

Ohio County Fiscal Court
February 10, 2026 5:00 PM
Ohio County Community Center
Hartford, KY

Attendance Taken at 5:00 PM:

Present Board Members:

David Johnston
Dale Beavin
Larry Morphew
Michael McKenney
Jason Bullock
Bo Bennett

I. Call to Order Judge Executive David Johnston
I.A. Prayer and Pledge to American Flag

II. American Heart Month Proclamation

Discussion:

Guests from Ohio County Healthcare, CeCe Robinson, Dr. Joshua Skibba, and Shellie Shouse, joined the fiscal court members for a proclamation signing for American Heart Month.

III. Approve January 27, 2026 Minutes

Motion Passed: Approve January 27, 2026 Minutes passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

IV. Bills, Claims, Payments and Transfers

Motion Passed: Bills, Claims, Payments and Transfers stand approved as presented passed with a motion by Jason Bullock and a second by Dale Beavin.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

V. Amendment to Annual Compensation Fiscal Year 2026 Jailer's Salary

Discussion: Kasady Stevens, Payroll Administrator stated, the Jailers wages were incorrect on the Annual Compensation for July 1st, 2025. The wages showed the Fiscal year 2025 wages of \$1567.79 and should have been changed to \$1613.26 for Fiscal Year 2026. It was correct on the Wage scale, but was missed on the compensation.

Motion Passed: Motion to amend the Annual Compensation for July 1, 2025, due to jailer's amount being incorrect, correcting it to 1613.26 passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Larry Morphew.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

VI. Clerk's January 2026 Financial Report

Motion Passed: Acknowledged having received the Clerk's January 2026 Financial Report passed with a motion by Jason Bullock and a second by Michael McKenney.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

VII. Ohio County Clerk - Bess Ralph

Discussion: Ohio County Clerk, Bess Ralph, spoke to the court about a computer upgrade for the recording department. She stated that it had been five years since the last upgrade and it was time for the clerk's office to receive an upgrade and that she had received the quote. She stated the total cost was \$63,582, with a proposed clerk payment of \$33,582 leaving a balance of \$30,000 and she was asking the court for their help. Also, the current monthly service fee would need to increase by \$227 per month which would need to be included in the next budget.

Motion Passed: Motion to table until the next court meeting, and determine where the funds will come from passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

VIII. Clerk 2026 Budget

Motion Passed: Acknowledge having received the Clerk's 2026 Budget passed with a motion by Bo Bennett and a second by Dale Beavin.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

IX. Clerk's 2026 Annual Order Setting Salaries

Motion Passed: Approved the 2026 Clerk Annual Order Setting Deputy Salaries at \$498,144.00 passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Dale Beavin.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

X. Sheriff 2026 Budget

Motion Passed: Acknowledge having received the Sheriff's 2026 Budget passed with a motion by Dale Beavin and a second by Michael McKenney.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XI. Sheriff's 2026 Annual Order Setting Salaries

Motion Passed: Approved the 2026 Sheriff Annual Order Setting Deputy Salaries at \$1,950,831.00 passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Dale Beavin.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XII. 7. Closed Session Under KRS 61.810 Chapter 1 Section C & F

Motion Passed: Approved to enter into closed session under KRS 61.810 Chapter 1 Section C & F passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XII.A. Return From Closed Session

Motion Passed: Approved having returned from Closed Session passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XIII. Personnel

Motion Passed: Motion to hire Adam Daugherty as Seasonal Golf Course Manager, Level 1 at \$20.27 per hour passed with a motion by David Johnston.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XIV. Committee Reports

Discussion: Justin Keown stated that a Landfill Committee meeting had been requested by one of the landfill operators, no date had been given yet.

XIV.A. Salaries Committee

Discussion: The Salary Committee, to set salaries for elected officials for the next term met and Judge Johnston presented the salary proposals for the County Attorney, Coroner, Jailer and Magistrates.

Motion Passed: Approved the presented salaries for Elected Officials recommended from the Salary Committee (see attached) passed with a motion by David Johnston and a second by Michael McKenney.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

David Johnston	Yes
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morphey	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes
Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes

XV. Magistrate's Comments and Requests

XV.A. District 1 - Magistrate Michael McKenney

Discussion: Gave a shout out to the road department for the great work during a difficult snow, ice and cold event.

XV.B. District 2 - Magistrate Jason Bullock

XV.C. District 3 - Magistrate Bo Bennett

XV.D. District 4 - Magistrate Dale Beavin

Discussion: Dale Beavin stated that North Park was needing help with the last \$1000 needed for their fireworks show this year, asked if anyone would like to help from their discretionary funds. The following agreed to do \$200 each; Judge David Johnston, Jason Bullock, Bo Bennett, Michael McKenney and Dale Beavin. There was a question by Michael McKinney about the Community Contributions fund, which had been used for the community dumpsters and that he would like that fund to be looked at for the next budget.

XV.E. District 5 - Magistrate Larry Morphey

XVI. Citizen's Comments

Discussion: A gentleman, Mr. Hamilton, addressed the court concerning a cemetery road that had been blocked by coal mines and him wanting the gate to be taken down.

Representatives of the Mission Center spoke, requesting that the court recognize them as an official clothing bank for the county. The judge asked them to give the paperwork to County Attorney, Justin Keown for review.

Jody Flener, Ohio County Tourism Director, spoke briefly about an upcoming fundraiser for the Bill Monroe Museum

XVII. Adjournment

Judge Executive

Ohio County Fiscal Court Clerk