the process by which the county has established a precedent of assisting local fire departments throughout the years, particularly since the establishment of the county-wide fire dues.

Magistrate Coldiron explained while there are funds appropriated for this type of fire service assistance she remains concerned the county detention center has expended all appropriated funds for prescription drugs and the county is only 5 months into the fiscal year; while the facility is facing a \$326,000 deficit in revenue budgeted verses actually collected.

Judge Wood explained this represents a difficult decision for him as he understands the need, yet has the same concerns expressed by Magistrate Coldiron related to the detention center, made worse by the requirement that the fiscal court carry the full financial burden for the expenses associated with the upcoming wet-dry vote on December 22.

Magistrate Newman moved approval of the request of the city of in the amount of \$16,000. Magistrate Riley seconded the motion. There being no member seeking further recognition Judge Wood directed the clerk to call the roll, whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

Request of the Corinth Fire Department

Judge Wood recognized Magistrate Jacquelyn Riley for a report and request from Corinth for their annual subsidization based on the amount of money the department is short based on the \$25.00 fire dues on the property tax bill, compared to the revenue they were receiving prior to the implementation of the dues. The amount requested this year is \$21,500. To hold them harmless from loss.

Judge Wood opened the floor for discussion and Magistrate Riley explained to the court that she has attended the monthly meetings of the Corinth Fire Department and reaffirmed the process the court has historically utilized in making funds available to fire departments for equipment purchases as well as to make them whole from a financial perspective after the fire dues were imposed. She further expressed a desire that the fiscal court examine the formula for determining distribution of the fire dues moving forward.

Judge Wood moved approval of the request of the Corinth Fire Department and Magistrate Newman seconded the motion

Magistrate Coldiron advised she favors a line item breakout of funds for general operation of fire services and those for equipment purchases as the county prepares the budget for next year. Judge Wood concurred and asked staff to make note of the proposed change in the budgeting process.

Mr. Whalen expressed concern in the transfer of funds to any department for operational purposes without a review of the overall finances by of the department. The court members concurred.

There being no member seeking further recognition Judge Wood requested the clerk call the roll whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative.

OLD BUSINESS, IF ANY:

Judge Wood advised there is no old business to come before the court.

ADMINISTRATIVE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTING

There was no administrative reporting.

JUDGE EXECUTIVE/S REPORT

Judge Wood advised the county has undertaken a continued revitalization of the soccer fields by spreading manure on the fields in preparation for the split seeding that will occur early next year.

Judge Wood also advised that the county has begun the resurfacing of roads including Arnold's Creek Road.

Judge Wood reminded that the wet dry vote will occur on December 22, 2015.

Judge Wood then explained that he has made inappropriate comments during a meeting held in the Jailer's office in February, expressed his apology for the remarks, and said there is nothing anyone else can say or do to beat him up more than he has beat himself up over the situation.

CITIZEN'S ADDRESS

Larry Simpson expressed dismay over the remarks that had been made during the tape recorded meeting on February 14. He called on the Judge and Deputy Judge to resign, particularly the manner in which the Deputy has spoken about the County Road Foreman.

Judge Wood thanked him for expressing his views.

Ish Purcell questioned whether the Deputy Judge had apologized. Deputy Judge Kimmich explained he had apologized in person and asked that the people of Grant County judge him on his the service he has provided over 11 months of service, not based on statements made 5 weeks on the job.

Deputy Jailer Howard Chipman expressed dismay over the comments made on the recording and said that he felt the Deputy Judge would block any future attempts for him to receive an increase in pay.

Judge Wood explained the Deputy Judge does not set the salaries. Deputy Jailer Jason Hankins stated the Jailer had granted pay raises and the Deputy Judge had refused to accept them.

Les Whalen, saying he was speaking as a private citizen, not as the Williamstown Fire Chief, said that he felt the county should cease to spend money on the jail and sell it to a private vendor to establish a drug rehabilitation program in the region.

ADJOURNMENT

Judge Wood requested a motion to adjourn court until they convene at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2015. Magistrate Coldiron moved to adjourn and Magistrate Riley seconded the motion. The court adjourned on a voice vote.