

The Powell County Fiscal Court's regularly scheduled meeting was held this past Tuesday. All of the magistrates were present and on time for roll call.

This month we had two gentlemen who came to address the court during the public comment section of the meeting. The first one was a gentleman from Wolfe County who had visited with us previously about becoming an electrical inspector for Powell County. We are currently operating with one inspector that services our county one day a week. He is saying he feels there is a great need to have more availability for those services. We agreed to pass it to our building and grounds committee and have them look at the pros and cons, and make a recommendation to the court before the next meeting.

The second person was Ken Howard who volunteers to operate our HAMM radio systems. He has been a great asset to our community and EM/CSEPP programs with his expertise and knowledge of those systems in allowing us to have those capabilities in our arsenal should we ever need them. He has been instrumental in helping us get this system and the equipment we need to have these capabilities. Mr. Howard came to share about his part in the recent CSEPP exercise. We would like to thank him and all the other departments and volunteers who assist in making these exercises a success. Mr. Kevin Babcock has really helped us get this program to the place we wanted it too. More importantly knowing we have such wonderful resources available should we ever need them.

As we moved into the Old Business portion of the meeting, we revisited a couple of items that had been in the works the last couple of months. One of those was some paving that we needed to try and get completed before the end of the year. We had received quotes and the magistrates reviewed them to make sure they were in line with what they needed addressed.

Our energy savings project was the other item under old business. As you may have read in some of the previous months the court has been working to get this project underway. It will allow us to replace outdated, ageing, inefficient equipment. This project will address heating/air, lighting, roofing and water usage at County facilities. It will allow us to upgrade and replace these items using the energy savings as the funding model. Beyond avoiding costly capital outlays in the future, it should provide a much better work environment for those working and doing business in those facilities.

Moving on from old business, I gave the court an update on a couple of things that had transpired since we last met. One being the Hatton Creek Bridge deck replacement has been completed. The Powell County Road Department is to be commended on this effort. They not only made the completion a lot quicker, they probably allowed the project to be done for at least half the price it would have otherwise been if we had had to go with an outside vendor. Another important aspect of this project was that because of an attentive citizen, we were contacted that there may be an issue with this particular bridge. I say this to encourage each of you as citizens to contact us when you see something that concerns you and never take for granted, we're aware of every issue. This enables us to better serve you and the more eyes we have on things helps things get identified and corrected timelier.

After this, we got into the new business portion of our meeting with the first item being appointments for the extension board. They had two appointments expiring. The first was the expiring term of Glenn Chapman and in his spot, Doug Keller was appointed to serve in the Agriculture and Natural Resources. The second was Roberta Frazier's first term expiring and being eligible for reappointment she was reappointed to the 4H Youth Development. This is a good time to say thank you to all those who

graciously give of their time and effort to serve on boards such as this. The extension board is like the majority of the boards we have appointments on, and these folks serve without compensation and give many hours of their time, so we appreciate all those who give of their time to serve civically like this, its part of what makes our community the great one it is.

Following these appointments, we turned our attention to a contract between the Powell County Fiscal Court and State of Kentucky. The State has agreed to allow the Powell County Search and Rescue to utilize a structure they have at the Middlefork Campground as a headquarters and first aid station. In order for this to become a reality they will need this contract in place to ensure each party knows their responsibilities and obligations. Upon the County Attorney's review and approval, we will get this document in place.

Another board appointment followed this discussion. The Powell County Wastewater Authority had an appointment expiring on December 31. In this position I reappointed Mr. John Brewer. Mr. Brewer has been a vital part in not only serving on the board but in the formation of this Authority. Without it, Powell County was in essence closed to many businesses and developments that have and will locate here. We appreciate all the time and effort he puts into our community in this and the various other capacities he serves in.

Powell County Health Department right of way for the 213 projects was the next topic discussed by the court. For this project the state needed 53 square feet that would be fee simple, 953 square feet of permanent easement and 1,995 square feet of temporary easement. We had settled on amounts a few months ago and our Treasurer had finally received that check. It was decided by the court that money should be granted to the Health Department.

Paving come back up in this meeting in relation to Carmen's Landing (the new watercraft takeout) in Clay City. Mayor Carmichael and I had discussed the need for it to be paved at the ribbon cutting ceremony. I had received a quote on it as we were looking at our county roads. At this meeting the court agreed to pay for the paving that was quoted and be reimbursed by Clay City as a means of expediting getting this hopefully completed this fall.

The last talks the court had were in relation to our road salt. Amounts we had in inventory as well as how much to secure in this year's contract was decided and this concluded any action items for this month's meeting.

Once again, I'd like to thank each of you for taking the time to stay informed and engaged with your county government. It is truly an honor to serve each of you and our community.