

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

An adjourned meeting of the Calloway County Fiscal Court was held at 9:00 am on Wednesday December 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.

Judge Imes introduced two special guests, Ms. Debi Danielson, from MAG and Ms. Rachel Foley, from the PADD office, to give an update on the CDBG Grant and construction of the new Murray Art Guild facility. The pre-construction plan has been approved, permits are in application, and there is a large equipment on site to begin demolition. An anticipated complete date is September or October 2025.

The minutes of the November 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. 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.

Mrs. Tonya Robinson presented the treasurer's report. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve the financial statement as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Cherry seconded by Squire Rister to approve the payment of the bills as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve the transfers as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Stewart and seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve the issuance of a check for \$180,062.50, payable at the time of delivery, for a dump truck ordered for the Road Department. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Cherry to approve a check to be written for 12/18/24 training luncheon. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court requested any changes in the County Sheriff and County Clerk administrative codes to be presented as each is allowed to adopt their own administrative code or follow the Fiscal Court's code. The Clerk had no changes, while the Sheriff presented a change to salaries/benefits section, response to resistance section and presented additions of facial recognition section and unmanned aircraft section. Motion made by Squire Cherry seconded by Squire Rister to approve the changes/additions as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Antonia Faulkner asked the Court to approve the 2025 Proposed Budget for the County Clerk's office as a whole. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Cherry to approve as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve the annual order setting maximum amount for Clerk deputies and assistants. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Judge Imes presented the 2025 holiday/meeting schedule. He discussed the Admin/Ordinance committee's review of the State's holiday calendar. The Fiscal Court calendar would make Good Friday a full day, and adding Dec. 24, Christmas Eve to make 12 observed holidays for the County. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Rister to approve the calendar as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court then discussed Resolution #24-1218-A regarding the matter of adopting the revised Administrative Code of Calloway County as it changes holiday pay to allow part time employees to earn 4 hours per holiday if they have worked within that schedule pay period effective January 1, 2025. There being no questions, motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Stewart to approve the resolution as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Judge Imes presented Resolution #24-1218-B regarding the allocation of the remaining ARPA funds for pending bridge contract with Smith Construction on Old Salem Road. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve the resolution as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Resolution #24-1318-C designating Murray-Calloway County Industrial Authority Special Purpose Government Entity to receive TVA funds under the regional development agency assistance program was presented to the Court. Squire Rister asked if the amount to be disbursed was the entire balance and if the County would be a pass-through? Judge Imes reported that this would be the entire balance and there is no County pass through. There being no further discussion, motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Stewart to approve the resolution as presented. All voted aye and it is so ordered.

The Calloway County Tourism Commission has requested the appointment for a at large position replacing Barbra Paschall. Judge Imes, in the form of a motion, recommended the appointment of Glenn Fritts to fill the term to expire September 2027. Motion seconded by Squire Cherry. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Squire Rister abstained from voting due to being a member of the board. The Tourism Commission requested the position of Hailey Anderson as a Chamber of Commerce representative be filled. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Cherry to appoint Mrs. Cheryl Roberts to fill the unexpired term to end September 2026. All voted aye and it was so ordered, with Rister abstaining.

It is necessary to appoint the Senior Citizens Board for another year. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to reappoint Ms. Darryel Lee, Mr. Ronald Babb, Ms. Shirley Robinson, Mr. Charles Nesbitt, and Mr. Warren Hopkins to a one-year term to expire 12/31/24. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Squire Rister made a motion to approve the personnel appointments as presented. Motion seconded by Squire Stewart. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Sheriff asked the Court to surplus a 2005 GMC Sierra. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Stewart to surplus the vehicle. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court reviewed the only contract presented for maintenance on County grounds. Motion made by Squire Cherry seconded by Squire Rister to approve the contract with Dale Swift/Swift Environmental. Motion passed with a four to one vote, Judge Imes voting nay, and it was so ordered.


The Court discussed a proposal to begin phase 2 of the bridge minor repair work. The cost is estimated at \$25,000.00 for material and labor. Squire Rister suggested a resolution to manage the amount spent. County Attorney Brian Ernstberger did not find this necessary and suggested a voice vote that the project should not exceed \$25,000.00 and should be brought before the Court if it were to. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to approve. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Deputy Judge Exec. Ms. Gina Winchester presented to the Court the Admin/Ordinance Committee minutes. She asked that action be taken to approve the SOP regarding rabies vaccination for animal shelter staff. Motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Squire Cherry to approve as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Ms. Tori Saul was recognized for her work in making Calloway County FC a certified drug free workplace. She was also recognized for her work with OSHA regarding compliance at the Courthouse. In order to address OSHA concerns at other county facilities Judge Imes appointed a Safety Committee to work with Tori. The new safety committee consists of Nikki Crouch, Antonia Faulkner, Cliff Garner, Teresa Shroader, Justin Tidwell, Ricky Garland, Kenny Reynolds, Todd Clere, Thomas Marshall, Mike Hopkins, Lexie Manning, and Nathan Baird. Tori Saul will Chair the new committee.

Judge Imes offered public comment. Ms. Risa Perry and Mr. David Poole presented to the Court a proposal for a clinical study of Psilocybin in Alto KY. 'This study represents an opportunity for Calloway County to lead the Commonwealth of Kentucky in fostering innovation and research while maintaining a controlled, evidence-based approach.' Judge Imes mentioned presenting the same to legislators. Mr. Bob Green discussed with the Court a program used in the City of Hopkinsville known as 'LOT NEXT DOOR.' This addressed properties that are not maintained, eye sores, and with delinquent taxes. Judge Imes recognized the program but understood that current legislation allows such programs in cities in KY but not for counties. He discussed his hopes that legislation would make the same or similar available for counties. He discussed Squire Rister's investigation with Calloway County property that have delinquent tax.

Squire Don Cherry expressed his gratitude to Mr. Green for his thorough information and research, then wished the Court a Merry Christmas. Squire Rister, in the form of a motion, asked the Court to approve Judge Imes to sign the prepared permit applications to TVA for cooperative agreements for Boatwright Landing and Chandler Park. Rister mentioned it is a lengthy process, but the intentions are to work through the Calloway County Tourism Commission to help fund the cleanup of these areas. Additionally, the proposal to TVA for Boatwright Landing will include picnicking sites and a handicap fishing pier. Motion seconded by Squire Crutcher. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Squire Rister mentioned a conversation with a constituent regarding other counties not having money to make bridge repairs. The gentleman wanted to make sure Calloway was using the recently passed Auto Insurance Premium Tax revenue to keep our bridges open. Rister brought this up to assure the public the insurance tax funds were being used only for road improvements and the funds could be accounted for. In 2024, \$1.1M was used for paving roads and \$700K has been allocated for bridges. Judge Imes thanked Squire Rister for his work with TVA, wished everyone happy holidays, and asked for a motion to adjourn.

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 1/15/25 day of January 2025 by County Judge Executive, Kenneth C. Imes