

A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held Wednesday May 13, 2026, for the purpose of transacting any business properly presented by the established agenda.

Presiding: Craig Miller,
Magistrate

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

Absent: 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.

Upon Motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran, the court approves the minutes of the regular meeting April 22, 2026.

Yes Votes: Craig Miller, David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Sandy Rug

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Upon motion of John Scott, second by Sandy Ruf, the court approves the minutes of special meeting May 5, 2026.

Yes Votes: Craig Miller, David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Sandy Rug

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Road Department Update

Road Supervisor Stacey Florer gave an update. They have been shouldering some roads. They rocked around some mailboxes. Working on gravel roads throughout the county from the winter, back dragging and putting rock down. Repair work on 2 bridges, they were closed for a day each. They had to repair decaying concrete. They started bushhogging and the 200 tons of salt ordered in March was finally hauled in.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update

Awaiting property survey

Property Licking Estates surplus

Tabled

Amended agenda- Chief Carpenter

Motion for approval to amend made by Debbie Mayfield, second by David Kelsch.

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Chief Carpenter- Radios

Chief Kyle Carpenter is the Chief for the Mason County Fire Department. He has been speaking with Judge Teegarden, she gave him permission to get on Brackens radios. The radio company Bracken uses was cc'd on the email, and they stated there would be no issue. The radio company called and asked Chief Carpenter questions about their radios and asked what brand it was. They stated there were some requirements needed to get the RAS key by DKC Radio. Judge Teegarden stated they would actually be able to get access from any cell phone. Chief Carpenter stated cellular is not a reliable resource especially in areas like ours where reception is spotty. They need reliable communication for the EMS. They were that it is set up now there is this RAS key that eliminates them from being able to gain access. Chief Carpenter stated there are too many entities needing to work together to tell them all they would have to buy new radios just to communicate with Bracken County. He stated hopefully everyone can work to resolve the issue. Magistrate Mayfield stated there was a brief conversation with some of the magistrates earlier, and Chief Carpenter stated there was Mutual Aid agreement coming up here shortly. Chief Carpenter stated yes. Being a small community we depend on each other. When you get busy or have bad runs you sometimes need backup. Chief Carpenter stated if you call, they will come, no questions asked. However, he cannot send his guys out when their safety is in question because there is not a reliable network for them

to be able to communicate with the local dispatchers and there's no one who knows the community better than the local dispatchers. It is really a safety issue and if that issue can't be resolved he can't send his guys. The contract is over in July, if the issue is not resolved by then they will not be able to sign the new Mutual Aid agreement. Magistrate Jarrells asked what Chief Carpenter is saying is that he cannot communicate with Bracken County at all. Chief Carpenter stated that if Bracken County came to Mason County they could communicate with them but if Mason came to Bracken they could not communicate at all. The short-term fix would be the RAS key. There are other things that will still be issues. Getting the RAS key would be a short-term fix. This would work for the EMS side. Chief Carpenter will come back to address the court when Judge Teegarden is here on the meeting May 27th. Magistrate Miller asked if they would be able to communicate on the old analog system. Chief Carpenter stated yes but that would force them all to have to change channels to communicate, which is not ideal when you're, for example, holding a baby and doing CPR. Magistrate Holleran asked, it was mentioned earlier that the system Bracken is on now is not appropriate for the state. Chief Carpenter stated when you're going to change a radio system you are supposed to submit that to the state. There's a committee that has to approve the plans for the new radio system. The research that he has done, and called members of that committee, he was told that Bracken never submitted anything to them. They stated if it had been submitted to them it would probably not have gotten approved since this system is DMR. The problem with DMR is that there are so many brand specific parts it makes them not compatible between different departments. The P25 route eliminates this issue. He stated from what he knows the new system Bracken has been much better than the system that it had, they are not to the point yet of needing a whole new system, but he is trying to meet in the middle of the road. If you eliminate that RAS key it is a meet in the middle of the road fix. Magistrate Kelsch asked what the process of eliminating the RAS key was. Chief Carpenter stated he is not a radio person so you would need to work with your first responders and radio vendor.

CASA

Mary Beth Rudd addressed the court. She is the Executive Director of the Buffalo Trace CASA program. They proudly serve 5 communities advocating for children in those communities. In 2025 the CASA program served 119 children and 21 of those were in Bracken. Behind each of these numbers is a child who has experienced abuse and neglect and needs a consistent, caring adult to stand beside them. Every child they serve is matched with a dedicated CASA volunteer to ensure the highest quality of advocacy; each CASA volunteer serves only one child at a time. She thanked the court for allowing her to speak and for their continued support. Bracken is a huge asset to them. Magistrate Miller was with Ms. Rudd at another forum a few weeks ago and she stated they are going to be needing volunteers from our county for the CASA board so if there is anyone willing to serve, please reach out to her.

Budget FY 26-27 1st Reading

There were a few changes, one was some software issues that Treasurer Garrison handed out today. Magistrate Miller stated the main goal is to pass the first reading today. This must be approved for the first reading, then submitted to DLG. They must go through and approve everything and get it back to the court to be effective July 1st. Magistrate Miller gave out a spreadsheet he made. It notes and budgets are going back about 10/15 years. This is everything he's had on file with each budget, surpluses etc. to help the magistrates when going over the current budget. There are a couple of notes: Senior Citizens fund has been transferred to the General fund. The potential Brooksville sidewalk grant that was applied for with the city of Brooksville is hopefully going to be considered going forward, it is included in the General Fund budget. There is another grant that is for a siren replacement that is included. The Germantown Park commitment is included in the General Fund parks and recreation line item. Magistrate Mayfield asked, the animal shelter equipment repair and changed it to a shelter expansion, is that correct. Magistrate Miller stated \$200,000 is what they are wanting for the animal shelter expansion project. The building repairs description was changed. Magistrate Mayfield asked if extra \$100,000 is coming out of the General Fund? Magistrate Miller stated he thought the ARPA funding was always left to use for that, but he couldn't state 100% if that was correct. The increase of the total budget amount of \$1.3 million on the sidewalk and \$1 million is the CD in the budget. Magistrate Brumley asked if fuel was budgeted enough. Stacey stated Valor oil has always delivered it and that quote will be coming up on the 1st of June. Judge Teegarden and he sat down and went over it a few weeks ago and they kept it the same but not in the last few weeks with the fuel prices, it may need to be revisited. And this comes through a contract through Buffalo Trace. The road budget has a substantial increase because they decided to go ahead and include the salt. The mixture of fly ash has gone through. The salt budget went from \$125,000 to \$300,000. The entire \$15 million budget has an increase of \$169,401.

Motion for approval of the 1st Reading made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Heather Brumley

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

General Fund Budget Transfer

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

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Dispatch 911 Fund Budget Transfer

Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Heather Brumley

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

General Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Heather Brumley, second by David Kelsch Yes Votes: Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Sandy Ruf, Craig Miller, David Kelsch

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Road Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Kevin Jarrells, second by Danny Holleran

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Abstained due to claim: Craig Miller

Jail Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Danny Holleran, second by Sandy Ruf

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Senior Citizens Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by Debbie Mayfield

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Dispatch 911 Fund Vendor Claims

Motion for approval made by David Kelsch, second by Sandy Ruf

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

Absent: Judge Teegarden

Other Business:

ACO have asked to get a rabies vaccination. The estimate is a series of 3 doses of vaccines. Total for both ACO's would be \$2,813.40 through the Bracken County Health Dept. Magistrate Miller stated he believes they should forward with it. Magistrate Mayfield asked if this was preventive or if one of them had already been bitten? He stated he is not sure. Magistrate Holleran asked Sheriff Boody if he had a take on it. He stated he's had officers get bit and then had to get shots thereafter. Magistrate Holleran stated, and that worked. Magistrate Brumley suggested tabling this until the ACO's are here to discuss it. Magistrate Miller stated the monthly ACO report was also in all court folders.

Motion to adjourn made by Danny Holleran, second by Heather Brumley
Yes Votes: Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Heather Brumley, Kevin Jarrells, Sandy
Ruf, Craig Miller, David Kelsch
Absent: Judge Teegarden

S/_____
Jennifer Free, Fiscal Court Clerk

S/_____
Tina K. Teegarden, Co Judge Executive