

Ballard County Fiscal Court
September 5, 2023
5:00 PM

Welcome: Todd Cooper, Judge Executive
Roll Call: Stonnie Dennis, Jody Brown, Ryan Hedrick, Nathan Whipple, Chip Bisson
Prayer: Ryan Hedrick, Chaplain
Pledge: Todd Cooper
Guests: Kelly Davis, Casey Allen, Dale Turner, Sidney Lovelace

Motion by Chip Bisson second by Nathan Whipple and unanimous on vote to approve minutes of August 15th meeting.

Motion by Jody Brown second by Ryan Hedrick and unanimous on vote to approve minutes from Special Called Meeting on August 21st.

Kelly Davis with United Way spoke to the court about partnering with the county to help our community through payroll deduction from employees for donations. United Way has partnered with 7 counties to help those in need of assistance.

Motion was made by Nathan Whipple seconded by Jody Brown and unanimous on vote for United Way to discuss with employees for payroll deduction donations.

Roads-Tod Vance

Motion by Stonnie Dennis second by Chip Bisson, unanimous on vote to approve to buy a semi load variety of sized poly culverts for approximately \$43,500.00 not including the delivery fee. Tod Vance will check both places of businesses to get the cheapest price.

Motion by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson, unanimous on vote raise rate of pay for employee WC to \$19.12 with the effective date of September 5, 2023.

Ambulance

Motion by Stonnie Dennis second by Jody Brown, unanimous on vote to hire SP as fulltime EMT-A at \$12.50 per hour effective September 9, 2023.

Motion by Chip Bisson second by Nathan Whipple, unanimous on vote to hire TM as fulltime Paramedic at \$20.00 per hour effective October 1, 2023.

HVAC needs to be placed in the bay at the La Center base. Three bids were submitted. *Curlin Tools & Equipment- \$4438.00 total for all work.*

BJ Graves- \$6500.00 plus install of electric for approximately \$1,000.00

Stewart Electric- \$13,000.00 that includes electrical work.

Motion by Stonnie Dennis second by Chip Bisson, unanimous on vote to award the bid to Curlin to install the HVAC.

Jail-Eric Coppess

Motion by Stonnie Dennis second by Nathan Whipple to give a \$2.00 per hour raise to CR, CH, and MQ for the additional duties for the Staff Sargent position so this position will not be filled by an additional fulltime employee. Effective date as of August 27th, 2023.

Treasurer-Susan Bailey

Motion by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson, unanimous on vote, pending audit to approve paying bills. Motion to approve cash transfers made by Jody Brown second by Chip Bisson unanimous on vote, pending audit.

County Clerk-Katie Mercer

First reading of ordinance 110.2 to change from 8 districts to 5 districts due to misprint. Motion by Chip Bisson second by Jody Brown, unanimous on vote. The 2019-2021 audit report settlement found that the Fiscal Court owes Katie Mercer, personally, \$3,000.00 from her overpayment for those years. That payment was included in the county bills at tonights meeting. The 2022 excess fees have been settled and paid from the Clerks Office.

County Attorney-Bethany Denton

The Housing Ordinance draft is still being updated. The Housing Committee will meet on September 18th at 1:30 in Kevil to discuss the changes and Bethany will present the updated draft to the fiscal court at the next meeting.

Motion by Chip Bisson second by Stonnie Dennis, unanimous vote to include new employee, CH, for Child Support Office the county health and life insurance to be reimbursed by the County Attorney's office.

Properties and Projects

Judge Cooper presented a revenue sharing resolution. The Judge is requesting \$65,000.00 from commercial solar revenue sharing from Bright Night if the project is built. The county is to receive \$320,000 a year in PILT from the company.

Motion for approval by Nathan Whipple second by Ryan Hedrick, roll call vote Chip Bisson, no, Nathan Whipple, yes, Stonnie Dennis, no, Jody Brown, no, Ryan Hedrick, yes. Motion died. Clearway Solar is requesting a potential IRB with the county. Clearway Solar will be presenting a request for an IRB at the September 19th Fiscal Court meeting. If magistrates that would like to ask

questions of Clearway before the meeting, Clearway is willing to meet to discuss. Ballard County Schools will have to set up their own meeting with the solar company to discuss any potential IRB.

Magistrate Comments/Updates

Chip Bisson requested funds from the Opioid Account be used to help Lifeline Recovery Center to hire an additional fulltime employee. The full time employee will increase the bed to be used for treatment from 60 to 72. The total salary for a fulltime employee would be \$41,559.16 including benefits. ***Motion by Chip Bisson second by Jody Brown, unanimous vote with the stipulation that it would be a 90/10 cost share between the county and Lifeline and also to include that 6 of the 12 beds are to reserved for Ballard County residents.***

Judge Executive—Todd Cooper

Ballard Bullets requested \$10,000.00 from ARPA resolution #15 to upgrade Spring Sports Complex. ***Motion by Jody Brown second by Chip Bisson, unanimous vote to approve request.***

There will also be a workshop between the County and Ballard School BOE to discuss a new “REC Board” to help oversee the spring sports facilities. There will have to be a lease agreement between the County and Ballard County School. Details for agreement and projects will be discussed in the workshop. The Court also discussed a previously approved resolution for a helicopter pad to be paid with ARPA monies and capped at \$6,000.00

Public Comments/Questions

Dale Turner had questions about the IRB with the solar companies. Turner also asked about other issues.

Executive Session: KRS 61.810(1) Personnel

Motion to enter: Jody Brown second by Ryan Hedrick, unanimous on vote

Motion to Exit Executive Session: Chip Bisson second by Ryan Hedrick, unanimous on vote.

No business was conducted or motions were made during executive session.

Motion made by Jody Brown, second by Stonnie Dennis and unanimous on vote to hire a new Ambulance Director.

Motion made by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson to hire TaLisa Grief as a paramedic at Ballard EMS for \$25 per hour effective 09/06/2023 at 7:00 a.m., unanimous on vote.

***Motion to adjourn meeting by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson,
unanimous on vote.***

Next meeting will be September 19, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.