CALLOWAY COUNTY FISCAL COURT MEETING September 18, 2024, Regular Meeting

An adjourned meeting of the Calloway County Fiscal Court was held at 9:00 am on Wednesday September 18, 2024, in the Calloway County Court House Annex. Judge Executive Kenneth C. Imes called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. The following duly qualified members of the Court were present: Squire Don Cherry, Squire Paul Rister, Squire Larry Crutcher and Squire Ricky Stewart. Also present were County Treasurer Tonya Robinson, Deputy Judge Executive Gina Winchester, County Attorney Brian Ernstberger, and County Clerk Antonia Faulkner.

The Court called on any special district guest to present the tax rates, but there were none present. Judge Imes referenced copies in the Magistrates packets of the forms he had received prior to the meeting via email from the Fire District, UK Coop Extension and East Fork Conservancy. The Court welcomed Ms. Holly Cherry of Serenity Recovery to present the Recovery Ready certification awarded to the County by way of application from the Volunteers of America. Calloway County is the fifteenth in the State to be awarded this certification. Squire Cherry appreciated the work Ms. Cherry, Jeremy Rose, and others did to earn this recognition and their continued work to keep the county Recovery Ready. Judge Imes also expressed his appreciation and accepted the certificate on behalf of the County.

The Court reviewed the minutes of the August 21, 2024, regular meeting. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Crutcher to waive the formal reading and approve the minutes as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

County Treasurer, Tonya Robinson, asked the Court to approve the financial statements as presented. Motion made by Squire Crutcher, seconded by Squire Stewart to approve. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Rister, seconded by Squire Cherry to approve the payment of the bills. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve payment to MPI and Swift Environmental. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Stewart to approve the transfers as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The regular meeting of the Fiscal Court was recessed, and a Public Hearing regarding the 2024-25 County tax rate was opened. There was no comment, and the hearing was closed. The regular session was called back to order. The Court reviewed the second reading of the 2024-25 tax rates. Motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Judge Imes to approve the rate at .14 per \$100. Squire Crutcher voted NAY, Squires Rister, Cherry, and Stewart and Judge Imes voted AYE. The motion passed and was so ordered.

Deputy Judge Executive Gina Winchester introduced Justin McCann to the Court and mentioned his help with the Admin/Ordinance Committees review and creation of an ordinance pertaining to solar farm regulations in Calloway County. After a discussion of the changes to be made the Court submitted the first reading of an amendment to Ordinance 24-0417-A. The changes include adding floating solar energy systems, TVA and PSC regulations, fees for application, and wording on page 3.

Judge Imes discussed with the Court the need to hire a consultant to help the county with the remainder of debris pickup from the May 26 storm. FEMA public portion of Disaster number DR -4804-KY would help with the cost involved, using a consultant that works with FEMA would help make the transaction streamline. Judge Imes asked Laurel Matula representing ER Assist of Louisville to present to the Court what her firm could do. This group will help with proposals, arranging local business involved, and monitoring the cleanup by passing the info on to FEMA. The County will be represented in each part while ER Assist will help maneuver through the process. Co. Attorney Ernstberger presented a change in the proposed contract adding the provision hiring Calloway Countians wherever possible. Ms. Matula agreed that would be no problem. After further discussion, a motion was made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve the contract with changes made and allow Judge Imes to sign as needed. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Stewart to approve Resolution 24-0918-A regarding adopting a revised Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Policy. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to approve Resolution 24-0918-B in the matter of approving new job descriptions. All voted aye and it was so order. HR Tori Saul was acknowledged and thanked for all the work she had done on both these resolutions.

Judge Imes presented the appointment of John Hughes to a 4 year term on the Library Board, the term will expire 8-15-2028. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve the appointment as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Crutcher to reappoint Bonnie Byerly to the 911 Appeals Board, appointment to expire 6/3/2027. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Squire Rister asked the Court to go ahead with bids for lawn maintenance for the Courthouse. He had previously misunderstood an offer by Swift Environmental to donate the maintenance and the county purchase materials such as flowers, bushes, and mulch. After consulting with his accountant, Swift was advised that such an agreement would not be in his best interest.

Deputy Judge Exec. Gina Winchester gave an update on the Admin/Ordinance committee. Judge Imes dismissed the 911 Relocation Committee, thanking the committee for their time there would be no further action needed and no relocation for the 911 department.

There being no further business before the Court motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to adjourn. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Approved this day of October 2024 by Judge Executive, Kenneth C. Imes