

CALLOWAY COUNTY
FISCAL COURT MEETING
February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting

An adjourned meeting of the Calloway County Fiscal Court was held at 9:00 am on Wednesday February 18, 2026, in the Calloway County Courthouse 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 Gina Winchester, and County Clerk Antonia Faulkner. Absent was County Attorney, Bryan Ernstberger due to training.

The Court reviewed the minutes of the January 21 regular meeting. After a discussion, motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Stewart to waive the formal reading and approve the minutes as presented, all voted aye and it was ordered.

Treasurer, Tonya Robinson presented her report. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve the financial report as presented, all voted aye and it was ordered. Motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Squire Rister to pay the bills, all voted aye and it was ordered.

Judge Imes took this time to welcome guests, Peyton Arant, Mark Mallory, and Samantha Rudolph from Leadership Murray to the Court meeting.

Judge Imes then asked the Court to approve the incentive pay for 2026 to Kenneth Claud, Kenneth Imes, Paul Rister, and Don Cherry. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Stewart to approve as presented, all voted aye and it was ordered.

The Court then heard from County Sheriff Nicky Knight. Sheriff Knight turned over to the Court his 2025 excess fees and final settlement. After a discussion, motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Squire Rister to approve the settlement as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Sheriff Knight then asked the Court to return the funds. After a discussion, the Court agreed to return the funds in the total amount of \$202,189.26 to be disbursed quarterly (March-June). Tonya then presented a budget amendment due to these excess fees. Motion made by Squire Crutcher seconded by Squire Rister to approve return of funds and the first reading of the Budget Amendment as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Judge Imes then presented Resolution requests. Motion made by Squire Stewart seconded by Squire Rister to approve RES 26-0218-A adopting Sack Farm Drive at the request of 911 for addressing, emergency services, and postal services. All voted aye and it was so ordered. 911 requested the approval of RES 26-0218-B authorizing the county to make application for KY Office of Homeland Security grants. This allows Judge Imes to sign documentation related to grant applications for FY 25-26. Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve the resolution as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Judge Imes discussed the support of HB 557 and the significant benefit to our local jail's budget, he then asked the Court to approve RES 26-0218-C supporting HB 557. Motion made by Squire Rister was seconded by Squire Stewart to approve the resolution as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court then reviewed personnel changes, motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Crutcher to approve the changes as presented. All voted aye and it was so ordered. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to reappoint Holly Bloodworth, Jeff Gentry, Lauren Hines, and Carol Lane to the Ethics Board to serve a 4-year term to expire 1/18/2030. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Judge Imes discussed the bid openings for bridge on Grubbs Road, two were for a 20 ft wide bridge and one for a 16 ft wide bridge. In the form of a motion Judge Imes asked to hold the bids until the next meeting giving the 16 ft. bidder the opportunity to offer a 20 ft bid and keep that as the standard bid for bridges on County roads. Motion seconded by Squire Crutcher, all voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court discussed a second year grant from the BEST FRIENDS non-profit organization for animal shelter needs. It is no cost to the county, Best Friends will not send money to the county or the shelter, Best Friends will pay directly to the vendor to cover cost of implementing no kill directives.

The Court then heard committee/staff reports. Deputy Judge Exec. Gina Winchester presented the admin/ordinance and safety committee minutes; she then presented an updated 2026 committee list. Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to approve the list as presented, all voted aye and it was so ordered.

The Court heard of the request made by Don Brantley to discontinue maintenance of Marr Lane, Judge Imes determined research and if action is needed, the Court would proceed as required.

Judge Imes then took time to formally recognize and publicly thanked the work of volunteer agencies that helped during the recent weather event. The CCFR delivered 157 meals on wheels, assisted with 30 EMS ambulance calls, did 15 medicine runs, assisted coroner 3 times, and helped three elderly women bust the ice from their doors so that they could exit the home. The local VFW opened a warming shelter assisting individuals with supplies, meals, clothing, and blankets for 15 days. Squire Cherry discussed the acknowledgment and celebration of the nation's 250th anniversary, Squire Crutcher thanked the County Sheriff for his due diligence and taking care of things, Squire Stewart discussed the recent weather event and while thanking those that helped, he discussed the difference in the snow/ice fall between the counties and the patience of the citizens with road clean up. Squire Rister discussed with the Court a request for a letter of support and a budget related to the TVA permit process for Boatwright Landing. He explained that these items are the next step required by TVA. He is currently working with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife and the Tourism Board to complete this request.

Judge Imes let the Court know that the Regular Fiscal Court March meeting will be moved to Friday March 20 at 9am to allow for Magistrate training on Wednesday March 18.

Motion made by Judge Imes seconded by Squire Rister to move into executive session per KRS 61.801(1)(F). All voted aye and it was so ordered.

Motion made by Squire Rister seconded by Squire Cherry to exit Executive Session with no action taken. All voted aye and it was so ordered.

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

Approved this 20th day of March 2026 by Judge Executive Kenneth C. Imes



Kenneth C. Imes, Calloway County Judge Executive