



Hardin County, Kentucky

We are better off in 2013 than we were in 2012

Your county government revenues increased by \$635,830 while expenditures decreased by \$48,249, resulting in a \$684,079 improvement to the “bottom line” over last year at this time! Like families and businesses throughout our community, your government continues to tighten its belt and live within its means as we work to meet demands placed upon us.

We completed the first six months of the fiscal year on the positive side with \$2,731,561 more in revenue than expenditures.

As of December 31, all departments of county government were below their spending targets for the first half of this fiscal year. Each county supervisor does an excellent job finding ways to trim costs and stretch resources. If expenditures are not necessary, these supervisors do not make them!

DETENTION CENTER

Income minus expenditures for the Detention Center is also better, producing a \$34,560 improvement over last year. Unfortunately, we will be nearly \$3 million in the red by the end of the fiscal year in June.

EMS

For the fourth year EMS expenses are within 2% of revenues. For decades the cost of providing ambulance service exceeded revenue by over 15%. We attribute the expense reduction to the staff's attention to detail and their cooperation with a contracted billing service.

ADDITIONAL LANDFILL REVENUE

One of the many good news stories in this budget year is the increase in revenue for the Solid Waste Department through the continued sale of “carbon credits.” The credits are derived from the environmentally safe destruction of methane gas in the production of “green electricity” at the county landfill. The sale of carbon credits in the first half of this fiscal year netted \$107,405. We anticipate a comparable amount of revenue from carbon credit sales in the second half of this fiscal year.



Methane Gas Electrical Generating Plant

Also helping to improve the Solid Waste Department's bottom line is \$127,000 in net revenue from timber sales at the Pearl Hollow Landfill. We anticipate another \$85,500 in net income from timber sales during the second half of this fiscal year.

Carbon credits, timber sales, and an increase of over 3% in the tons of waste disposed at the Pearl Hollow Landfill resulted in an increase of net revenue amounting to \$237,477 for the first half of this fiscal year.



**Judge/Executive
Harry L. Berry**

During these times, when our federal and state governments continue to spend more and more, your county government continues to operate within the resources provided. Hardin County remains one of the lowest taxed counties in the Commonwealth with our lowest real property tax rate in over 20 years. Our bond rating, AA2, continues to be among the top 15% of local governments nationwide. Hardin County's financial reserves total \$13.7 million and outstanding debt is just 10.% of the county's statutory debt capacity. Hardin County Government takes seriously the challenge to provide the programs and services required without overspending the resources you entrust to us.

Spring Cleaning Dates

Tire Amnesty Days—April 11, 12, 13

E-Scrap Collection—April 27