Jody / Stonnie

Ballard County Fiscal Court
February 3, 2026
5:00 PM

Welcome: **Todd Cooper, Judge Executive**
Roll Call: **Ryan Hedrick, Jody Brown, Stonnie Dennis, Nathan Whipple, Chip Bisson**
Prayer: **Ryan Hedrick, Chaplain**
Pledge: **Todd Cooper**

Motion made by Ryan Hedrick, seconded by Chip Bisson, and unanimous on vote to approve the January 20,2026 minutes as presented and to forego the public reading.

Road

Bids were sent out for the Morning Meadows Bridge replacement. Jim Smith Construction submitted a bid for $348,998.14 and was the only bid received. ***Motion made by Jody Brown, seconded by Chip Bisson, and a unanimous vote to accept the bid from Jim Smith Construction.***

There is negotiation between JK Reeves and BCFC for the use of a private roadway owned by JK Reeves during the Morning Meadows Bridge construction. ***Motion made by Stonnie Dennis, seconded by Chip Bisson, and a unanimous vote to approve Resolution 2026-02-03-001 to allow the BCFC to haul, spread gravel, and grade the road as needed for public use during this bridge construction project.***

Diamond Mowers responded to the warranty request for additional hours due to issues experienced with the equipment since the date of purchase. ***Motion to accept the offer of additional warranty coverage until June 30, 2026, made by Chip Bisson, with a second from Nathan Whipple. The motion passes with 4-yes and 1-no.***

The BCFC wanted to show appreciation to the Ballard County Road Department for the hard work and dedication during the recent snow/ice event, also thankful to the County Farmers who helped clear County Roads during this event.

Sheriff

Sheriff Ronnie Giles was present and had information to provide to the Court during Executive Session.

Ambulance

Motion to hire CR at pay-scale effective 2.3.2026, pending background check and prerequisite hiring requirements made by Nathan Whipple, seconded by Jody Brown, and unanimous vote to approve hiring.

Jail

Jailer Eric Coppess was present and made two requests for hires.
Motion to re-hire NL effective 2.4.2026 at the pay rate he left at when he worked at the jail previously, pending background check and prerequisite hiring requirements, made by Chip Bisson and a second from Stonnie Dennis. A unanimous vote to re-hire NL. Motion to promote MT from part-time to full-time made by Chip Bisson a second from Stonnie Dennis, effective 2.4.26 and a unanimous vote to approve.

911 Dispatch

Director Larry Fraser was present and provided an update of the center. Next-gen 911 progress continues. There have been meetings with key players and more to come. The new estimated go-live date is 3.26.2026. A $400,000 grant was received from Ky Office of Homeland Security when dispatch consolidation took place. A little more than $290,000 was used for the consolidation. The grant was closed January 31, 2026.

Treasurer

Treasurer Lindsay Meeks presented several items for discussion. ***Motion to approve the First Reading of Budget Amendment 1 for FYE 2026, made by Nathan Whipple a second from Ryan Hedrick and unanimous on vote.*** ***Motion to pay bills, pending audit, made by Chip Bisson, second from Ryan Hedrick, and unanimous on vote.*** ***Motion to approve the cash transfers, pending audit, made by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson, and unanimous on vote.*** ***Motion to approve non-standing and standing ACH payments made by Ryan Hedrick, a second from Jody Brown and a unanimous vote passes the motion.*** The ACH bill listing worksheet is attached to these minutes. Meeks stated the 2nd quarter report will be presented at the February 17, 2026 meeting.

County Attorney

The first reading of Electrical Inspection Ordinance 360.1 Amendment 2026 was presented. ***Motion made by Chip Bisson second by Jody Brown, and a unanimous on vote to approve 1st Reading.***

A Resolution to approve the Dredging Lease Agreement between BCFC and Pine Bluff Materials will be further discussed at the February 17, 2026 BCFC Meeting.

County Clerk

Democratic poll workers will be needed. Please contact the County Clerk's Office if interested.

Projects and Properties

There is a thirty (30) acre site on the river in Ballard County that would be good to develop for Riverfront Business. A grant of $50,000 has been awarded to the Ballard IDA from TVA-RDAAP

funding. A second grant is sought from the Ky Economic Cabinet called the KPDI 2025 grant. The city of Wickliffe is applying for in the amount of $50,000. Two bookkeeping resolutions must be passed to allow the use of the both grant awards.
Motion to approve Resolution 2026-02-03-003 KPDI Economic Development Resolution made by Ryan Hedrick and a second provided by Nathan Whipple. A unanimous vote carries the motion.
Motion to approve 2026-02-03-004 RDAAP Authorizing & Designation of SPGE Resolution and IDA application for the funding made by Jody Brown Second by Nathan Whipple, and a unanimous vote to approve.

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session made by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson, and unanimous vote.
Motion to exit Executive Session made by Nathan Whipple second by Ryan Hedrick, and unanimous vote. There was no business transacted or motions made during the Executive Session.

Motion made by Jody Brown and second by Chip Bisson to suspend without pay and benefits until Illinois criminal court case disposition, jail employee TT effective 2.3.2026. A unanimous vote passes the motion.

Motion to enter into a loan agreement between BCFC and BC Sheriff Department for $37,000 for an employee A.R. contract buyout made by Ryan Hedrick, second from Chip Bisson. There were 4- yes votes and 1-no vote. The motion carried. The loan will be fulfilled and repaid by the Sheriff to the Fiscal Court by January 31, 2027.

The court discussed the use of county owned vehicles by jail staff while on personal time. ***Motion for the Jail to provide***

mileage and trip logs for its vehicles to the BCFC on a monthly basis, effective 2.1.2026, made by Jody Brown and second from Nathan Whipple, unanimous vote passes the motion.

Motion for the jail to return the white Dodge work truck to the BCFC made by Nathan Whipple second by Chip Bisson and unanimously voted to approve.

There will be no action on jail employee MB taken at this time.

Motion to reiterate per current county policy, County Vehicles are not for personal use made by Chip Bisson, seconded by Ryan Hedrick and a unanimous vote to approve.

Motion to adjourn made by Nathan Whipple a second from Ryan Hedrick and a unanimous vote Adjourns the Court.

Ballard County Fiscal Court
February 17, 2026
9:00 AM

Welcome: Todd Cooper, Judge Executive
Roll Call: Jody Brown, Stonnie Dennis, Chip Bisson
Prayer: Todd Cooper
Pledge: Todd Cooper

A moment of silence was observed to honor Patty Lee Rich before the Prayer.

Motion to approve the February 3, 2026 Fiscal Court Minutes as presented and to forego the public reading made by Jody Brown, and a second by Stonnie Dennis. A unanimous vote approves the motion.

Road

Tod Vance gave an update on equipment that was currently not working properly: a tractor, a dump truck, and a backhoe. The tractor is currently in the shop being repaired.
Todd Cooper, informed the court that County Road Aid has been cut by more than for Ballard County this year $160,000. This cut is due to how the gas tax is being used.
The bridge project on Albert Hook will begin the first week of March 2026.
A road employee, KS has requested that a previous write-up be expunged from his record. ***Motion made by Jody Brown and second from Stonnie Dennis to expunge the write-up. The motion carried by unanimous vote.***
Travis Holder informed the court that the Mosstown Road CCBIP grant application has been resubmitted.

Sheriff

No business to conduct at this time.

Jail

Eric Coppess gave his monthly report. The average population was 77, there were 49 bookings and 49 releases. Income from MRT and GED was $2,050.00, income from Housing was $62,843.00.
There was a resolution in favor of 2026 HB 557 presented to the Court. ***Motion to approve Resolution 2026-HB 557 Support Resolution made by Chip Bisson and seconded by Jody Brown. A unanimous vote passes motion.***
Per a motion in the previous FC Meeting the Dodge Truck still needs to be returned to the Judge Executive's Office.
Motion to amend the time frame for Prisoner Transport Log reports due from the Jail to the Court from monthly to Quarterly per KRS 441.245 (1) (b), made by Jody Brown and a second from Chip Bisson. Vote was unanimous to pass.

911/Dispatch

Larry Fraser was present to give an update on Nex-Gen 911 progress. He also stated that, to date, there have been 1300 calls.

Ambulance

Anna Abernathy gave her monthly report, stating that all four ambulances are back in rotation. The annual inspection was completed and they passed. The two new monitors were received. Anna went to Frankfort for the support of HB 447 which increases the amount Insurance and Medicaid pays for Ambulance Service providers.
Motion made by Chip Bisson second from Jody Brown to approve 2026-HB 447 Support Resolution. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Solid Waste

Bryan Fondaw was present and presented and written monthly report for the Court. He also mentioned that the EPA inspection recently showed no violations. He is continuing to work through the property maintenance list, but is meeting resistance from land owners and may be incorporating the help of the County Attorney's Office. There was discussion of the Scale and the rate to charge for use of outside entities.

EMA

Travis recently went to Frankfort to lobby for the Rural Municipal Road Aid. He verified that it was cut due to the amount of gas sold, not that there was a true budget cut. The application for Mosstown CCBIP was turned in before the deadline. There will be an approximately $180,000.00 deposit from FEMA for the Brooking Road Bridge Project. The final lump of money is being held up from an extension for the project that was submitted in April of 2025. When that extension is approved, approximately $300,000 more should be deposited.

Animal Control

No business to conduct, however, it has been very busy.

Treasurer

Motion to pay bills including: (ROAD) J Edinger & Son Inc 707.26 and First Choice Farm & Lawn 6000.00 also (CH) Owens Cleaning $2,950.00 made by Chip Bisson second from Jody Brown. A unanimous vote carries motion, pending audit.

A motion to approve Cash Transfers was made by Jody Brown and a second from Chip Bisson. Unanimous vote approves motion, pending audit.

Motion to pay non-standing bills via ACH made by Jody Brown second by Chip Bisson and unanimous on vote to approve, pending audit.

Motion to approve Quarter 2 Quarterly report made by Chip Bisson and a second from Stonnie Dennis. Motion passes, pending audit by a unanimous vote.

A resolution was presented that increases the capital threshold to $40,000 from $25,000. A ***motion to approve Resolution 2026-02-17-001 Establishing a new Capital Asset Capitalization Threshold and Useful Life Schedule was made by Stonnie Dennis and a second from Jody Brown. A unanimous vote passes the motion.***

Motion made to accept the Pine Bluff cooperation Resolution and the Pine Bluff Dredging Lease Agreement for a 36-month term. The

motion was made by Stonnie Dennis and a second by Jody Brown. Motion passes with unanimous vote.

Motion made by Chip Bisson second from Jody Brown to approve the interlocal between City of Wickliffe, Ballard IDA and BCFC for engineering, environmental, and due diligence improvement work to site 007-001, city owned 30-acre tract along the river. Motion passes by unanimous vote. The first phase of work will be paid for with KPDI 2022 grant and RDAAP grant totaling $100,000 if approved by the economic cabinet and DLG.

County Attorney

Bethany Denton will make term correction to the Pine Bluff Lease Agreement as decided by the BCFC.

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session made by Jody Brown and seconded by Chip Bisson, unanimous vote to enter.
Motion to exit Executive Session made by Chip Bisson and seconded by Jody Brown, unanimous vote to exit.
There was no business conducted or motions made during the Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Chip Bisson and second from Stonnie Dennis. Motion passes with unanimous vote.