

## HARDIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT

### **REGULAR MEETING February 13, 2018**

Judge/Executive Harry L. Berry called the Hardin County Fiscal Court meeting to order and requested a roll call vote. Voting: King yes, Judge Berry yes, Easter yes, Goodman yes, Boone yes, Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes.

Squire Clem gave the invocation.

Squire King led the court in the Pledge of Allegiance

#### **Department/Office Reports – Presentations**

Animal Control – Mike McNutt

Landfill – Sonny Ashlock

Emergency Management – Bryce Shumate (absent) Judge Berry announced the report was in each of the Magistrates package

#### **Written Reports:**

Planning & Development

Engineering

Road Department

#### **Citizens' Concerns or Comments:**

Tim and Julie Cantwell from Rineyville asked Fiscal Court to send a resolution in support of House Bill 166 and Senate Bill 118, which pertains to legalizing medical cannabis in Kentucky. Tim said they have experienced benefits of cannabis oil first hand with their son Preston, who began suffering from epilepsy at the age of four. From the age of 4 to 15, Tim said they tried neurologists in three different states and dozens of pills with terrible side effects. In 2015, Preston had a massive seizure. They began research into cannabis oil. They decided to try this treatment. In July of 2015, they drove from Kentucky to Colorado to get the oil to try to save their son's life. The changes were almost immediate. After Preston began the cannabis oil for six weeks, he had an EEG. For the first time in 11 years Preston's EEG showed no seizures. Two and one-half years later, Preston is 100 percent pharmaceutical free, no pills. Preston will graduate from John Hardin High School in May of this year. Tim said cannabis oil saved Preston's life and thousands more lives can be saved if these bills are passed.

Josh French, representing the Heartland Progressive Alliance spoke in support of the Cantwells. He asked the court to sign the resolution presented today by Mrs. Cantwell urging the General Assembly to adopt House Bill 166 and Senate Bill 118 legalizing medical cannabis in Kentucky. Mr. French stated that 29 states and the District of Columbia already legalized medical cannabis.

### **Ordinances/Agreements/Resolutions**

Clem moved and Wiseman seconded to approve the First Reading of **Ordinance 163, Series 2001**, Amendment No. 3 relating to the storage, collection processing, transportation and disposal of solid waste. Voting: Judge Berry yes, Easter yes, Goodman yes, Boone yes, Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes, King yes.

Morgan moved and Thompson seconded to approve **Resolution No. 2018-013** approving bids for road materials. Voting: Easter yes, Goodman yes, Boone yes, Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes, King yes, Judge Berry yes.

Thompson moved and Wiseman seconded to approve **Resolution No. 2018-014** approving FY2018 Emergency Management grant application. Voting: Goodman yes, Boone yes, Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes, King yes, Judge Berry yes, Easter yes.

King moved and Boone seconded to approve **Resolution Nos. 2018-015, 016, 017, and 018**, approving employee insurance for FY 2018/19. Voting: Boone yes, Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes, King yes, Judge Berry yes, Easter yes, Goodman yes.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Clem moved and Morgan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda to include: Jan Claims Utilities 1.2018, Jan Recurring Claims 1.2018, Feb Claims 2.13.18, **Resolution No. 2018-012** relating to financial transfers and a new bank account for Alcoholic Beverage Control funds, **Resolution No. 2018-010** relating to payroll insurance deductions, **Resolution No. 2018-011** relating to EMS personnel, Resources and Community Support Committee 2/5/18 minutes, Public Works Committee 2/6/18 minutes, and Fiscal Court 1/23/18 minutes. Voting: Clem yes, Wiseman yes, Thompson yes, Morgan yes, King yes, Judge Berry yes, Easter yes, Goodman yes, Boone yes.

### **Magistrates Comments:**

Squire Clem: *I would like to remind the court of the next Solid Waste Committee Meeting February 19, 2018 at 3:30 p.m. and as usual I want to end my comments to remind folks to please don't drink and drive and do not text and drive.*

Squire Wiseman: *I would like to say Happy Birthday to Lisa Boone.*

Squire Thompson *I have a couple of things. First, I am going to take the liberty to recognize and honor a dear friend whose funeral was today, Mrs. Lois Gray, who served as superintendent for Hardin County Schools for many years. I had the privilege of working with her. She was the type of leader who influenced you in many positive ways. Her son officiated the funeral today and he shared a poem that I would like to share with you--"The Dash" by Linda Ellis.*

*Now, down to business. I would like to share, and Dwight Morgan may want to tell more about this, recently Dwight and I were able to sit down in Frankfort with Sal Santoro, as he serves as the chair or sub chair of the*

*Transportation Funding Committee. We were able to share with him many of the needs we have in Hardin County, common with many other counties, but are increased and exacerbated by the conditions we have in Hardin County funding. We are limited. Many of you may not understand we do not have the resources other counties have because of particular circumstances grandfathered regarding taxation. Hardin County has a very limited vehicle practice for raising revenue and because of that, we find ourselves being very careful to pinch every penny. If you are not aware of it in driving on our county roads lately, you will notice our county roads are in very inadequate condition. That is all I will say--inadequate. As I understand it, the funding we will currently receive, sets us on a repaving rotation of more than 40 years to repave our roads. Roads are going to wear out before then. Something in the intervening time has to come. Fortunately in Frankfort our legislators who control the first strengths of our state and where we receive our funding, have heard quite well from Dwight Morgan and me regarding our funding need and restrictions.*

*People in the community, you have influence on legislators; you must contact them to let them know there is a dire need to look at a budget that provides for our infrastructure. If we take care of our teacher's retirement, of our public employees' retirement, and all those issues and other budget issues we currently have, and yet do not have an infrastructure allowing us to get where we need to be, it is to no benefit. We cannot take care of counties. We cannot take care of cities. We cannot take care of anyone who is in the remote areas. Think of the ambulance services and the lack of adequate roads. We are heading in that direction. There is really nothing short of a drastic increase in the resources we currently ask from our citizens that will reasonably address this need. That is not an option as far as I am concerned. We want to keep the resources we tap out of your pockets as low as possible. That is our commitment, but we have a need. Dwight you may want to share more.*

Squire Morgan:

*Yes, thank you E.G. I spent some time with Road Supervisor Ronnie Goodman driving over several miles of county roads. I was very surprised with one road in Howevalley. The county paved this road within the last seven years, since I have been on Fiscal Court. It is in dire need of repaving again. With that said, we have an opportunity this Thursday, our Legislative Day in Frankfort, for all county commissioners and magistrates to speak with our legislators.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Cantwell, I just want to address you today. Thank you for what you shared with us today. My prayers will be with you tonight. I cannot imagine what you are going through. I can assure you I will study this issue and let my legislators know how I feel when I go on Thursday.*

*To the rest our court members I hope each one of you have a good discussion if we are not together, many times we are. We do this every year. I have never missed one since I have been on Fiscal Court. It gives us an opportunity to lobby for different issues. Mine has always pretty much been the same thing--our roads, our infrastructure, and our bridges. Just recently E.G. Thompson and I spoke before a committee, formed by the governor and House Speaker Hoover in September.*

*We have many good representatives; some are very close to us. Many of us have good relationships with so many of our legislators. We can talk to them as well about other issues. I want you to know you do have another resource right behind you, Isaac Myers, one of the finest young men you could ever meet. He is a field representative for the governor. Isaac has been a great help to us in securing discretionary funding. I will say Judge, I do not aim to take this away from you, but we just received another two hundred forty-one thousand dollars of discretionary funding just in the last few days. Back several months ago we received about three hundred forty thousand dollars. That is in addition to what we are already getting or receiving from the motor fuel tax. Hardin County Road Department is dependent solely on that tax. No general funds go into the Road Department. It is very important for you to know. I know some magistrates do not have the number of roads in their district as others have, but I want you to remember this, we do have ambulances, we do have police cruisers, and many county vehicles traveling over those roads. The average cost of repair on autos today is three hundred and thirty dollars due to bad roads.*

*We have to remember the bridges. Thirty-one percent of our bridges in Kentucky are deficient. E.G. Thompson and I received a call from Executive Director J.C. Young of the Magistrates and Commissioners Association. He called me on a Wednesday and asked me to appear before the chairperson on Thursday, the next day. Well I was not prepared. We were contacted prior to this meeting but were unable to meet at that time. I received some information from the Judge to share at the meeting. I asked E.G. Thompson to go with me to this set-down between cities and counties. I am going to let you know this, there is a major battle for your county dollars and the cities are trying to get more of it. It is important to understand counties have 40,000 miles of roads in the state; cities have 10,000. Therefore, there is a much bigger need. The point I would like to make is, if we get increased revenue, all of us win. We all get more money regardless of how that formula is, but I guess my plea with you today is for you to ask your legislators not to change that formula. Ask them to increase that formula and listen to the committee that is going to bring their suggestions on how to fund this.*

*Debbie, we have registration fees. The formula has not changed, as I understand, since J.F Kennedy days. Those dollars are not coming in where*

*they could be coming in. We all use the roads. I hear about this in my district all the time and people ask me about blacktop, but we only have so many dollars to go around. Ending my conversation with Representative Sal Santoro, I believe he is on track. They have many different issues. Electric vehicles as you well know do not use gasoline so they do not have a motor fuel tax. Autonomous vehicles is another issue that they are dealing with; those are self-driving vehicles.*

*I guess my cry out to you today is this looks like the best opportunity that I have seen in seven years on Fiscal Court. Pick up the telephone. Please call your legislators and talk to them about our motor fuel user fee, how important it is to counties as well as cities, and how they are going to benefit. They are going to benefit because they are going to have people that are driving from the counties into the cities to work. They pay occupational taxes, and those taxes go to fund many of their activities in city government.*

*Judge, I could go on but I hope that if some of you would like to have some information, E.G. Thompson and I did go to a conference, so we are part of the Kentuckians for Better Transportation as a Fiscal Court. All the Fiscal Courts across the Commonwealth of Kentucky belong. There is many notable entities in this association like UPS and Kentucky Farm Bureau. I was unaware of Kentucky Farm Bureau's membership until the last few months. We were trying to bring this organization into the association early.*

*Our County Engineer, Vicki Meredith has worked up a nice PowerPoint presentation, which I presented to the committee. Vicki has done a lot of work. To our Road Supervisor Ronnie Goodman, thank you for the work you have done. Judge Berry, I appreciate your work as well encouraging our legislators by writing several articles. I have stolen some of your lines at times. Thank you, Judge.*

Judge Berry:

*We certainly appreciate your persistence and your effectiveness. You have done quite a phenomenal job in keeping this in the forefront and, frankly, producing good results for us. We always want more, though it is not enough, and as you said, the formulas have to be protected to support counties. They just need to have more money put behind them. We appreciate the good work you are doing in keeping us in the forefront.*

Squire King:

*Judge, I want to pony off what E.G. Thompson said. Both he and I were very fortunate to be principals at schools in Hardin County under Ms. Lois Gray. Some days were better than others were. We had a principal's meeting once a month. The first time that I ever heard "The Dash" was at this meeting. It was so powerful. She was a wonderful leader. I was younger, much younger at the time. She would assign a book for us to read. I hated those*

*assignments because the books were not the kind of books I wanted to read, but I did. Oddly enough, I gained from the assignments. We were neighbors, Lois and I. It was good to see her and David walking up and down the street. I am so sorry David, Tom and Paul are going through this, but there is absolutely no doubt in my mind where Lois Gray is today. She had an impact on me. She had an impact on E. G. Thompson and thousands and thousands and thousands of kids throughout Hardin County and throughout the United States. She had an impact when she taught at Fort Knox. We first became friends when she was principal at Van Voorhis Elementary School at Fort Knox. She was then hired as the Superintendent of Hardin County Schools. We are very, very fortunate as a school system, not only Hardin County Schools, but also schools throughout the state. We are very fortunate to have crossed paths with Lois Gray. I wish her family the very best. They certainly have my prayers.*

*Judge, magistrates, and community we have a Resources and Community Support Committee meeting on February 20 at 3:00 p.m.*

Judge Berry announced the next Fiscal Court meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.

Clem moved and Wiseman seconded to adjourn.

Court was adjourned without objection, Judge/Executive Harry L. Berry presiding.

  
HARDIN COUNTY/JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

ATTEST:

  
CLERK, HARDIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT