

KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Kenton Chambers
1840 Simon Kenton Way
Covington

MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2021

5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Judge Knochelmann called to order the June 8, 2021, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Judge Knochelmann led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann
 Commissioner Beth Sewell, District 1
 Commissioner Jon Draud, District 2
 Commissioner Joe Nienaber, District 3
 County Attorney Stacy Tapke

Staff: Joe Shriver, County Administrator
 Roy Cox, County Treasurer
 Sue Kaiser, Fiscal Court Clerk

Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of May 25, 2021.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Citizens Address

No citizens came before the Fiscal Court.

General Business

A. Presentation of the 2020 Pioneer Award to Burr Travis.

Judge Knochelmann read the Proclamation for Mr. Travis, and presented him with the 2020 Pioneer Award.

Rob Sanders the Commonwealth Attorney stated that he can't understate how big of a deal it was when Burr Travis decided to give up his law practice and come to work in his office. He recognized that the way he did things was not the way that all defense attorneys did things. He always put his clients first. He cared about all of his clients, and always came to him with a plan for the person that was in a very bad situation. He always worked to help his clients get treatment to help get their life back together. What was really nice about 2015 is that Mr. Travis realized that if came and sat on the other side of the courtroom, he could make sure that every defense attorney approached their client in the same way. He would force them to put their clients first. Mr. Travis established this HEART program, and this program did that. The program won not

only local, but also statewide and national praise and awards. Where you see the biggest difference is not just in the jails budget and tax dollars that are saved, but in the lives that he has changed. There are so many people that have come through the criminal justice system, and have never come back because of the program that Mr. Travis envisioned. There is still a lot of work to do, and they are working on carrying on his legacy. There are people who relapse and reoffend, but the success rate in Kenton County is higher than any other County in the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky. It is all because Mr. Travis gave up what is probably one of the most successful legal careers in Northern Kentucky history to come work for free in a Prosecutor's office. He devoted himself, and gave them his time and talents for free and has changed the way that we treat addiction.

Burr Travis stated that he is honored and humbled to receive this award. There are many people that played a part in the success they had in Kenton County. The Fiscal Court and their choice to give Transitions seed money of \$1,000,000 to invest in a 186 bed facility, and the vision that Rob Sanders had in putting this program together have made it successful. He told Mr. Sanders that he would come for a year to help put this together, and ended up being there for over four years. The Judges in Kenton County deserve a big thanks, because they believed in the program. Dr. Owen Nichols from NorthKey was very important, because they did thousands of evaluations at no charge which saved everyone money. He thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Commissioner Draud stated that he got to know Burr Travis at Five Seasons, where they exercise throughout the week. They have become friends, and he has found Mr. Travis to be a kind and generous person.

B. Presentation of a Service Award to Gretchen Landrum.

Judge Knochelmann stated that tonight he is presenting a special Service Award to the Executive Director of the Convention Center. Ms. Landrum gave of herself tirelessly in many ways. In the middle of the winter, we needed somewhere for the homes. We asked for help, and she said that of course she would help. She coordinated with the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky and others to open a temporary shelter for the homeless, which helped save many lives. As the pandemic continued, Ms. Landrum helped organize testing and vaccinations at the Convention Center. It not only saved hundreds of lives, but impacted thousands. All because of her generosity and the Convention Center Board and leadership. This is just a small way we can say thank you.

Steve Hensley stated that it is important to point out that without hesitation Ms. Landrum was always willing to help. Throughout the course of the 90 days that we were at the Convention Center, there were about 40,000 vaccines delivered, and she helped the Kroger group to deal with thousands of people. Throughout that process, it wasn't unusual to see Ms. Landrum and her staff pushing people in wheelchairs through the process. He thanked the whole team for all of their hard work and help.

C. Presentation of an Achievement Award to Scotty Draud.

Judge Knochelmann presented Scotty Draud with an Achievement Award for his record breaking basketball statistics. He stated that Mr. Draud is not only successful in sports and academics, but he is a great all around young man.

Commissioner Draud introduced his family.

D. Acknowledging the retirement of Dr. David Suetholz as the Kenton County Coroner, and honoring his service to Kenton County.

Judge Knochelmann stated that Dr. David Suetholz has been working for Kenton County for 30 years, and doing a great job. He served 12 years for Dr. Richter before becoming the Coroner. We have to accept his retirement tonight, and he has appointed his replacement. He thanked Dr. Suetholz for all of his hard work.

Dr. Suetholtz stated that 30 years is a long time, and he thanked the Fiscal Court for all of their support. It has been a good ride, but everyone knows when it is time to end. He acknowledged all his deputies throughout the years, and his secretary Marilyn Ford who passed away and Christine Edwards his current secretary. When making his decision to retire, he decided to go with the best replacement, which is Amber Constantino. She is very dedicated, and he feels that she is the best choice.

**E. Executive Order 21-50 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court appointing Amber Constantino as the Kenton County Coroner.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

F. Swearing in of Amber Constantino as the Kenton County Coroner.

Judge Knochelmann administered the Oath of Office for Ms. Constantino.

G. Swearing in of Chris Haddle as the Assistant Police Chief for Kenton County.

Judge Knochelmann administered the Oath of Office for Chris Haddle.

Chief Spike Jones thanked the Fiscal Court for this promotion. They did an extensive in-house search, and Chris Haddle's leadership stood out.

Assistant Chief Haddle stated that his whole 25 ½ year career has been with Kenton County, and it has been a great opportunity.

Judge Knochelmann stated that the Fiscal Court will continue supporting the Police Department, and he is very appreciative of all that they do.

H. Request approval to seek bids for the County owned property consisting of 2.72 acres (PIDN 048-00-00-010.03) along KY17, across from the Kenton County Police Department.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that this property is located across the street from the Police Department. It has been used for evidence and a gym, but there has been some interest from people to buy the property.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

I. Claims List dated June 4, 2021.

There were no questions on the Claims List.

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance No. 225.96 - Second Reading (Action Requested)
An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the approval and adoption of the Kenton County Fiscal Court budget for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022.**

There were no questions on the budget.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a roll call vote with the results being Commissioner Draud, yes, Commissioner Sewell, yes, Judge Knochelmann, yes, and Commissioner Nienaber, yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

- B. Ordinance 225.97 - Second Reading (Action Requested)
An Ordinance (225.97) of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget and amendment thereof.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that this is to amend the budget for the funds that we have received for the Rescue Act funds. It is \$16,218,702.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Resolutions

- A. Resolution No. 21-01J
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year Budget Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$31,000 for unused sick time in the Police Department, \$540,000 refund for the election grant portion that was not used, \$10,000 for bank charges, and \$1,350 for Public Works Utilities.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- B. Resolution No. 21-15
A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court approving and adopting the compensation rates and pay scales for the Kenton County employees, and authorizing the County Treasurer to pay the rates on scheduled pay days.**

There were no questions on the Resolution.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- C. Resolution No. 21-16
A Resolution of the Kenton County Fiscal Court authorizing Judge/Executive Kris A. Knochelmann to sign and enter into a renewed interlocal agreement with counties of the Northern Kentucky Workforce Development Area to continue a**

long-standing collaboration for Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Funds.

Judge Knochelmann stated that these are Federal funds that come in for employment.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Consent Agenda

- A. Exhibit No. 21-77**
Request approval of a contract modification with Strand Associates for the Maher Road Project for the Public Works Department .
- B. Exhibit No. 21-78**
Request approval to renew the Property, Casualty, Liability and Worker 's Compensation insurance for the Kenton County Fiscal Court.
- C. Exhibit No. 21-79**
Request approval of the service agreement for a TV System between Cincinnati Bell and the Kenton County Detention Center.
- D. Exhibit No. 21-80**
Request approval to award the salt bid to Compass Minerals America, Inc. for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- E. Exhibit No. 21-81**
Request approval to award the police pursuit vehicle upfit bid to 911 Fleet and Fire Equipment for the Kenton County Fleet Department.
- F. Exhibit No. 21-82**
Request approval to extend the pavement striping contract with Oglesby Construction, Inc., for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- G. Exhibit No. 21-83**
Request approval of an agreement between Campbell County Fiscal Court, Kenton County Fiscal Court, Boone County Fiscal Court and Boone County Water Rescue for water rescue/recovery services.
- H. Exhibit No. 21-84**
Request approval of an agreement for maintenance of HVAC equipment between Trane and the Kenton County Detention Center.
- I. Exhibit No. 21-85**
Request approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Kenton County Fiscal Court and the Kenton County School District for four police officers to serve as School Resource Officers.
- J. Exhibit No. 21-86**
Request approval of CARES Act support for Piner/Fiskburg and Elsmere Fire Districts.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Executive Orders

- A. Executive Order 21-51**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Eric Jeffries as the Deputy Coroner.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- B. Executive Order 21-52**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of JerAnn Barnett to the Elsmere Fire District Board.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber.. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- C. Executive Order 21-53**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Brian Fry to the Northern Kentucky Convention and Visitors Commission..

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber.. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- D. Executive Order 21-54**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Emily Wolff to the Northern Kentucky Convention and Visitors Commission.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- E. Executive Order 21-55**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Travis Bryson as a Recruit for the Kenton County Police Department.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- F. Executive Order 21-56**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Timothy Mains as a Recruit for the Kenton County Police Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- G. Executive Order 21-57**
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the appointment of Kelly Wiersma as a Tax Compliance Officer for the Kenton County Business Services Department.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

H. Executive Order 21-58 (Action Requested)
An Executive Order relating to the Fiscal Court approving the re-appointment of Scott Guenther to the Transit Authority of NKY (TANK) Board.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Administrative Reporting

Animal Services

Beckey Reiter stated that they are mainly keeping up with the demands with the warmer weather. They reviewed their safety program over the last few weeks, and they have made a few changes. One is that they are adding additional light bars and reflective vests for the officers in the field. Also, they are adding fatigue mats, ear plugs and such.

Judge Knochelmann asked if the volunteers are coming back after COVID?

Ms. Reiter answered that they are coming back. They are seeing an increase of activity across the board.

Technology Services

Jessica Ramsey stated that their main focus has been the upgrade of the timekeeping system for Fiscal Court employees. We are upgrading to a new version of Kronos called UKG. The other item they are working on is assisting Dispatch with the roll out of the new MDTs and the upgrade of CAD system.

Public Works

Nick Hendrix stated that he had spoken about the Fill a Public Works Truck event. This event was a great success. They had a truck at Crescent Springs Remkes and the Independence Kroger. Staff took a Saturday to be with the trucks to collect those items. There were 32 boxes collected, so a hug thank you to the community. They were split between the Barracks Project and the Women's Crisis Center. He thanked all of the volunteers, and the manager at Kroger Cindy and Mark at Remke in Crescent Springs. Our volunteers were Terry Wiehoff, Tricia Oldiges, her daughter Emma Scribner, her friend Kendra Clem, Shaun Lauderman, Ron Wilson and Micheal Widell from PDS. A special thank you goes to Rick Buster for organizing the first of its kind of event in Kenton County and Northern Kentucky.

Commissioner Draud stated that he attended the picnic that was at Public Works recently, and it was very well organized.

External Affairs

John Stanton stated that the mentoring program that we are partnering with St. Elizabeth and Thomas More on has gotten three other people to come onboard to assist. He wanted to give a shout out to Jamie True who is the Health and Sciences teacher at Covington Holmes High School and Kristin Smitherman Voltare who handles community relations return of construction. Also, Gravity Diagnostics has stepped forward in a big way. Tonight there were two people appointed to the MeetNKY board, and a number of years ago MeetNKY had significant issues. We were able to get the General Assembly to change the law in regards to how board

appointments are made. This is the last of the three cycles, so we have now been able to put all new people on the board.

Mr. Stanton then stated that we are assisting with Transitions strategic planning process. The Court will be pleased with the process is completed. Also, we are required on a periodic basis to recertify our Kenton County Work Ready Certification and there is a lot of paperwork involved. He thanked Katie Jo Kirkpatrick and Tara Noem at the NKADD who completed this, and assisted us in filing everything. Lastly, today's recognition of Burr Travis ends the in person recognition of the 2020 Pioneer Award recipients. Before the year is out, we will start the 2021 process of the Pioneer Award.

Treasury

Treasurer Roy Cox asked that the records reflect that the May, 2021, Financial Reports have been submitted.

Judge Knochelmann thanked Roy Cox for all of his hard work.

Roy Cox thanked the Department Heads for their hard work, and the Fiscal Court for passing the budget.

Commissioner Draud stated that he appreciates Roy Cox for all of his hard work.

County Attorney 's Report

County Attorney Stacy Tapke stated that

Commissioners ' Reports

Commissioner Jon Draud

Commissioner Draud asked that a large plaque be displayed to honor all the Pioneer Award winners. Also, he went to the Kenton County Fishing Derby at Mills Park, and it was very beautiful. He had a great time, and stated that there are a lot of good volunteers in that organization.

Commissioner Beth Sewell

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

Commissioner Joe Nienaber

Commissioner Nienaber stated that COVID messed up a lot of things. He serves as the Chairman for the PDS Board, and wanted to present a plaque to Commissioner Sewell for her years of service to PDS on the board. She has so much class, and devoted a lot of time to the board. He recognized her for her years of service.

Commissioner Sewell stated that the organization has been run so well, and it was her pleasure. She appreciates the direction that the board has taken.

Commissioner Nienaber then stated that he appreciates everyone that was recognized at the meeting tonight.

Judge/Executive 's Report

A. Request approval to amend the Kenton County Fiscal Court meeting schedule, moving the August 10, 2021, and August 24, 2021 meetings to August 17, 2021, and August 31, 2021.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Judge Knochelmann stated that the Department Heads have really stepped up when needed. He feels that everyone backs each other up, and have the mindset of fixing things and pushing through challenges. Joe Shriver's leadership has brought everyone together. He appreciates all of them.

Adjournment

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Executive Knochelmann requested a voice vote whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative with a 4-0 vote.

Text for all proposed and recently passed ordinances may be acquired by accessing the Fiscal Court web page at <http://www.kentoncounty.org> or by contacting the administrative offices at 859.392.1400.

CLERK CERTIFICATION

I, Sue J. Kaiser, having been appointed to the office of Fiscal Court Clerk, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate record of the actions taken by the Kenton County Fiscal Court at the meeting of June 8, 2021.



Sue J. Kaiser
Fiscal Court Clerk