

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
October 8, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on October 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office Annex, Warsaw, Kentucky. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live. Magistrates present were Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, Joel Shinkle and M. J Haddix. County Attorney John G. Wright was also present. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2020 were approved by M. J Haddix via motion. Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None.

Approval of Agenda: Magistrate Joel Shinkle made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. M. J Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval to pay. Judge Morris noted that the jail bill was about the same as it has been, but is still higher than would like to see. County Attorney Wright explained informed the court that court is back in session and on a full schedule. Judge Morris also added that he continues to speak with prosecutors about moving the cases along. Magistrate Haddix asked how far behind are cases from the COVID shutdown. Mr. Wright answered that jury trials are backed up but moving along. He added that for drug offenders they are attempting to find treatment options and that it feels like those cases are being caught up. Magistrate Shinkle asked how many inmates are currently in Carrollton. Judge Morris answered that the number is around 29 or 30 pretty steadily. He also noted that he has had a good line of communication with Commonwealth Attorney Kelly. Ethan Moore moved to pay the bills as presented. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

September 2020 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending September 30, 2020. Ethan Moore made a motion to approve the report and Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.
2. Interfund Cash Transfers – Donnie Sullivan made a motion to approve the interfund cash transfers. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.
3. Quarterly Financial Statement – Treasurer Bullard reported that the 1st Quarter Financial Statement encompassing July 1 through September 30, 2020 is in balance and has been uploaded to the Department for Local Government. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the report. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

GALLATIN COUNTY FAIR BOARD UPDATE

Judge Morris reported that he has met with Jamie Gould and the Gallatin County Fair Board, Inc. name has been turned over to the county and information has been updated with the Kentucky Secretary of State. He also reported that there is approximately \$2,000 in the former board's account which will be turned over as well. The Magistrates and Judge Morris expressed their challenges in finding folks to serve as members on the new board. The goal is to have at least one representative from each court member to form a new board, with those being presented at the November meeting to have a board in place to move forward. Magistrate Sullivan moved to

table the issue until the regularly scheduled meeting of the Fiscal Court in November to allow additional time to get confirmations of those willing to serve on the board. M. J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

COUNTY NUISANCE ORDINANCE SECOND READING

County Attorney Wright read the ordinance in summary and outlined the amendments to the original ordinance including new enforcement procedures. Judge Morris elaborated on the storage of vehicles section, specifically the difference in long term storage and temporary parking. Magistrate Haddix asked County Attorney Wright if the efforts being put forth via the updated ordinance prior to any court proceedings, would the Judge be likely to be more receptive to issues of concern. Jim Hansen answered that the "case" and detail will be put together for a court case such that it should easily outline the offense for a court to address. County Attorney Wright added that the overall purpose of the process is to hopefully address and rectify issues prior to making it to court. He added that he feels the process should have success. Magistrate Sullivan mentioned his concerns with the parking portion of the ordinance and making sure that the intent is to not allow citizens to park boats, campers, trailers and the like on their property. Judge Morris answered that since the first reading was published there has been progress made in regard to the parking/storage of vehicles and noted that campers, etc are addressed as only those that are unusable to be a violation as to keep people from using them as permanent living quarters. Motion to approve the second reading of the County Nuisance Ordinance was made by Donnie Sullivan. Seconded by Joel Shinkle. All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

AIRPORT UPDATE

Judge Morris brought up the announcement that a NASCAR Race is now no longer scheduled at the Kentucky Speedway, but that there are events being scheduled there and exciting things will continue to go on.

He also noted that the airport construction is still on-going and the phases are on schedule. He added that the FAA has continued to state and reiterate that the airport was not being built or put in place for a private business (the Speedway) but that it is a need and will be completed and they will then move onto their next scheduled project in Eastern Kentucky.

Judge Morris also informed the court that at the November meeting he will bring for vote the matter of \$20,000 in Economic Development Funds that could be used for airport incidentals, but as has been a commitment of the court to spend no county funds on the airport, Mr. Morris will ask to bring the funds back into the Economic Development account.

Magistrate Haddix asked if any county funds have been used to date. Judge Morris and Treasurer Bullard explained that some were used to moving expenses for the residents that sold, but that money was paid back. Magistrate Haddix then asked is the airport not considered Economic Development. Judge Morris said yes basically.

KY SPEEDWAY UPDATE

The court discussed, at length, the changes at the Kentucky Speedway and how it could impact the ticket tax the county receives. The court also discussed the Amazon trailers parked on the property and how they are considered goods in transit and not subject to tangible tax. Judge Morris assured the court that he is having continual conversations with Speedway Representatives and will continue to investigate the happenings there.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Judge Morris reported the updated the court with the current COVID-19 statistics for the county and expressed his hope that numbers continue to stay low. He applauded the efforts of the Health Department during this trying time. Total Cases – 99. Recovered – 87. Deceased – 9. Active – 3.

PLANNING AND ZONING APPOINTMENT

Judge Morris reported that Dr. Rick Ackerman has stepped down from his position on Planning & Zoning representing the Sparta/Gold Star District. Magistrate Donnie Sullivan made a motion to appoint Patrick Craig of Sparta to fill the vacancy. M. J Haddix seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS

Magistrate Sullivan informed the court that citizens in the Gridley Hill area have been inquiring about patching in the area. Judge Morris answered that he was not able to contact Ken McCarty with District 6 and would make sure to make contact in an effort to have him at the November meeting. He expressed his apologies for not getting that done for the current meeting.

Judge Morris also noted that the state will be back to letting projects for bid soon.

Magistrate M. J Haddix made a motion to go into closed session to discuss property acquisition per KRS 61.810(1) (b). Motion seconded by Ethan Moore. All ayes.

Ethan Moore made a motion to return to open session. Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

Ethan Moore then made a motion to go back into closed session to discuss personnel per KRS 61.810 (c). Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. All ayes.

M. J Haddix made a motion to come out of closed session. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion.

With no further business before the court, Joel Shinkle made a motion to adjourn. Ethan Moore seconded his motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug Miles
Gallatin County Fiscal Court Clerk