

Hardin County

JANUARY 2017



Harry L. Berry
Judge/Executive

Happy
New
Year

2016 Highlights

Right-to-Work Ordinance:

On January 13, 2015, Hardin County Fiscal Court enacted an ordinance restricting unions from forcing all employees to pay membership dues. This ordinance was challenged in the US District Court within a day by nine unions.

On November 18, 2016, Hardin County, along with other local communities across Kentucky, were gratified to learn the US 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Hardin County's right to enact this local county ordinance.

Animal Care and Control: In May, Hardin County Fiscal Court voted to change the county's animal shelter to better describe its focus toward pet adoptions and spay-neuter programs, thereby lowering the euthanasia numbers. Our former director, Jerry Foley, resigned to take a better position in Louisville. He was replaced by Mike McNutt in November. McNutt came to our shelter with 20 years of experience with the Kentucky Humane Society.

Government Center:

We have been in our new government building for one full year now. We continue to receive positive comments from the public. They especially enjoy the parking and easy access to the building.



County Prepares for Snow

Our Road Department is ready for another winter snow-plowing season on our 589 miles of county roads. We have over 2,000 tons of salt on hand, and plan to spread approximately 180 per day in severe weather conditions at a cost of \$12,465 per day.

Please be patient with us. We clear our roads as fast as possible. The county is divided into five areas and we clear 137 "Priority Roads" (main connecting roads) in each area first. Then, we turn to the non-priority roads.

Emergency Services: In August, the County reinstated its Chief Emergency Services Officer position and appointed Bryce Shumate to oversee all county emergency services—EMS (Ambulance), E-911 Dispatch Center, and Emergency Management. He also serves as the Community Support Coordinator.



We look forward to 2017 and the completion of a \$5.2 million project to add a new cell in Pearl Hollow Landfill. We will continue to enhance upon our existing services

We anticipate finishing the emergency department construction at Hardin Memorial Hospital in the fall and look forward to potential partnership proposals to come in next month.