Fulton County Fiscal Court

Regular Session

March 15, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Judge Jim Martin. The Pledge was led by Wade Adams and invocation given by Hugh Caldwell.

**Attendance:** Jim Martin, Hugh Caldwell, Wade Adams, Jim Paitsel, Shaun Parks, Naomi Jones, Leslie Woods, Barbara Atwill, Derek Goodson, Steven Williams, J L Atwill, Rick Major, Alan Coffey, David Thomas, Dalton Jackson, Kayla Mullis and April Gallimore.

**BUSINESS**

Dalton Jackson with KY Department of Transportation addressed the Fiscal Court about road funding and paving. Fulton County has $635,000.00 in RS funds, minus maintenance of 97 miles of road, in the amount of $317,000.00, and minus County Judge expense, add $45,000.00 left from last year, giving a balance of $360,000.00, minus flex funds of $127,000.00 leaving $233,000.00 to actually pave roads. Scott recommended that the two worst roads are KY 166 from Rice Lane to 239, 1.129 miles of paving and State Route 1128 from State Route 2140 to Maddox Road, 1.065 miles of paving. Estimated cost for these two paving projects is $219,900.00 leaving roughly $10,000.00 left. Jim Martin stated we would be rolling the monies from this year into next year, to allow for these projects.

**INRE: Minutes (Rec. Minute BK 2 PG 120 & 122)**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the minutes.

**INRE: County Attorney’s Report**

No report given.

**INRE: County Treasurer’s Report (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 399)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the treasurer’s report.

**INRE: Bills**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the bills. Hugh Caldwell noticed that one of the cards still reflected an early month due date, Leslie Woods stated that it has been changed to the 21st of each month, but would take 1-2 billing cycles to show on the paper bill.

**INRE: Transfers (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 411)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the transfers.

**INRE: Fulton County Employees (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 412)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the employees.

**INRE:** **Authorize advertising for Fulton County Road Department Materials for FY 2021/2022**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the advertisement for road materials with the following changes: the bid will include specification for pricing on 15-24 inch plastic (PVC) piping. Hugh Caldwell asked if this could be in the specs for bid. Alan Coffey stated that the vendors don’t sell much of this, but he would be sure to get quotes. Dalton Jackson said the state uses the plastic piping as a bottom liner usually when a metal culvert has rusted in the bottom. These materials are for the 2022 paving cycle.

**INRE: Settlement with John Deere (Rec. Order BK 27 PG ….)**

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the settlement with John Deere on the grader.

**INRE: Discussion of MOU with KY Department of Agriculture, mosquito spaying**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present to approve the MOU for mosquito spraying with KY Dept. of AG. Fulton County and Hickman County will be sharing equipment, and sending two road department employees for certified training. Jim Martin stated he would reach out to City of Fulton & Hickman to see if they would send an employee each for certified training as well.

**INRE: Sheriff Request to pay payroll withholdings quarterly**

No action taken. DLG stated they didn’t know if paying payroll taxes quarterly was legal. DLG recommends it to be paid monthly. Derek Goodson addressed the Fiscal Court that the first quarter is the toughest for the Sheriff’s Office, since they begin with a zero balance, and must take in enough fees monthly to make this payment. Derek also stated that next month they would be able to settle the budget for last year with a $3000.00 deficit and remit the remaining Cares Act funds back to the Fiscal Court. Hugh Caldwell asked if there could be another advancement to the Sheriff’s Office to help cover the payroll liabilities. The Court was not ready to take this action. The Sheriff and Judge’s Office will both be speaking with their respective auditors and continue this conversation next month. Derek updated the Court on the courthouse security employee as well. There is an individual that has taken the two sets of training and will hopefully be starting soon.

**INRE: Reapportionment Discussion**

Jim Martin addressed the court about the reapportionment process. The Fiscal Court is supposed to appoint three members to that board by the end of May of the year after a census. The issue is that the census numbers will not be turned over to the states until September of 2021. Once we appoint a committee there is a calendar of events that is triggered, and we don’t know if the legislation will be passed that could halt this entire process until next year. We will continue to monitor the legislation and discuss this again next month.

**INRE: Report on outstanding audits**

Jim Martin addressed the Court about the audits that have been taking place. He stated he had met with the auditor in an audit exiting meeting. The auditors were working on audit years 2016-2017, 2017-2018 & 2018-2019. He told the Fiscal Court there were a few statements that will be listed dealing with unreconciled books, invoiced detached from claims and fixed asset schedules. All of these have been fixed so they will not show on the current audits. Jim Martin stated he is hopeful the audit will contain unqualified audit statements. The Fiscal Court will also be required to have a single audit on any federal grant funds that exceed $750,000.00. The Court is responsible for monitoring the expenditures of those funds.

**INRE: Report on early debt retirement for FCDC**

Jim Martin addressed the Court about the EMS making a debt payment of $10,000.00 per month for the life of the debt. The sinking fund, which includes the EMS loan payments, allows the first loan to be paid off in 54 months and the second loan to be paid off in 60 months.

Steven Williams addressed the court about COVID positive inmates. There has only been one since the beginning of the pandemic. Hugh Caldwell asked if the inmates were being vaccinated, and Steven stated that he hasn’t gotten confirmation when that would begin. There are currently 406 inmates.

**INRE: Approval of the consent & release agreement for Upper Bottom Road Ditch Project (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 415)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the agreement with James and Lillie Black to reestablish the right-a-way that is affected in the Upper Bottom Road ditch project. There are two change orders in the project as well, one being to gravel the haul road from the pit to the road, and flagging work.

**INRE: EMS Rural Development Grant Application**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present to approve the amendment of the EMS Rural Development grant to $80,000.00 for equipment. This grant was originally going to be for expanding building space for a training facility, but that will not be possible, so EMS has decided the apply for this money to purchase training equipment. The Fiscal Court is sponsoring this grant for EMS.

Jim Martin updated the court on the COVID positivity rate for Fulton County. The County is currently at 2.4%, and we have not had any new cases over the weekend. There are currently 7 active cases, 1 hospitalization and 1 additional death, since last reporting our numbers.

Fulton County will be receiving $1,167,977.00 in federal grant monies from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, in two payments. The first payment will come during the 2020/2021 FY. The other will be sent during the 2021/2022 FY. There are currently no detailed spending regulations for these funds, just a few broad ideas, Jim Martin stated he would like to add a line item in the budget for these funds and would like to have ideas from the Court for uses of these funds. These ideas can include using some of these funds for the food banks, to relieve some of the stress that these food banks are under. Steven Williams stated he would like to see some of these funds be used to bring back some of the furloughed employees at the Detention Center back to work.

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to terminate the Agility Contract and not pay the current monthly bill. JL Atwill addressed the Court about the Agility bill. The County entered a contract back in 2010 in the amount of $4583.37 per year to supply generator power, services, office space, satellite connectivity and internet services in the event of an emergency. Since this contract was signed, the County has installed generators and don’t need this service any more.

There was no closed session.

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to adjourn at 10:09 AM.

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Naomi T. Jones, Fulton County Clerk