

REGULAR SESSION
of the Daviess County Fiscal Court
held at the Courthouse in the City of Owensboro,
County of Daviess, Commonwealth of Kentucky
on this 10th day of January 2013
Present were Judge/Executive Al Mattingly and
County Commissioners Jim Lambert,
George Wathen and Charlie Castlen

DOCUMENTS RELATED TO TODAY'S DISCUSSION
ARE FILED IN JANUARY 10, 2013 FISCAL COURT FILE

County Commissioner Charlie Castlen opened the meeting in prayer and led the court in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Minutes of the December 20, 2012 meeting were submitted to fiscal court members for review prior to today's meeting and on a motion of Commissioner Castlen, seconded by Commissioner Lambert with all the Court concurring said Minutes were approved and signed.

By a motion of Commissioner Lambert, seconded by Commissioner Castlen, the court considered approval of all Claims for all Departments. Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

By a motion of Commissioner Castlen, seconded by Commissioner Wathen, the court considered for approval Fund Transfers from the Solid Waste Operating Fund and General Fund to the Solid Waste Debt Service Fund – 2014, Solid Waste Debt Service Fund – 2017, Bond Fund – Downtown Renovation, Jail Fund, and Road Fund. Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

By a motion of Commissioner Castlen, seconded by Commissioner Lambert, the court considered for approval the Daviess County Clerk's 2013 Budget.

Daviess County Clerk David "Oz" Osborne stated, "I want to thank you for the support that you give our office. I am blessed and our county is blessed that we do have a good working relationship – we resolve our problems, we sit down and talk. I appreciate that. I report to you tonight that the local economy does seem to be moving in the right direction. Our overall revenues last year grew by about 2.2 percent and we were able to turn over \$553,000 to the court in the 25% account, which reflected more than a 4% increase from 2011. In 2012, we ended our year with a \$50,000 surplus. This 2013 budget includes a 1.67% increase to our salary budget over last year as well as additional monies to pay for preparations for the new statewide computer system. It also includes a roller shelving project that will increase the old record room's storage capacity by 100%, which should take care of our storage needs for the next 15 to 20 years. In closing, I want to thank my staff. They do a great job serving the citizens of this county."

Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

By a motion of Commissioner Castlen, seconded by Commissioner Lambert, the court considered for approval the Daviess County Sheriff 2013 Budget.

Daviess County Sheriff Keith Cain stated, "My comments are not quite as positive as my colleague in the Clerk's office, but nevertheless not all that bad either. As the budget includes an \$110,000 additional appropriation from the court that we are requesting, I would suspect that you would have some questions and concerns. I have prepared some remarks, which will hopefully address your concerns and answer those questions. Approximately 85% of our \$4.4 million budget – that is \$3.8 million goes towards salaries and employee related expenses. The added funds from the court that we are requesting would allow us to continue funding a deputy's position that we recently lost last fall and to provide a 1.7% COLA increase for our employees. I will remind the court that we were tasked a number of years ago from the previous fiscal court with balancing a budget, as were all the office heads throughout the county. We were able to do so only by not replacing a deputy that we had lost with the hopes of replacing him in the near future. Unfortunately, we were not able to do that and we lost yet another deputy, putting us two under staff, that we still have not been able to replace because of budgetary restraints. While we understand that, we have now lost a third deputy and are now in dire need of replacing that individual. This money would provide us with monies to replace that deputy. Now, the question is if we have been able to fund that position in the past, why can't we fund it under the existing revenue that we have. Traditionally, commissions for tax collections funded increased operating expenses each year. However, in 2012, while commissions increased \$57,000 retirement and workers compensation expenses alone increased \$57,400, which was almost an even wash. And there is the issue of grants. Federal grants, which have been a source of funding for many years have declined significantly. In 2010, we received almost \$500,000 in grants, which funded salaries, overtime, equipment, and vehicles. In 2012, that amount was reduced to \$172,000 and is expected to go lower this year. In addition, in 2013, we expected to continue receiving a supplement to our salary budget of \$29,000 from the state police for our participation in the drug task force that we had an officer assigned to. Unfortunately, due to their budget restraints, they have eliminated that program and we will no longer be receiving that \$29,000 supplement. Our equipment budget includes the replacement of five vehicles and the addition of wireless data cards to replace outdated modems, which are no longer supported by maintenance. These air cards, as they are referred to, will provide a faster, more reliable connection for our in-car computers. In addition, they allow us to connect to web-based services such as e-warrants. They will also be replacing obsolete mobile data terminals (MDT) in our new vehicles and most of that equipment was originally acquired through grants that I previously noted. The bottom line is operating expenses are going up and revenue sources are going down. This has resulted in the necessity in the request for the additional \$110,000. We appreciate your serious consideration of these needs."

Judge Mattingly thanked Sheriff Cain and his staff for the job they do for the citizens of Daviess County.

Court members also expressed gratitude towards the sheriff for his and his staff's professionalism.

Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

By a motion of Commissioner Wathen, seconded by Commissioner Castlen, the court considered for approval to appoint Mike Riney to the West Daviess County Water District Board - TERM: 1/17/2013 – 1/17/2017.

Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

Other business to be brought before the Daviess County Fiscal Court:

The RWRA Resolutions relating to a rate increase were presented for recording.

A Petition to Discontinue a Portion of Rockport Ferry Road was presented to the court.

County Attorney Claud Porter stated, "This is a petition by Mr. Yeiser who lives at 10505 New Cut Road to ask us to discontinue a portion of roughly 565-feet of the Rockport Ferry right-of-way that was split off when they re-routed a portion of that road. That portion is between the transportation cabinet's right-of-way for Highway 231 and existing, current, county-maintained Rockport Ferry Road. This road serves two homes."

By a motion of Commissioner Lambert, seconded by Commissioner Castlen, the court considered for approval the Order Appointing Viewers to view a portion of Rockport Ferry Road - Paul Fullenwider and Sammy Potts.

Without further discussion, Judge/Executive Mattingly called for a vote on the motion. All members of the court voted in favor; motion passed.

Comments:

Chris Settles requested an update on waterline projects.

Judge Mattingly asked Mr. Settles to get with Nate Pagan for the information he is seeking.

Owensboro Daviess County Convention and Visitors Bureau's Executive Director Karen Miller presented Kentucky's 2013 Official Visitors Guide and announced upcoming community events.

Commissioner Castlen commented about the Smart 911 program. He said that 80-85% of our 911 calls originate from a cell phone. If you dial 911 from a landline, dispatchers instantly know where you are calling from, but they cannot know your exact location if you dial from a cell phone unless you have keyed in your location information in a website called smart911.com. This site lets you key in the information for every cell phone user in your home. If you ever are in need of 911 and use your cell phone for assistance, smart 911 provides dispatch a lot of information as to your possible location and medical conditions. Commissioner Castlen encouraged all to utilize this service. He also noted that for those uncomfortable with computers, staff at the Daviess County Library would be glad to assist you in getting your information in the Smart 911 system.

**Without objection, Judge/Executive Mattingly adjourned the meeting.
SO ORDERED THAT COURT STAND ADJOURNED.**

Al Mattingly
Daviess County Judge/Executive