A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held Wednesday, August 13, 2025, for the purpose of transacting any business properly presented by the established agenda.

Presiding: Tina K. Teegarden,
Judge Executive

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

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

Upon Motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran, that the court approve the minutes of the July 23, 2025, meeting.

Road Department Update
Road Supervisor Stacey Florer gave an update. They have been out mowing, trying to keep up with the Johnson grass. Both bushhogs are still running and they're down around Wrangling run today. There are 3 side mowers going. They have helped Gary Riggs at the horse trails the last 2 weeks and Donnie Bowles should have the hoop barn done today. They finished the cribbing on the slip for Snag Creek.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update
Tabled until drawings received

Ordinance re: ATVs on County Roads
Judge Teegarden made sure everyone got a copy of the Ordinance. The discussion is continued from the meeting Monday night. Magistrate Miller stated there were some questions regarding SLSPV vehicles and he reached out to KACo General Council Rich Ornstein with a hypothetical question. Since neighboring counties Robertson and Fleming have approved ordinances allowing them, is a licensed, inspected and registered driver from those counties legal to operate in a county such as Bracken County if we vote no or if we do not pass an existing ordinance. He's been told yes that those persons and/or vehicles would be legal. Please advise. Rich came back and stated no they cannot, to run on your roads and highways you have to opt in via ordinance. Robertson County is the only adjoining county that has passed an ordinance. This relates to the 20 mile stretch that has been in discussion. Pendleton, Harrison and Mason have not had any public passing or hearing on this. Magistrate Kelsch asked if the plates had county names on them. Clerk Free stated no. But it will have a renewal sticker just the same as a regular vehicle. Magistrate Miller stated this morning he talked with the Augusta Chief of police and told him that the court was discussing this at court this morning and he stated that whatever the county decides on that the City of Augusta will probably follow suit. He stated he has not talked with Brooksville or Germantown. Magistrate Mayfield asked if all Ky SLSPV plates were green or if each county was designated a different color. It was confirmed they are green statewide. Magistrate Ruf reiterated that it is not supposed to be young kids out driving these, this is supposed to be licensed drivers only. Magistrate Jarrells asked about stipulations like the AA. Judge Teegarden stated according to statute they are legal on the AA. They are only illegal on interstates and parkways. Magistrate Miller stated you could restrict highways if you wanted. Magistrate Miller stated he was hoping someone he had spoken with could be there for the meeting Monday. This person is an avid side by side rider throughout Ky and visits east Ky towns and counties and he brought up bicycles that are ridden across the area. There are no bicycle regulations, and we come up on them traveling 5-15 mph. Magistrate Jarrells asked can they put a stipulation where SLSPVs have to be in the emergency lane on the AA. If a semi that is going 70 mph coming off a hill comes up on a razor, someone's going to get hurt. Magistrate Miller stated they're not talking about farming Kubota's driving on the AA, if they were he feels they are already using common sense and are on the shoulder. He doesn't think that there will be 100's of side by sides inspected, licensed, insured in Bracken County, maybe just handfuls but that is all speculation. He hates to restrict something for our citizens that would take advantage of this. He's never had a razor or side by side but is thinking of our citizens and limiting and/or allowing them to follow the state law. Judge Teegarden stated she has seen them on county roads for the last 4 or 5 years driving illegally. Magistrate Brumley stated she spoke with insurance; she spoke with several different companies, and they said that off road in an insurances eye is

truly off road. You load it up on a trailer, drive it to where you want to go, unload it and drive it off road. There is no guarantee that if you are involved in or cause an accident, there is no guarantee that they will pay if you are on a road because Ky hasn't done anything on their insurance. Right now, it is up in the air. The laws say they have to be insured but will they actually pay if something happens? Magistrate Miller asked the clerk and the sheriff if they have had anyone come into their offices inquiring? Clerk Free stated no. Sheriff Boody stated they have had a few questions, but they have advised those individuals to wait and see what the court decides. Magistrate Miller stated we can't do anything about insurance companies. He would assume they would follow what insurance companies in other states do. Magistrate Ruf stated if it is street legal and has a license plate on it, you shouldn't have a problem getting insurance. The same as motorcycle insurance. Sheriff Boody stated previously mini trucks have been an issue. Magistrate Ruf stated she believes it would be easier for law enforcement seeing those license plates, to enforce something. If it's not legal, it will be easier to prosecute. They need to be ticketed and make some examples. It will slow people down from driving them illegally if they have to pay a ticket over it. Magistrate Miller stated he has a Bracken County resident that is watching this meeting live and he text and said he has motorcycle/atv insurance so motorcycle policies can be used to include atv, side by side etc. Magistrate Brumley stated he may want to put that on Facebook because not every insurance company is going insure them. Magistrate Ruf asked what company that was with. Magistrate Miller stated it was progressive insurance. Judge Teegarden stated the statute regarding mini trucks. Mini trucks are included in the Senate Bill. The specific mention in the Fleming County Ordinance pertains to the interstates and parkways. Magistrate Miller asked if everyone had a copy of the Bracken County Ordinance that was typed up to mimic the Fleming County Ordinance. He stated they owe it to their county residents to vote yes or no on this.
Criag Miller made a motion to approve the 1st reading of the ordinance for SLSPV for Bracken County, Sandy Ruf second it. Noted in the motion is it can be amended after a second reading if need be. Magistrate Ruf asked if anything was going to be put in for the AA. Sheriff Boody stated if they are able to maintain speed and keep up with the flow of traffic it would be safer for them to be on the road than on the shoulder driving highway speed. Shoulder driving is for vehicles that can not maintain highway speed but that is a call for the court not for him. Magistrate Miller asked if the AA was safer than route 10 or route 8? Sheriff Boody stated absolutely. Magistrate Miller stated if they exclude the AA then they are just going to go drive on route 8 or 10 to get from Pendleton or Mason Counties. Sheriff Boody stated Route 8 is the most dangerous roadway in this county. Magistrate Miller stated he does not disagree at all with any of the safety issues that have been addressed any time this has been discussed.
Yes Votes: Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller, David Kelsch.
No Votes: Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells
Motion failed

County Comprehensive Plan
Tabled

Bracken County Health Dept. 2025 Tax presentation
John Dells from the Bracken County Health Department presented the 2025 tax rate. He stated they have no rate change; it will stay at .73. They are planning to expand their mental health programs not only in the schools but also adults and the senior citizen population. They did receive a small diabetes grant, so they are going to get back into diabetes education. They will have flu shots in the week of Labor Day. You can call to get an appointment. He stated Rock the Block had 375 kids register there and there were about 25-30 that preregistered so there was probably over 1,000 people who showed up for Rock the Block. Magistrate Miller asked about the Narcan boxes that are out around the county. He has asked how well are they utilized? Mr. Dells stated they have an employee that goes around once a week and checks all 6 locations. He stated 2 of them probably get utilized more than others. Magistrate Miller stated he has heard different law enforcement state that the different drugs of choice used now days, that Narcan is not effective on those. Sheriff Boody stated that is correct. Methamphetamine is more prevalent now days. Some of the overdosing they have had have been more benzodiazepines which the Narcan is apparently not effective on. Magistrate Miller stated it is something they should be thinking about having a conversation on in the future. Mr. Dells stated he would like to have a conversation with Sheriff Boody and see what they need to do moving forward. He stated the Narcan boxes and Narcan were supplied by a grant so they do have a contact with someone at UK that could be in on this discussion with them.
Motion for approval of the rate was made by David Kelsch, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

Bracken County EMS 2025 Tax presentation
Trent Weiss, the Chairman of the board and Penny Doyle the Director, presented the 2025 tax rates. They will be accepting the compensating rate of .098. For motor vehicles it is .049 and

watercraft .049. Magistrate Miller asked them to discuss the remodel/addition that finally got approved. Trent stated it should start next week. They are waiting on the court to approve the inspection fees. The plans are in June to be finished, it's been a long process, and they are excited to get started. Magistrate Holleran asked when they go to a 911 call and the person is alert and wants to go to NKY why is it that you have to go to the closest hospital? Penny stated in their SOP guide it does say that the patient can request where they want to go, it depends on the number of staff they have on duty and the number of trucks that are out. If it is something where they are totally stable, the roads are fine, and no trucks are out then they can get them where they want to go. Trent stated its basically if they have multiple calls and have a truck in NKY then they would have nothing to send out. It is always situational and up to the lead person on the truck. Most of the time right now there are only 2 trucks staffed at a time.
Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by Craig Miller
Vote being unanimous

EMS CDBG Project
There still has to be some inspections done but they have obtained 3 quotes, and the lowest quote came from LE Craig at $15,851.40. The EMS Board approved this yesterday, but they have to get Fiscal Court approval since this is a flow through grant.
Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

Judicial Center- Full Time Maintenance personnel
Tabled

Dispatch Supervisor office renovations
This is the office that the Historical Society used to be in at the dispatch building. There was some demo done on it last year. The renovations are being done so this can be made a dispatch supervisor office. Right now, the supervisor is sharing a space with the EM director and there are things that need to be on a dispatch supervisors computer that should only be accessed by her and vice versa. John Scott met with the contractors and discussed the quoting specs with both contractors. One from Precision stair and railing for $28,550.00 and one from Limestone Valley restoration for $8,925.02. Limestone Valley removed a dumpster from the quote since there is already one out there, so that will actually take it down to $8,600.02. Magistrate Kelsch asked if they were both given the same quotes. Magistrate Scott stated yes, each company was given the exact same specs. Both quotes came back for the exact same work being done. In his opinion, the $8,600.02 one is most realistic. Magistrate Miller asked for clarification, one has flooring, and one does not. John Scott stated yes, for whatever reason Precision did not have the flooring included but Limestone does. Judge Teegarden recommends going with Limestone Valley restoration estimate of $8,600.02. Contingent on them meeting the insurance requirements set by Fiscal Court.
Motion for approval made by John Scott, second by Danny Holleran
Vote being unanimous

Enter Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) F
Motion made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran
Vote being unanimous

Return to Regular Session
Motion made by Danny Holleran, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

Assistant County Attorney Salary
Judge Teegarden stated she has been in discussion with the Assistant County Attorney that has been and will continue to be, covering for our County Attorney while she has some medical things to work through. She asked for a monthly compensation not to exceed $944.29, and she also asks that 6 months of funds to be transferred to cover that and then reevaluate in 6 months.
Motion for approval made by Craig Miller, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

Resolution 80/20 Bridge/Culvert Hargett's Lane
This is for replacing the culvert at Hargett's Ln. It is for $5,870.00.
Motion for approval made by David Kelsch, second by Debbie Mayfield
Vote being unanimous

Agreement
Agreement for the 80/20 project on Hargett's Ln for $5,870.00
Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by John Scott

Vote being unanimous

County Settlement 6/30/25

This is for the county settlement ending on 6/30/2025. This is a complete county settlement that is submitted each year. Lois wanted to let the court know that the bond report financials for the public property corporations Judicial Center bonds will be presented at the next meeting so that is not included in this settlement.
Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran.
Vote being unanimous

Max Moran Data Center

Max came to give an update on the data centers and what he has learned the last couple months. The state of OH has passed a moratorium for 18 months to have a pause in place to get regulation on the books for these. They're coming into the state now, but they have adequate regulation in place that their people agree with. They are starting to come into the state, and everyone is alright with them. The only issue they are still having is their electric bills. Some residents bills have doubled. He stated he went to the public service commission on the 4th of August and gave a public comment. They are still considering the possibility of having 2 power plants built in the city of Louisville for the possibility of these data centers coming there. The problem is down there it's just a maybe. They are wanting to go ahead and spend billions of dollars to build 2 new power plants on a possible maybe. If the data center doesn't end up coming, then who foots the bill for those power plants being built? The state of KY still does not have regulation, they are 1 of 13 without it. He stated the regulations that KY should be looking at are electric, water, noise, runoff and location. He stated a commonsense regulation he's thinking of is saying you can only use the river for the cooling water, you can't drill down into our drinking water. Right now, there is a big concern about peoples drinking water because these things use millions and millions of gallons of water every day. Then there is the noise concern, there is some confusion surrounding this. The noise is not coming from the computers themselves, it's the HVAC systems outside the data centers that cause the noise. The way to get around that would be to be in a location that is not near many people. The noise can get above 80 decibels which is equivalents to being next to a running push mower 24/7 without being able to get away from it. The last bit of regulation would be that these need to be in areas that are zoned industrial. Magistrate Mayfield asked what happens to the water runoff. Max stated a lot of companies like to keep that secret but a lot of times it boils away and gets turned into steam just like a power plant. The water that is runoff, for example in Mason County, they have been told any excess or water that doesn't get turned into steam, it will be cleaned 40% more than how it went into the facility to start with, and then it will get dumped back into the river. Max stated they say they will but there is nothing in writing that says they have to do that. Magistrate Mayfield asked if there was any data available that says how much out of 100% of the water that they use goes into steam? Max stated currently in the state no. Right now, in the state of VA math wise they say about 30%-40%. Magistrate Miller asked, wouldn't they have to follow EPA regulations? Max stated you would think so but the Trump administration, when the big beautiful bill was signed into law, and this is one of the reasons Congressman Thomas Massie said no to the bill, it doesn't have the language in it now, it was taken out when it went to the senate, but it wanted to deregulate data centers for the next 10 years but went the extra step to strip the counties and states of their ability to regulate them as well. That wasn't passed but since the Federal government is talking about having no regulation, who knows. Magistrate Jarrells asked Max which facility has he visited to get this information? Max stated he is planning to visit one in VA. Magistrate Jarrells asked how he is getting all his information then. Max stated this is all from talking with people that live in the areas, reliable news outlets, and a few people that have visited them up in Ohio as well. Magistrate Jarrells stated at the Germantown city council meeting Mr. McNeil spoke and aren't the people in Oldham County a different level? Isn't this company he is talking about supposed to be one of the top 10 in the world? Max stated yes, that's what it said but we're not entirely sure because for all they know it could be anybody because he did say top 10 there but yesterdays meeting it was said it was a fortune 100 company. Magistrate Brumley stated they won't release the name, isn't that kind of odd that they won't release the name? Max stated he can direct them because WCPO Channel 9 news did a story on this yesterday and they came to Mason County and spoke with some people at the court meeting. He was not directly a part of that interview but at the end of the article, a quote from the Judge stated, "more than likely the company will not be revealed until they are ready to break ground". Magistrate Holleran went back to the sound, he asked, could they make sound barrier walls to go around it like they do on the interstates? Max stated he found an article where they had attempted to build a wall around one and it failed, he guesses due to the low end of the frequency band. Magistrate Jarrells stated in his district, in Germantown, there is a rumor going around that they were coming to Bracken County, that there are 2 farms they are going to take over. He asked Max, can you sum up that rumor? Max stated as far as his knowledge he heard there was the possibility of one coming, but he didn't know yes, or no. Magistrate Jarrells stated Max stated on

Facebook, and he has copies of it, where Max did say yes, they were coming here. Magistrate Jarells read the post where Max said "what makes this worse is the data center trying to come to Mason County is thought to not be able to effect Bracken County too, but land is supposedly being bought up in Bracken County for a data center now". Magistrate Jarrells stated that was Max on Facebook stating that. He gave Max 3 pages of discussion to read on the various things he stated. He would like to sum this up about the Germantown area. There was a lot summed up at the City Council meeting that they were both at. Magistrate Jarrells stated he is getting a lot of phone calls, and he was elected to take care of the people of Germantown. He asked Max to read the post, Max stated that is not what he is here for today. Magistrate Jarrells stated he would read it. He read as Max stated, "what is this meeting about?" "To discuss the Fiscal Court meeting that happened on Tuesday of this week and our next steps and what we do about these AI data centers coming into the county". "New information today it seems it will now effect Bracken County". Someone comes back and says, "I am just now catching up, what kind of damage does this mean for Bracken County"? Max responded with, "what kind of damage does this mean for Bracken County, I have been made aware of a purchasing deal in Bracken County for nearly 800 acres if not more. If this is true it is the same problem being talked about in the neighboring county Fiscal Court meeting". Someone asks, Max, "are you saying there are data center projects in the works in both Bracken and Mason Counties?" Max states "yes, from what I have been told, yes." Magistrate Jarrells stated it says in his own words that data centers are coming to Bracken County. Max stated truth be told if one comes, you'll have all of them come to Mason County. That's how it's happened across the country too. Max stated that would affect Bracken County too. Magistrate Kelsch stated he has not been told of anyone within Bracken County that has been contacted about their property being sold for a data center. Judge Teegarden stated she has not either. Magistrate Jarrells asked Judge Teegarden, when Max wanted on the agenda, he had said that he had heard, basically the same thing as what was on Facebook. She sated yes but that was probably after this looking at the date. Magistrate Jarrells asked if he said the names of any farms, Judge Teegarden stated he did, but he told her he was not sure on the names and asked her not to say anything. Magistrate Jarrells stated all that he is asking is if it's not coming back to Bracken County can Max rectify what he is saying so his constituents can feel better. Max stated yes but the way he thinks, the best way to make them feel better is to have some regulation in place to prepare for it. Magistrate Jarrells stated Bracken County doesn't have zoning. Magistrate Ruf stated in 2 meetings they could put together an ordinance that regulated it if need be. Max stated he isn't saying say no to it outright, he says have common sense regulation for safety and to give people peace of mind because you can go on google and research this all day long and that's all that is needed, is simple regulation on this. Magistrate Jarrells stated he's not questioning what is going on in Mason, he just wants to clarify that there is not a data center coming to Bracken County. Max stated there are none currently coming to Bracken County, but it could down the road. Judge Teegarden stated she wanted to bring up about the NDA and when those are signed. When large businesses are thinking about coming into counties, she learned this with the Industrial Park, they will ask you to sign an NDA to keep their competitors from knowing that they are making bids on these properties because they don't want these competitors to come in and under cut them so a lot of these NDAs can cover several things. That can be with any business, any industries. Magistrate Miller stated next month he is going to make a personal visit north to Columbus to one of the sites, he's talking Google intel, and see what type of scope of a project it is. There are Bracken Countians working up there right now on construction jobs. Magistrate Brumley stated she did have a question after watching Channel 9 last night. It talked about how once the jobs moved out, after construction, they would hire 400 people. What do 400 employees do in one of these? Max stated he's been told it would be more than a data center. Janitorial, culinary, different types of engineers but they have not been told much more. Magistrate Miller read from the Ledger Indep this morning. Once operational, it would be not only a data center, it would be a campus. A campus similar to Amazon, DHL, CVG. 400 badge in jobs. Some of the jobs that would come with this include technicians, engineers, project managers, safety and security staff, logistics teams, culinary, offices for sales, project management, software update etc.

Senior Citizens Fund Interfund Cash Transfer
Motion for approval made by Craig Miller, second by Heather Brumley
Vote being unanimous

General Fund Budget Transfer
Motion for approval made by David Kelsch, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

General Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by John Scott

Vote being unanimous
Magistrate Miller asked why the animal control vehicle had to go out of county for repairs. Judge Teegarden stated they had started by taking it to Andy's in Brooksville. He fixed what he could, but it had to be taken to a dealership to finish.

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

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

Senior Citizens Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by Heather Brumley
Vote being unanimous

Dispatch 911 Fund Vendor Claims
Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

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

Other Business:

HVAC system in dispatch building
The HVAC system in the dispatch building is working great and has one more day of work. Judge Teegarden would like to go ahead and approve to pay $7,281.00 to Bravard because it will be done after one more day of work. She would also like to include in the motion that if the funds are not in the account that Lois is approved to transfer those funds.
Motion for approval made by Craig Miller, second by David Kelsch
Vote being unanimous

Germantown Park zero turn
The Mayor of Germantown reached out to Judge Teegarden; the court gives them $7,500 every year for the park improvement payable to the City of Germantown. They have an opportunity to buy a zero-turn mower and a field and brush mower for a total of $6,000. They asked if those funds could be approved to be used for park improvement. Judge Teegarden stated she does not see a reason not to be able to do this so they can mow their own park. This is funds they get every year already. Magistrate Miller asked if anything was paid out of the $7500 to them yet. Judge Teegarden stated no, this would be out of that so they would still have $1500 left. They usually provide receipts and the court reimburses them. This time they are asking if the court can cut the check and then them provide the receipts after they have purchased them. Magistrate Jarrells stated it would be a handwritten receipt as they are just buying it off an individual, not a business. Magistrate Holleran asked if Mason County Fiscal Court gives anything to the park? Magistrate Jarrells stated no.
Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Sandy Ruf.
Vote being unanimous

Magistrate Kelsch asked Clerk Free what the party change deadline is to be able to vote in the 2026 May Primary election. Clerk Free stated December 31st.

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Jarrells, second by Heather Brumley.
Vote being unanimous.

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