

The Bath County Fiscal Court held its regular meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2007. Present were Judge Executive Carolyn Belcher, Commissioners Toy, Martin and Cline, County Attorney Leslie Smith and Sheriff John Snedegar.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 8, 2007. ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the minutes of the Special Called meeting held on November 16, 2007. ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court approved the minutes of the Special Called meeting held on November 26, 2007.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the payment of the bills as presented in the Treasurer's Report.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the Treasurer's Report as a whole.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the transfer of \$38,000.00 from the General Fund from the property tax collections to the Jail fund for payment of current months jail bill, if and when the funds are available.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the Second Reading of an Ordinance relating to the Bath County Annual Budget for 2007/2008 to increase the receipts of the Road Fund by \$359,438.44.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved an Ordinance pertaining to the Continuity of Government that when in the absence or disability of the Judge Executive prevents her from serving in the office, the duties and responsibilities of county judge executive shall be administered by the deputy judge executive in the following order, Bill Martin, Jim Cline and Ray Toy.

The Court heard from Joetta Goodpaster who requested that an inventory of public buildings prior to any other items being given away. Mrs. Goodpaster made reference to a painting by Thomas A. Noble of Richard Menifee given to Menifee County in 2003. Mrs. Goodpaster suggested that the county seek appraisals from the University of Kentucky or Morehead State University of any county property of historical value.

Further, Mrs. Goopaster asked if it was still the job of the Fiscal Court to visit the county schools and report to the Court. Judge Executive Belcher answered that because the school system has a board it would have been a cursory of the Fiscal Court. Mrs. Goodpaster also stated that she was against the payroll tax.

Judge Belcher discussed the necessity of an Emergency Animal Shelter. In working with the Bath County Humane Society members the county was able to obtain a temporary shelter by using the barn of Betty Elliott. The county will be responsible for the improvements to the barn. The fiscal court is working to obtain grant funds to assist in the paying for the permanent shelter.

Mary Lou Pruden and Lisa Jent addressed issues concerning the animal control officer. The Bath County Humane Society has taken many calls to help alleviate the burden on the animal control officer. The Humane Society does not have the equipment to assist in calls concerning vicious animals and therefore request the assistance of the animal control officer. Mrs. Pruden stated that Jason Little, the animal officer, in recent times has avoided the calls of the Humane Society. Mrs. Pruden and Mrs. Jent requested assistance from the fiscal court in order to deal with the animal control officer. Judge Belcher stated that it would be up to the fiscal court to decide if they want to assist by hiring an additional temporary animal control officer for a period of approximately 6 months.

Bob Pruden addressed the Court concerning the establishment of a dog licensing program by ordinance. He provided a sample of an ordinance currently being used by Boone County. He further provided the Court with a copy of the current fees assessed by Boone County. In addition, he provided statutes concerning the duties of peace officers and animal control officers when responding to situations where animals are being mistreated.

Judge Belcher also reminded that the county currently has in place a leash law. Commissioner Toy asked about the building of a shelter as previously discussed on the county's property on Kendall Springs Road. Judge Belcher stated that she is currently working on obtaining grants to build a permanent shelter.

David Chaney with the Bath County Sheriff's Office requested a cell phone for Jason Little. Judge Belcher stated that the county is not currently paying for any cell phones for any county workers.

Ginger Swartz and another unnamed audience member discussed the issue of a cell phone tower being placed on Fearing Road. They attended several meetings of the Public Service Commission and have not been able to get the PSC to change the placement site of the cell tower. Mrs. Swartz requested that the fiscal court send a letter of concern to the PSC regarding the location of the cell tower.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the donation of \$100.00 to the Senior Citizens Annual dinner and party.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court accepted the bid of Cargill Deicing Technology for Bulk Ice Control at a rate of \$54.30 per ton.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the appointments of Edith Richardson and Mike Downs to the Bath County Extension District Board for the 2008-2010 term.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court approved the request of the Bath County Water District to grant a net of \$300.00 pay adjustment for the year ending 2007 for the Board of Commissioners and accept the annual budget of the Bath County Water District as presented by Jeanette Walton, manager of the Bath County Water District.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved a 90 day extension with Veolia for trash pick up in Bath County to be able to prepare a proper bid.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved an extension for carry over of vacation days until the end of February 2008.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court approved the hiring of one full time employee, Michael Judd, and three part time employees, April Hale, Donna Vanlandingham and Mike Crockett.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting Aye, the Court approved the movement of two HAMM radio antennas from the WKCA tower to the dispatch. Vernon Barber suggested that the antennas be placed as high as possible and replace the co axel.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the appointment of Barbara Razor to the unexpired term of Melissa Hodge to the Bath County Parks and Recreation Board. Said term will end June 14, 2008.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the following appointments to the Bath County Ambulance Board: William Crump for 1 year; LW Patton for 2 years; Virigina Lollis for 3 years; Gary Boyd for 3 years and Randy Buckner for 4 years.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the following members to the Bath County Building Commission: Bill Martin as chair term ending December 14, 2009; Carolyn Belcher as secretary; John Wills term ending December 14, 2008; Charlie Kissick term ending December 14, 2010; Tim Ray term ending December 14, 2011.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the Court approved the upgrade of a lease for Xerox copier. The county can trade in the current copier for a new copier at the same price as currently being paid.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court accepted into the county road system the end portion of Wells Road to the county park. The state will blacktop will pay for blacktopping this portion of the road once it is accepted into the road system.

The request to take Windy Ridge into the county road system was TABLED until an inspection of the road for improper measurements has been completed.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court TABLED the request to take Julie Lane into the county road system until an inspection of the road for proper measurement has been completed.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Toy, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, all voting AYE, the Court TABLED the request to allow Cintas to perform inspections of the fire extinguishers for the county so that the fiscal court may review others who may be offering the same service or alternatively get a county employee trained to perform the inspection.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the purchase of a truck to be used for the plowing of snow on the condition that funds are available .

ON MOTION of Commissioner Cline, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved the appointments of Tim Ray, term ending December 13, 2010 and Willie Vanlandingham, term ending December 13, 2008, to the Bath County Sanitation Board.

The animal control officer reported to the Court that he had adopted out 60 animals; released 17 animals to their owners; picked up 174 strays; had 4 abuse cases; 39 owner pets; quarantined 10 animals and destroyed 24 animals and adopted out 6 cats.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Toy, all voting AYE, the Court approved to hold the regular meetings at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

IN OTHER BUSINESS Commissioner Martin requested pot holes be patched on Ratliff Road and Oaklawn Road. Commissioner Toy requested that the Commissioners be notified of any potential hiring or laying off of county employees.

Mr. Garner asked Judge Belcher the amount of money in the General Fund when she took over and Judge Belcher replied approximately 6,000.00 to 8,000.00.

Commissioner Cline asked why Mitchell Thompson was laid off. Judge Belcher stated that Mr. Thompson was not actually working on the roads, but merely answering the phone and ordering parts and due to the tight budget at this time Mr. Thompson was laid off.

Mrs. Hatton asked about the amendment to the occupational tax. Judge Belcher stated that fiscal court will be adopting a standard form as required by KRS. She explained what was actually passed by the legislature.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, Seconded by Commissioner Cline, all voting AYE, the meeting was adjourned.

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Judge Executive, Carolyn Belcher