A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held on May 14, 2025, for the purpose of transacting any business properly presented by the established agenda.

Presiding: Tina K. Teegarden,
Judge Executive

Present: Heather Brumley, David Kelsch, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Danny Holleran, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller, Kevin Jarrells

Let the record reflect that the Court Members received a copy of any Transfers and Vendor Claims.

Upon Motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by John Scott, that the court approve the minutes of the regular meeting on April 23, 2025.
Vote being unanimous.

BTADD- Cassie Hunt
Cassie introduced herself to the court. She is with the Kentucky Career Center in Maysville. She covers 5 counties. She's in workforce and extended the invitation to the magistrates that if they have any workforce needs, feel free to reach out to her. They do apprenticeships etc.

Road Department Update
Road Supervisor Stacey stated they have been coal patching, bushhogging, cleaning culverts and ditch lines. They had the whole county done but then last week we got another 2 ½ inches of rain so they have been back in the Willow Neave area. They've fixed a few gravel roads and Tom Ennix has repaired a low water bridge on old Willow Creek. They are also working on a couple slips on that road today.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update
They have run into some issues. They have had leach lines replaced and repaired but it is not handling the amount of water flowing through the current system. They were going to have to make a change and with the expansion they got with the Health Dept., Stony had been working with them for a few months tracking water usage for cleaning. He met with Judge Teegarden and Derrick Davidson and explained what is going to need to be done. Derrick has come up with an estimate to give this morning. Magistrate Miller explained the estimate to the court. Himself, Magistrate Scott, Magistrate Mayfield and Judge Teegarden met with Derrick to go through things with them. The leach lines are failing. They are having immediate failure. The amount of water being used on this current system is not working. The Health Dept. suggests creating a new chamber system. So, there would be a new septic system to work along with the current system which would expand the total usage to be well above what would be needed for the future. It would be a chamber system. It would include coming to move out all the fencing that is currently there for the outside runs. Doing the new chamber system, which is 175 ft long 12 ft wide, keeping it in place so it won't bother the road departments hoop barn that is coming. The materials are $11,100.000. Labor and equipment are $4,900 so the total price would be $16,000. Derrick stated he would be able to get to it quickly. Judge Teegarden stated that the water district also assisted her in tracking water usage and the water that flows through that system just cannot be helped because the shelter is always over capacity and once it is expanded it's going to be even more. They have tried to work with the health department and Derrick has come up with a system that he believes would work for the shelter to be able to use up to 20, 000 gallons of water. Magistrate Jarrells asked if he was just adding another septic system in. Magistrate Miller stated it would be a chamber system and D box to go along with the current to where they are both working on separate systems, but it would be able to handle everything coming from the building with the expansion included. Magistrate Jarrells asked who did the repairs last year? Magistrate Miller stated Derrick did the repairs on the leach lines that were down on the neighboring property, Judge Teegarden stated it did work, the water capacity just went up. Magistrate Kelsch asked if this should be put out for bid so that others get a fair chance to bid on it? Judge Teegarden stated she is fine with Derrick doing these repairs. He has worked with Stony all throughout this. He did perk tests at no charge and things like that, but it would be the pleasure of the court on how they want to do it. Magistrate Kelsch suggested getting bids even if they would have to come back for a special meeting about this. Judge Teegarden stated she would need the health department to draw up some specs so it would take some time. Magistrate Miller stated he agrees, under normal circumstances, this would go out to a bid. But an

emergency such as this, where they bring someone in that has already worked on the system, that is working with the health dept inspector, he doesn't have a problem in approving this today, but he agrees in normal situations this would go out for bid. Judge Teegarden stated it would be different if there wasn't water and sewage running across the road. Magistrate Kelsch asked if they have gotten a lot of complaints. Judge Teegarden stated no because it hasn't run onto anyone's property yet, but it will. Craig Miller made a motion to move forward with this bid. Debbie Mayfield second.
Yes Voter: Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller.
No Votes: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Kevin Jarrells
Motion passed

Judge Teegarden stated that the Director of the animal shelter Robin Snap has submitted her resignation so they will be advertising for a regular ACO position next week and Heather Honan will be moving into the Director position

Recycle Trailers
The county has 7 recycler trailers to get rid of. The emails were sent out and Lisa Evans said there has been no responses back from other counties wanting these. There have been counties that have given them away, surplused them, auctioned them off, took sealed bids. She said she just didn't get any interest on ours from other counties. Judge Teegarden stated the court can vote to do sealed bids, surplus or auction. Magistrate Jarrells stated you would get more people to see them if you did an online auction. He stated he would take care of getting that put up for an online auction. Magistrate Mayfield asked if there was a fee for that. Magistrate Jarrells stated there is a small fee usually, like 3%.
Kevin Jarrells made a motion to surplus 7 recycling trailers, second by David Kelsch.
Vote being unanimous

Reappointment to Industrial Authority Board
This has an expiring term in May. This would be a reappointment for Earl Bush to the Augusta, Brooksville Bracken County Industrial Authority. This will be retroactive back to May 1st.
Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Sandy Ruf
Yes votes: Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller, David Kelsch, Danny Holleran
No Votes: Kevin Jarrells

Rural Secondary Road Program
Jeremy Reynolds and Mike Platt from Dist. 6 addressed the court. They stated they would be taking the funds and doing 875, Ky 10 to Dutch Ridge Rd. 3.066 miles. The second road will be Dutch Ridge Rd from Ky 435 with a length of 1.25 miles. The choice is up to the court on the flex funding. If they do use it, it will be used on 1109. It's currently the worst section of roadway at 1.43 miles. Then Dutch Ridge in the future. If not, then these ones will be the ones looked at next year. Magistrate Kelsch asked if they chose to give the flex funds back to Dist. 6, would Dutch Ridge be blacktopped all at one time? They stated no, it would have to be in this order. So, they would have to come back and schedule for the flex fund project which would be next year, not this year. Judge Teegarden stated there would need to be a motion on the floor to approve the Rural Secondary Road program, it would need to state whether the flex funds are being kept or released to the state. David Kelsch made motion to approve the rural secondary program for next year and let the state keep those flex funds to perform the jobs at the bottom of the page. Heather Brumley second it.
Vote being unanimous

Data Centers
Max Moran addressed the court on the topic of data centers. The topic of data centers is coming up in other counties in the state, he wanted to make the court aware of the discussions that are going on and help gain some knowledge on them. A data center is basically a big warehouse full of computers. Data centers today are more focused on AI. There are good and bad aspects to them but the 2 main things to look at are the utility cost and the general effect on the community. There is a data center going in Oldham County for AI. The proposed site is 267 acres, but they will only be using about 67-100 acres for the facility itself. Eventually the rest will be turned over to additional data centers. There will be a total of 8 buildings, all 75 ft tall and 200,000square feet on the ground. The main thing that this site will need is 600 mw of electricity to run it. Putting this into comparison, EKP generates, at any given moment, 1,300 megawatts so that is almost half the energy coming out of the powerplant. That's a lot of energy going to one spot. The water consumption estimates it uses somewhere between 400,000-500,000 gallons of water a day, that's for the cooling purposes. Data centers have a crac unit for cooling purposes. This is basically, a big, glorified ac unit. Typically, the server racks are 2-4 ft off the ground and

the cool air circulates through and the water on the outside cools the internal stuff that is going back out into the atmosphere. He stated he wants to direct the court to research this since it is coming to the state whether we like them or not. Magistrate Brumley stated from what she's read, there is a sound that is generated from these data centers that can be an issue as well. Another issue is water pressure to surrounding homes, she read that they are losing water pressure due to these data centers. He stated there has not been very many research studies on this since they are new but what he's read is they associate the noise with the cooling blades of the industrial fans of the ac unit. They say it's the low frequencies off the blades themselves. They associate it with a higher risk of stress, anxiety or heart disease just based on the noise coming off these blades. It's like a constant leaf blower type noise. The further you move from it the noise itself disappears but the frequency from the blades still affects you. Magistrate Jarrells recalled speaking to Max about how far from your property line these had to be. Max stated that right now these data centers must be 500 ft off the property line. Magistrate Kelsch asked if it produces radiation. Max stated not by itself, the main thing he's seen is with the wastewater. On some server racks there is a water cooler, the water from it could contain toxins. However, there has not been enough studies to state what those toxins might be. Magistrate Jarrells asked if they would be using river water. Max stated he has heard 2 different stories and is not sure which is true. With the river water they will have to filter through all the contaminates in that before it is used. It would be more expensive but out west they use ground water. In some cases, though that can affect peoples water pressure surrounding these data centers. Magistrate Kelsch asked where the nearest one in the state was right now, Max stated in Oldham County. Max stated this could also affect the property value on the properties surrounding. Magistrate Jarrells asked how many jobs this would be bringing to the county. Max stated about 1,000 jobs during the construction period but once it was built and running normal it would employee only about 5-10 fulltime people.

County Budget 1st Reading

Judge Teegarden commended the staff that is working on the budget this year with software updates etc. The only thing updated in the new copy received this morning is there were 2 bank accounts that disappeared due to the new system update, so she put those accounts back in. There was also an increase on the magistrates training incentive account, and it pulled the old numbers during the software update so that was corrected. Judge Teegarden stated if approved today, even with these changes, it will be the 1st reading. It will have to be signed off on for a 1st reading and signed off by DLG, once they approve that and send it back then they can advertise for the 2nd reading. It is a timely process, and she wanted the court to be aware of the process. Magistrate Ruf stated she does like the fact that there is a little bit of budget in for constable. Judge Teegarden stated she did want to ask the court to clarify as to what they want to cover on the constable. Will this include tires, oil changes, repairs? This would only be on Kenny Carl's vehicle since he does have a county vehicle. Judge Teegarden stated it was approved to pay for the repairs when he broke down while assisting the sheriff's department at a scene. Is the maintenance account just going to be for when something happens while assisting? Magistrate Jarrells stated Kenny only uses that vehicle while he's working, correct? Judge Teegarden stated yes, he also uses it when he works for contractors for traffic control, he does get paid by the contractor when doing those jobs though. Magistrate Ruf suggested the court covering repairs and tires but oil changes he could do himself. Magistrate Ruf stated Kenny was appreciative of the court putting this account in for him. Magistrate Miller stated if the court starts looking at all repairs, maintenance and upkeep it will be a lot more than $1,500. Judge Teegarden asked, does the court want to bump the amount up or bring it before the court first if it's more? Magistrate Jarrells asked Sheriff Boody how much Kenny drives for the sheriff's office. Sheriff Boody stated he and his deputies probably average about 25,000-30,000 miles a year on their patrol cars so he can't imagine Kenny's is anywhere near that. So, a set of tires would probably last him at least 3 years. Magistrate Jarrells suggested covering tires every 3 years as it is being used for the county purposes and he does a lot. Judge Teegarden stated oil changes, or no? Magistrate Ruf suggested doing a $2,000 budget and if it goes over that he could bring that before the court. Judge Teegarden stated Lois will increase that account from $1,500 to $2,000. Magistrate Kelsch asked about the Judge Executive vehicle account. It was not used last year, is she planning on using that or should that be removed from the budget? Judge Teegarden stated it's there if there is ever a point in time where this is needed, she does not have time to go out and look for a vehicle right now. She is only interested in one if there were staff that would use it for training but just to buy a personal vehicle for her is not what it was recommended for. Magistrate Jarrells stated it is cheaper to pay mileage when they go to meetings. Judge Teegarden stated it was recommended for if they hired an economic development director, having him or her able to take people to look at business sites. Magistrate Miller asked if the Judicial center custodian had gone up. Judge Teegarden stated everyone gets the cost-of-living increase. He stated this is $12,000 increase from last year, Judge Teegarden stated that is because it went from part time to full time. Magistrate Miller asked about the Justice center insurance claims, Judge Teegarden stated that was because the sewer backed up and there was a $15,000 insurance claim last year, there

had to be an account to pay that out of so that the insurance could reimburse the county. Magistrate Miller asked if they are expecting dispatch siren repair this year, it's up $80,000. Judge Teegarden stated she applied for all the old sirens to be replaced with a newer model with a grant through FEMA and it is laying on their desk. They don't have the money right now, but she does not have to reapply as once the funds are replenished, it would automatically get reviewed. Judge Teegarden explained it took her 5 years to get the last one. This one is $104,000 for all replacements and the county would be paying 3% of that as a match. Magistrate Miller stated on the road fund, the salaries did not increase and with the cost of living like they should have. Judge Teegarden stated that it is because they always tally overtime and stuff in there so with the math that was done this year, they would still not have to increase to cover that. Magistrate Miller pointed out to everyone that the salt budget went from $50,000 to $125,000. Judge Teegarden stated there is some in the general fund to cover that as well. Judge Teegarden stated when they go to pure salt it will change the financials. Magistrate Miller asked, the fulltime dispatcher under dispatch 911, is that for more staff? It's up $17,000 from last year. Judge Teegarden it is probably budgeted at completely full staff. Last year the budget for the whole dispatch was $997,000 and they've only spent $479,000 so that shows they are at 48% of what was budgeted for dispatch last year but that includes grants as well. Magistrate Miller stated a lot of the budget increase is from where they transferred in the clerk and sheriff salaries on the general fund side.
Motion to approve the 1st reading of the budget with the increase of the constable account from $1,500 to 2,000, was made by Craig Miller, second by Sandy Ruf.
Vote being unanimous

ARPA Funds animal shelter
Judge Teegarden went back to the sewer at the animal shelter, her intention was to pay this out of the ARPA funds. This will include a transfer approval for Lois to move the funds to where they need to be.
Magistrate Ruf made a motion to approve, Heather Brumley second it.
Vote being unanimous

General Fund Interfund Cash Transfers
Judge Teegarden stated there was one more sheet added this morning, it was laying at each magistrate's seat. Magistrate Kelsch asked, on the sheet that was added this morning, is this money ARPA money that is going back into the general fund? Lois stated no, this is money going from general fund to the dispatch fund. This is for the electric project as it was agreed to be paid out of the ARPA funding that is sitting in the general fund. Magistrate Kelsch asked how much money is sitting in the ARPA fund right now? Judge Teegarden stated there was $200,000 and this invoice will be taken off and that will be what is left.
Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

Dispatch 911 Fund Interfund Cash Transfer
Motion for approval made by John Scott, second by David Kelsch
Vote being unanimous

General Fund Budget Transfers
Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

Dispatch 911 Fund Budget Transfers
Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by Kevin Jarrells
Vote being unanimous

General Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by John Scott, second by Craig Miller
Vote being unanimous

Road Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Kevin Jarrells, second by Danny Holleran
Vote being unanimous

Jail Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by David Kelsch, second by Sandy Ruf.
Vote being unanimous

Senior Citizens Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

Dispatch Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by Kevin Jarrells
Vote being unanimous

Federal Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Sandy Ruf
Vote being unanimous

Other Business:

Resolution 25-06 CDBG
This would allow Judge Teegarden to apply for CDBG funds this year. There was the covid CDBG funds for the ambulance service. Their bid came in extremely high. She is working with DLG, the bid was $1.6 which is well over the project through the grant amount. They can apply through the county for CDBG to be able to get the project completed. The contractor has agreed to extend the bid 90 days to make this work. This would be a flow through grant for the EMS. Magistrate Miller asked what the balance would be? Judge Teegarden stated it would be around $600,000. He asked what is the $1 million that was already received. Judge Teegarden stated that was a special covid grant. It was a covid CDBG which is separate from the normal CDBG. This one was received for the senior center and the ambulance service.
Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

ARPA funds for Augusta Ferry
This is an emergency request from the Ferry authority. Magistrate Miller handed a letter out from the Ferry authority. Magistrate Miller explained a little bit about the Augusta Ferry authority. He stated he himself has no association with this board. It is a special purpose government entity. It used to be a nonprofit, but it had to be changed years ago to be able to acquire or transfer through federal funds. The Augusta ferry authority only receives funding through the Ky transportation cabinet. There is no funding received from Ohio department of transportation. Every 5 years the ferry goes through a U.S. Coast guard dry dock inspection. It is usually a 2–3-week shutdown. The barge and boat are usually driven to a dry dock facility in Ashland, Cincinnati or Covington. During this year's inspection the coast guard stated the entire barge part of the ferry needs to be replaced. Magistrate Miller handed out a letter that the Ferry authority president, Skip Miller, sent to Secretary Gray with the Dept of Ky transportation. Magistrate Miller stated the Ferry only gets its funding from its daily operations. While they're not in operation they are not receiving any funding from the department of transportation besides a small emergency allocation. The Ferry authority has not heard anything back yet from the department of transportation. In 2015 the Bracken County Fiscal court approved $10,000 worth of funding and the city of Augusta gave $5,000 at the time. This time they are going to ask the city of Augusta for $5,000 to $10,000 of funding and they would like to ask Bracken County Fiscal court anywhere from $10,000 to $20,000. Magistrate Kelsch asked if this could be taken out of ARPA funds. Judge Teegarden stated yes it could. Magistrate Miller stated he has looked at the budget and gone through line items trying to look at general fund, road fund, something that this could be taken from. Judge Teegarden stated she would have to get with the treasurer to see if there's any other line items this could come from. Magistrate Mayfield asked Magistrate Miller, what happens if the state comes back and says no? Magistrate Miller stated the Ferry authority does not have the funds available to complete the repairs. They would then have to apply for a low interest loan. 2000 was the last time the barge was repaired. Judge Teegarden stated that a lot of people relate the Ferry to tourism. It does benefit tourism, but it is also a means of transportation. In the last 2 weeks she has gotten calls from people asking if the ferry is up and running because they are going to have to attend funerals and things like that. Magistrate Miller stated the ferry probably averages about 125 trips every day. June/July/August/September they will push close to 300 especially on the weekends. Magistrate Kelsch asked what the amount was they were asking. Magistrate Miller stated $10,000 to $20,000 is what the ask was but anything is needed. Magistrate Miller stated it has hurt Augusta businesses just in the 3 weeks it has been shut down and it will be shutdown until the middle part of June.
Magistrate Kelsch made a motion to give $20,000 out of the ARPA account, second by Sandy Ruf
Yes votes: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf
Abstained: Craig Miller

Judge Teegarden to let the record reflect that each magistrate has received an updated copy of the administrative code. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

There is a conference for the first meeting in June, it is rescheduled for Monday June 9th at 10:00 am.

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Jarrells, second by Danny Holleran
Vote being unanimous.

S/_____ S/_____

Jennifer Free, Fiscal Court Clerk Tina K. Teegarden, Co Judge Executive