

The **regular meeting** of the Boyle County Fiscal Court was held on February 28, **2023**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fiscal Court Room of the Boyle County Courthouse. The meeting was live-streamed on the Boyle County Media Channel for the Public. Members present at the meeting were:

Judge Executive Trille Bottom  
Magistrate Tom V. Ellis  
Magistrate Paula Bodner  
Magistrate Jason Cullen  
Magistrate Jamey Gay  
Magistrate Steve Sleeper

Magistrate Barry Harmon was absent from the meeting.

Others present at the meeting were County Treasurer Darlene Lanham, County Attorney Chris Herron, County Administrator Julie Wagner, Finance Officer Elaina Plyman, and Fiscal Court Clerk Katina Wesley.

**Judge Bottom** called the meeting to order.

**Magistrate Cullen** gave the invocation.

**Judge Bottom** led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Judge Bottom** presented the minutes from the 24th day of January, 2023 and the 14th day of February, 2023, Fiscal Court regular meetings. Magistrate Cullen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. Magistrate Ellis asked that page numbers be added to the minutes. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Finance Officer Elaina Plyman** presented the bills for approval in the amount of \$322,078.55. Magistrate Gay made the motion to approve the bills as presented. Magistrate Cullen seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**County Treasurer Darlene Lanham** presented the Budget/Cash Transfers. The total budget transfer is \$87,500.00, with the General Fund being \$11,200.00, Public Works Fund \$11,300.00, Joint Jail Fund \$10,000.00, LGEA Fund \$50,000.00, and EMS Fund \$5,000.00. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to approve the budget transfers as presented. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with all magistrates voting in favor. The total cash transfer is \$100,000.00, General Fund to Joint Jail Fund. Magistrate Gay made the motion to approve the Cash transfers. Magistrate Sleeper seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Judge Bottom** presented Women's History Month 2023 proclamations to Genealogical Historian Carolyn Crabtree, West T. Hill Theatre Director Karen Logue, and posthumously, Advocate-Messenger Newspaper columnist Annabelle Girard.

**Chamber of Commerce Director Jeff Jewell** discussed the Convention and Visitors Bureau hospitality training. It will be held at the U.K. Extension Office on March 27, 2023. In addition, there is a job fair on March 24, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Showroom. The last Saturday in April is being discussed as the first Farmer's Market. Director Jewell introduced Jennifer Broadwater, a new joint appointment to the CVB Board. Jennifer Broadwater is the Director of Marketing at the Norton Centre for the Arts. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to appoint Jennifer Broadwater to the CVB Board. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor. Magistrate Cullen discussed the importance of hospitality training for the County's tourism.

**DBCDC Director JJ Harris** discussed the \$750,000.00 KPDI Grant awarded for Industrial Site Development. He is looking forward to working with Danville City and the County. Magistrate Ellis discussed the meet and greet for Mr. Harris and informed the Court that Director Harris is from a small town and understands Boyle County. Director Harris stressed the need to keep the Economic Development funding here in the County.

**P & Z Director Mikaela Gerry** gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan. Bluegrass Add is the firm with the best price for the plan. Danville City seems to be optimistic about the hiring of Bluegrass Add. Director Gerry will speak with Perryville City and Junction City representatives to get their input. P & Z only ask for funding from Boyle county and Danville City. The total cost will be \$48,725.00. Director Gerry will come back before the Court for their decision on following the Bluegrass Add's plan.

Magistrate Cullen discussed the plan being County wide and only having Danville City and the County pay into the project. Magistrate Cullen would like to see them contribute proportionally based on their population. Judge Bottom would like the Comprehensive Plan to come back before the Court on March 14, 2023 meeting. County Administrator Julie Wagner stated that during the discussion with the Steering Committee, the consensus seemed to be that the value was for everyone in the County to participate, not the funding. Magistrate Cullen stated that he did not want to give the perception of Junction City or Perryville City not having a say because they did not have a financial stake in the plan. Director Gerry stated that she wanted everyone to have a voice, which is a vital part of the process for Boyle County. The Interim Director of P & Z, Garry Chidester, spoke about how far behind Boyle County was. He stated what a special moment it was for him to have seen the County Judge and the Mayors of Danville, Perryville, and Junction City sit down and discuss doing what was best for the County. Mr. Chidester stated that even if Junction City or Perryville can not contribute funds, it will not stand in the way of continuing the Comprehensive Plan and doing what is best for all of Boyle County. Magistrate Cullen stated he did not want to hold up the Comprehensive Plan if Junction City or Perryville could not contribute. It was more of looking out for their best interest by being sidelined because they technically did not contribute. Judge Bottom assured them that they would not be overlooked. Director Gerry stated that there would be several public hearings in each jurisdiction.

**Harold Edwards** with the Perryville Battlefield Commission discussed the Crawford House in Perryville. The Commission has been petitioning the State to sell the Crawford House. They would like it sold to someone who will restore and upkeep the property. The Crawford House is next to the Convenience Center and the "Welcome to Perryville" sign on Hwy 68. The Perryville Battlefield Commission requests that the County provide landscaping to hide the trash cans next to the welcome sign at the Convenience Center on Hwy 68. Magistrate Gay stated that he did not find this an unreasonable request. Magistrate Cullen concurred with the need to beautify that location and suggested having Road Supervisor Roger Johnson and Solid Wastes Director Angie Muncy take a look at the project. Magistrate Ellis made the motion to explore moving a line item in the current budget to put in fencing and vegetation to hide the trash and separate the south side of the Crawford House from the Convenience Center. Magistrate Cullen seconded the motion. Magistrate Ellis feels this will help potential investors in the Crawford House. Magistrate Sleeper wanted clarification on who would look into the specific improvements. Judge Bottom asked that Solid Waste Director Angie Muncy and Road Supervisor Roger Johnson look into the beautification project and bring in quotes. Treasure Darlene Lanham stated that ARPA Funds would be used. The motion passed with all Magistrate voting in favor.

**Teresa McGhee with the Daughters of the American** Revolution invited the Court to the Art Center on May 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The speaker will be Mel Hankla, who is a fantastic Kentucky historian. Magistrate Ellis stated that Mel Hankla is an excellent authority on the Kentucky Long Rifle and powder horns.

**Boyle County Humane Society Director Kari Kuh** stated that the Humane Society and Boyle County Animal Control rehomed 170 animals and reunited 76 pets with their families last year. They helped 1400 animals get spayed or neutered through their "Happy Paws" low-cost or no-cost program. The Humane Society achieved an almost 90% save rate. Director Kuh thanked Magistrate Sleeper for attending the Kentucky Animal Welfare Summit. The Humane Society has been working on new policies and procedures. Director Kuh spoke on the Humane Society's Community Cat Program, which humanely traps outdoor cats, neuters and vaccinates them, and then returns them to where they were initially caught. Their ear is clipped so that residents and Humane Society workers can know which cats have been vaccinated and neutered. In the past, the Fiscal Court has matched the grant received by the Humane Society from the Kentucky State Department of Agriculture for the Spay and Neuter Program. This allows for more animals to be helped.

There is a new program called "Keeping Them Together" for helping people with medical care for their pets. Magistrate Ellis spoke about the Community Cat Coordinator Cody Cjakowski, who works diligently at trapping the Community Cat program. The Humane Society is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for adoption, and Animal Control Officers are there from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Judge Bottom asked if the stray cats are tested for Feline Leukemia. Director Kuh stated they are not, and research shows about 1% have Feline Leukemia. The expense outweighs the outcome.

**Boyle County Jailer Brian Wofford** informed the Court that there are currently 220 inmates, Boyle County has 81, Mercer has 37, other counties have 5, and the Department of Corrections has 96. Jailer Wofford presented the proposed salary rates for the 2023/ 2024 fiscal year. This proposal would put starting salary rate at \$18.00 an hour and raise the current workers' salary to compensate for the higher starting pay. Magistrate Ellis felt that this was needed to keep employees. Magistrate Gay stated that this should attract more employees and eliminate some of the overtime. Judge Bottom feels higher

salaries will keep trained employees at the jail. Magistrate Gay made the motion to approve the proposed salary increase for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. Magistrate Sleeper seconded the motion. Jailer Wofford asked that he be able to come back to the Fiscal Court in April to set a start date for the salary increases. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

Magistrate Ellis asked Jailer Wofford about House Bill 507 legislation that could delay building a new jail by 6 to 9 years. Jailer Wofford stated he was against the House Bill. He can not say much because of the lawsuit, but it would force counties to build regional jails. County Jailers would no longer be over the jails. Magistrate Ellis stated that this stems from a payment deficiency from the State for keeping the State's inmates.

**Jailer Brian Wofford** recognized Captain Melissa Jones, Lt. Sarah Lyons, and Corp. Elaina Plyman for their perfect canteen audit score for the fourth year.

**Magistrate Ellis** asked to table the Brandstetter Carroll Agreement to a later date, depending on what the General Assembly does with House Bill 507. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to table the agreement until the 28th day of March 2023. Magistrate Ellis seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Human Resources Director Steve Griffin** discussed the Compensatory Time Resolution 23.02.28. The Comp Time Resolution allows exempt employees to accumulate up to 240 hours in Compensatory Time. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to raise the allowable exempt employee compensatory time to 240 hours. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrate voting in favor. Director Griffin informed the Court that there were currently two employees over the 240-hour mark. He suggests the County pay the two employees for their Compensatory Time and be more diligent that this does not happen in the future. The total for the two employees will be \$7,842.61. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to pay the Compensatory Time for the two employees with over 240 hours. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. Magistrate Gay asked that the compensatory time be kept in check. Judge Bottom stated that it had been discussed. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**HR/Payroll Assistant Shannon Greene** discussed the Training Incentive for Magistrate Cullen, Magistrate Ellis, Magistrate Gay, and Jailer Wofford. Magistrate Bodner made the motion to approve the Training Incentives. Magistrate Sleeper seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Solid Waste Director Angela Muncy** presented the 2022 Solid Waste Management Area Annual Report. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to approve Judge Bottom signing the report. Magistrate Ellis seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Solid Waste Director Angela Muncy** discussed the 2023/2024 Hazardous Household Waste Grant. The grant is for paint, oil, and batteries collection. Last year they disposed of 1 ton of household batteries. Magistrate Cullen asked if the Recycling Center recycled electronics. Director Muncy stated they did. Magistrate Cullen made the motion for Judge Bottom to sign the Hazardous Household Waste Grant. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Callie Kidwell with Dinsmore & Shohl** discussed the Bond Ordinance 950.25 with Ephraim McDowell. The County issued two bonds in 2014 that use the LIBOR interest rate. After June of this year, the LIBOR will no longer be used. County Attorney Chris Herron read the Bond Ordinance 950.25. Magistrate Gay made the motion to approve the first reading of the Bond Ordinance 950.25. Magistrate Sleeper seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor. Ephraim McDowell CFO Amanda Kinman thanked the Court for their support.

**Road Supervisor Roger Johnson** discussed the quotes for a grapple bucket and trailer. Public Works has declined to purchase a piece of equipment in the budget in exchange for buying the trailer and grapple bucket. Magistrate Cullen made the motion to approve the purchase of the grapple bucket for \$4,850.00 from John Deer and the trailer from J&T Trailer for \$6,500.00. Magistrate Ellis seconded the motion. Supervisor Johnson asked that the trailer be paid upon delivery. Magistrate Cullen and Magistrate Ellis amended the motion to include paid upon delivery. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

Magistrate Ellis asked Road Supervisor Johnson about the trees on Hwy. 52. Supervisor Johnson stated he has contacted the State and waiting for them to contact the company that is responsible. Magistrate

Ellis and Magistrate Cullen spoke with a representative of Spectrum and requested they go and see for themselves the severity of the tree trimming they had left behind.

County Attorney Chris Herron informed the Court that a curb box inlet top was hit on Patrum Sisters Way by an SRM Company Vehicle. County Attorney Herron is getting estimates on fixing the curb box.

**Magistrate Ellis** discussed House Bill 4, AN ACT relating to merchant electric generating facilities and making an appropriation therefor. He advised the Court to look at House Bill 4 closely but favorably.

**Treasurer Darlene Lanham** discussed Resolution 23.02.28.02, which adopts and approves the Memorandum of Agreement between Boyle County Fiscal Court and the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the amount of \$196,400.00 for repaving Alum Springs Crosspike and Springfield Road. Magistrate Bodner made the motion to approve Resolution 23.02.28.02. Magistrate Ellis seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

**Art Center of the Bluegrass President Brian Hutzley** discussed how the expansion of the Arts Center would become a "game changer" for Danville and Boyle County. The development will bring the elements of arts and culture, history, travel tourism, and education. Magistrate Gay inquired about possibly using the ballroom for Fiscal Court Meetings. If the Fiscal Court meetings could be held there, it would be an excellent opportunity for much-needed room and an opportunity to participate in the project. Magistrate Cullen does not see getting to use the ballroom for Fiscal Court Meetings as a reason to contribute to the project. Magistrate Bodner stated that the expansion is a beautiful project but felt the ARPA funds should be used for their intended purpose of county infrastructure. Magistrate Bodner has some concerns about spending taxpayer's money on nonprofits. Magistrate Cullen discussed how much each department needed for the following year's budget. Magistrate Ellis stated that there are five communities in Boyle County, and the necessary list fills up quickly. Magistrate Ellis feels that Boyle County was left out of the discussion on purchasing the building and that Boyle County will have no equity in the expansion. President Hutzley stated that the revenue this would generate would impact the community. Art Center Communications Consultant Larry Weathers asked the Court to pursue having Danville become an Art and Cultural Center. Danville has been historically bold in the past. Now it is time to become futuristically bold. Magistrate Sleeper stated that several issues were brought to him by his constituents, the condition of the building, the intent of ARPA funds, and the revenue-generating ability of this project. Magistrate Sleeper feels this is not the best use of the tax dollars for the people he represents. Magistrate Ellis stated there is concern about the roofs at Constitution Square, which will cost significantly to repair.

Magistrate Cullen asked to pass on contributing at this time. Magistrate Gay asked to pause and go into the budget process with this on the table and see if the County can contribute. Judge Bottom agreed that the Court needed to get into the budget cycle and better understand what could be done. Magistrate Cullen made a motion to take no action at this time and review appropriations during the budget cycle. Magistrate Ellis seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

Magistrate reports:

**Magistrate Ellis** discussed the Public Works February 13, 2023, meeting. They discussed the newly purchased Mack Truck and the need for a \$200,00.00 Loader. A Mulching Head and an Asphalt Hot Box are both needed. The Public Works had to rent a high lift to allow the employees to safely clear the eight trees that went down during the recent heavy winds. Finally, they discussed potential greenery and fencing at the Crawford House and the need for a decision about the Constitution Square sidewalks and fencing. Magistrate Ellis made the motion to approve the Public Works Report. Magistrate Bodner seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

Magistrate Ellis discussed the difficulty the Magistrates have with the Quorum rule. The Magistrates can only speak with one other Magistrate and the Judge outside of Court about an issue. To share information with all the Magistrates, Magistrate Ellis passed out information about Solar, U.K. Extension Office, and House Bill 507.

**Magistrate Bodner** discussed the Junction City Pancake Breakfast. There is an inquiry into updating Junction City Park. Magistrate Bodner has contacted the State about flooding roads in her district. Judge Bottom encouraged anyone with property damage to contact EMA Director Brian Caldwell.

**Magistrate Cullen** spoke of the loss of a Junction City Firefighter and how going to the Pancake Breakfast would be in solidarity with their loss. In addition, he discussed the removal of Buster Pike

Bridge in March. He wants to renew talks with IT Director Nichols to see what equipment can be installed at Buster Pike to see if trains are blocking the road for Buster Pike residents. Judge Bottom reminded the Court that the Buster Pike Bridge would be closed for up to a year beginning March 8, 2023. The residents of Buster Pike were mailed a letter to inform them of the upcoming closure. Magistrate Cullen discussed Spectrum Broad Band and the potential of this project taking twenty-four months.

**Magistrate Gay** would like to send prayers and best wishes to Magistrate Harmon and his continued recovery.

**Magistrate Sleeper** discussed the number of calls about potholes, stray dogs, EMS billing, and trash pick up. He thanked the other Magistrates for their help and experience. Magistrate Sleeper attended the Humane Society Animal Welfare Summit and was the only elected official at the summit. Magistrate Sleeper visited the Gathering Place. He was impressed with the work done there with the senior citizens. Magistrate Sleeper has contacted one of the Danville City Commissioners about the flooding problem in Streamland Subdivision.

Magistrate Bodner informed the Court about the Junction City Food Bank needing help from the community to cover utilities. They serve 1400 people in Boyle County per month.

**Judge Bottom** reminded the Court about the Fish Fry at the Masonic Lodge, usually on the first Saturday of the month. Finally, Judge Bottom informed the Court of County Clerk Casey McCoy's father-in-law's passing.

Magistrate Bodner made the motion to adjourn in memory of County Clerk Casey McCoy's father-in-law George O. Spoonamore and Junction City Fire Fighter Jim Harris. Magistrate Cullen seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Magistrates voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Trille L. Bottom  
Boyle County Judge Executive