

A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held Wednesday April 8, 2026, 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, Judge Teegarden

Let the record reflect that the Court Members received a copy of any Transfers and Vendor Claims and a copy of the Financial Statement ending March 31, 2026.

Upon Motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran, the court approves the minutes of the regular meeting March 25, 2026.

Abstained: Heather Brumley, she was absent March 25, 2026.

Road Department Update

Road Supervisor Stacey Florer gave an update. They have finished the slip-on Thompson Rd; the Trail was drilled. They dug everything out, put in the railroad ties and then backfilled with rock. They did some coal patching. They've trimmed trees on 3 or 4 roads. They've taken all the sanders off; pressure washed them and put them up for the year. They helped set up the container out to the dog shelter. Donnie Stitt is putting a roof on the front part of the county barn; this was an insurance claim. They also cleaned up a dump truck load full of trash that someone had left on Holts Creek. Magistrate Kelsch thanked Stacey for the rock on Bee Run Rd. Magistrate Miller asked where on Holts Creek that was, North or South of the AA? Stacey stated it was next to the dirt pile; someone left a bunch of shingles a roofing stuff. They are loading it up and taking it to the land fill this morning.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update

Tabled

Property Licking Estates surplus

Tabled

Coroner-Chris Cummins, Salary Coroner/Deputies

Chris addressed the court. Prior to the meeting he gave each magistrate a copy of his letter. He is looking for a raise of \$4,971.00 for the coroner and \$2,017.50 per deputy for a total of \$9,006.00 total for the 3 of them. This would be for the upcoming Fiscal Year of 2026-2027. Magistrate Brumley asked, other than the salary, the county contributes nothing to the coroner's office, correct. Chris stated there is an expense account in the budget for his office for cell phones etc., his is roughly \$300 a month and the deputies are roughly \$100 a month. He did just submit a reimbursement for body bags but most other things he just pays for himself because he uses them for his private business as well. For example, if he has a box of gloves, he may use 4 pairs for coroner work and 6 pairs for his private business, so he just pays for those things himself. Magistrate Miller stated when they were at a conference recently, they were talking about how the coroner association had been lobbying heavily to have a set salary per county, per size, across the state. Similar to how the clerk, sheriff, judge etc. are set. The minimum beginning salary for a county of our size would be \$26,000-\$28,000. It did not pass this session but in his opinion the state is going to mandate this sometime soon. We don't want to be unprepared for an increase like that. This amount is well below what the state would set the starting rate for population size. This will help prepare so it's not so much 3,4,5 years down the road. Judge Teegarden stated the treasurer gave out a financial statement that shows what is budgeted for the coroner's office and what has actually been used. You can see it is very minimal and it's usually like that every year. They are budgeted at 8,000 but the amount that has been claimed since last July is only \$573.12. Magistrate Jarrells asked, "You and your deputies are on call 24/7, correct? Chris stated he makes sure there is coverage at all times. One has a full-time job outside of the coroner's office also so it's usually 2 of them during the day that are available and 3 at night. He tries to always have 2 people available. Magistrate Brumley stated she just wanted to be as transparent as possible because she knows all the things the coroner's office does that the county does not help with, and she wanted those that don't have this paperwork in front of them to know that.

Motion to approve the coroner and deputy salary increase made by Heather Brumley, second by Sandy Ruf.

Vote being unanimous

Animal Shelter Monthly Report

Co-Directors Honan and Childers were there to address the court. They handed out a report to each magistrate. They went over those reports that include intake and outtake. There are several fundraisers. They have the shoe drive that is going on now until the end of May. April 25th is an event, and the homemakers will have a quarter auction on May 1st. Spring fling is doing a rabies clinic. They started working with 3 new rescues. They did go over the ordinances and made some changes and turned them in for review, they are hoping to raise the adoption fee. The old storage building has been knocked down and all the debris has been hauled away. The new storage container has been set up, and they will start filling it today. They have been working with a vet on a next guard grant. This will allow them to do tick, flea and a few other vaccinations. They are working with Colonial Heights on this. Magistrate Miller wanted to recognize Woody Graham and his wife, they were the ones that donated the cargo container.

80/20 Project-Snag Creek add to agenda

Judge Teegarden stated she had put in for this emergency project on Snag Creek. It is for 2 culverts to be replaced. They sent a resolution and agreement yesterday. She asked if it was ok to add this to the agenda today or would the court rather carry it over to next meeting. This project cannot move forward until this is approved.

Sandy Ruf made a motion to add it to the agenda, Debbie Mayfield second it.

Vote being unanimous

Resolution 26-04 80/20 Project Snag Creek

This gives Judge Teegarden permission to sign off on it. They are going to fund \$8900.00 for it and the other 20% will come out of the road fund.

Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by Kevin Jarrells

Vote being unanimous

Agreement 80/20 Project Snag Creek

This is the agreement between Bracken County Fiscal Court and the Transportation Cabinet.

Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Craig Miller

Vote being unanimous

Training Incentive Heather Brumley \$5,445.28

Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by Debbie Mayfield

Yes votes: Kevin Jarrells, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller, David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott

Abstained: Heather Brumley

General Fund Budget Transfer

Motion for approval made by Kevin Jarrells, second by John Scott

Vote being unanimous

Dispatch 911 Fund Budget Transfer

Motion for approval made by John Scott, second by Sandy Ruf

Vote being unanimous

General Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval was made by David Kelsch, second by Kevin Jarrells.

Yes votes: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf

Abstained: Craig Miller due to Miller Lumber Claim

Road Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Craig Miller, second by Danny Holleran

Magistrate Miller asked if this Trail was all for Thompson Ridge. Stacey stated no, this is for Snag Creek as well. It was 2 loads. Judge Teegarden stated they try to get the best price by ordering both.

Vote being unanimous

Jail Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by David Kelsch

Vote being unanimous

Senior Citizens Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by John Scott
Vote being unanimous

Dispatch 911 Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by John Scott, second by Heather Brumley
Vote being unanimous

Vendor Claims-United Direct Solutions

Motion for approval made by David Kelsch, second by John Scott
Magistrate Miller asked Clerk Free if these postcards were mailed out to all registered voters.
Clerk Free stated yes, these were mailed out to every voter.
Vote being unanimous

Other Business:

Let the record reflect that Sheriff Boody had provided the court members with his quarterly report to review.

Let the record reflect that the Bracken County Extension Co-Op budget was put in folders just for review

County Budget is due May 1st; it will be handed out at the next meeting. If any court member wants something added to the budget, please let Judge Teegarden know ASAP\.

Magistrate Ruf asked Magistrate Miller if he had gotten an answer to the question, he had asked Sheriff Boody last month regarding the agreement from last May that was signed for the federal funding. Magistrate Miller stated that that day Sheriff Boody stated he was going to reach out to see if there were any definitive answers, but he does not know if there were any certain answers given or not. Magistrate Ruf stated in February they went to the sheriff's association meeting, and they talked specifically about that and what all comes with that agreement. They said the sheriff's office would be getting at least a \$100,000 grant and at least half of that has to be spent on cruisers. She didn't know if Bracken had gotten their money yet. Deputy Jones commented on the Sheriffs office behalf. He stated that Sheriff Boody had been working with their point of contact on that, but he does not know specifics on it. He knows whatever funding would come to them would be earmarked for the Sheriff's office. Magistrate Ruf stated half of the \$100,000 has to be used on a cruiser, the other half can be used as they like. Deputy Jones stated the sheriff's association or DHS; it depends on where the information is coming from as to exactly what would be coming to them. Magistrate Mayfield stated someone from DHS was speaking at that meeting. Magistrate Miller stated the only reason that he brought it up was he wanted to ask if it ran through the Fiscal Court General fund or if it would go to the Sheriffs budget separately. Deputy Jones stated any funding that would flow down would specifically be earmarked for the Sheriffs office. Judge Teegarden stated it goes straight to the sheriff's budget, it does not go thorough fiscal courts. Deputy Jones stated it would need to go into a separate account, just like grants are done. Magistrate Mayfield's concern would be if you knew in advance that you were getting this, they could take that into consideration for the budget. For example, you wouldn't need 2 cruisers coming out in the same year. Magistrate Miller stated it's a federal agreement that they don't know if it's going to continue or not. It was presented as \$100,000 + a certain percentage of deputy salaries. Magistrate Ruf stated last time she checked there were 20 agencies that signed up and we are definitely one of them.

Dawn Kelsch with the Hackney Association put together an equine wellness day at the Industrial Park on Saturday from 9-12. Vaccines, Coggins, deworming etc.

Motion to adjourn made by Danny Holleran, second by John Scott.

S/ _____
Jennifer Free, Fiscal Court Clerk

S/ _____
Tina K. Teegarden, Co Judge Executive