

Ohio County Fiscal Court
September 09, 2025 5:00 PM
Ohio County Community Center
Hartford, KY

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

II. Approve August 26, 2025 Minutes

Motion Passed: Approved August 26, 2025 Minutes passed with a motion by Michael McKenney and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

III. Bills, Claims, Payments and Transfers

Discussion: Larry Morpew had a few questions concerning some of the figures, items were discussed.

Motion Passed: Bills, Claims, Payments and Transfers stand approved as presented passed with a motion by Larry Morpew and a second by Michael McKenney.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

IV. Occupational Tax Administrator Bond Renewal

Motion Passed: Approve the bond renewal for the Occupational Tax Administrator passed with a motion by Larry Morpew and a second by Bo Bennett.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

V. Clerk's August 2025 Financial Statement

Motion Passed: Acknowledge receipt of Treasurer's August 2025 financial statement passed with a motion by Bo Bennett and a second by Jason Bullock.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

VI. Gary Hines with Ohio County Honor Guard

Discussion: Gary Hines spoke on behalf of the Ohio County Honor Guard, thanking the court for their help in repairs to the VFW building.

VII. Committee Reports

Discussion: Dustin Bratcher stated that the Survive and Thrive event was very successful and looked forward to growing it next year. Also reported, the Spectrum broadband internet is getting around the county, it's in Rosine and South of Beaver Dam. Justin Keown briefed everyone on the Biodigester Ordinance.

VII.A. Housing Committee Report

Discussion: Christina Carpenter gave an update on the Housing Committee. They met to discuss what was needed to help the housing situation. To obtain any grants, a comprehensive Housing Study will be needed, to determine what the county has, what it is lacking so that the committee can set goals and objectives and apply for grants. Jason Chinn stated he had received a proposal from University of Kentucky to do a Housing Study, which can be used for 5 years, total cost of which is \$12,000, City of Beaver Dam Mayor Paul Sandefur committed the city to pay half of that. Jason then requested the remaining cost from the court. Magistrate Larry Morpew asked if City of Hartford was going to contribute to the cost, Mayor Beau Wright, who was in attendance spoke up and stated that the City of Hartford would pay \$4,000 of the cost, leaving \$4,000 for the fiscal court.

Motion Passed: Motion for the fiscal court to pay \$4,000 towards the Housing Study passed with a motion by Bo Bennett and a second by Jason Bullock.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

VIII. Magistrate's Comments and Requests

VIII.A. District 1 - Magistrate Michael McKenney

VIII.B. District 2 - Magistrate Jason Bullock

Discussion:
Requested a viewing committee be appointed for Hocker Lane. The Judge appointed Larry Clayton, Beau Wright and Jason Burden

VIII.C. District 3 - Magistrate Bo Bennett

VIII.D. District 4 - Magistrate Dale Beavin

Discussion:
Reminded everyone of Dundee Days and Fordsville Days

VIII.E. District 5 - Magistrate Larry Morpew

Discussion: Stated that he was making a motion to pass the Biodigester Ordinance 2025-5 that had been discussed.

Motion Passed: Motion to pass the 1st Reading of the Biodigester Ordinance 2025-5 passed with a motion by Larry Morpew and a second by Dale Beavin.

5 Yeas - 1 Nays.

Jason Bullock	Yes
Bo Bennett	Yes
David Johnston	No
Dale Beavin	Yes
Larry Morpew	Yes
Michael McKenney	Yes


IX. Citizen's Comments

Discussion: Aubrey Newcom stated that the county stage which had been used for several events over the years, was getting in bad shape, Judge Johnston stated that the park took care of that and to get with Beau Wright. Beau Wright recommended that the county surplus it. Bo Bennett will check with Centertown Mayor for getting some plywood for the floor of the stage for Centertown Days. Brandon Thomas asked about Hwy. 1903, the judge stated that he would have an answer from the state by next meeting.

X. Adjournment

Judge Executive

Ohio County Fiscal Court Clerk

	Ohio County Fiscal Court Meeting REGULAR Judge Executive - David Johnston				
Michael McKenney Magistrate District 1	Jason Bullock Magistrate District 2	Bo Bennett Magistrate District 3	Dale Beavin Magistrate District 4	Larry Morpew Magistrate District 5	Justin Keown County Attorney
Ohio County Fiscal Court Meeting September 9, 2025 5:00 pm <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Call to Order Prayer and Pledge2. Approve August 26, 2025 Minutes3. Bills, Claims, Payments and Transfers4. Occupational Tax Administrator Bond Renewal5. Clerk's August 2025 Financial Statement6. Gary Hines with Ohio County Honor Guard7. Closed Session Under KRS 61.810 Chapter 1 Section C & F Return From Closed Session8. Committee Reports Viewing Committee Report Housing Committee Report9. Magistrates Comments and Requests10. County Officials Comments and Requests11. Citizens Comments12. Adjournment					

Public Entity Insurance

505 Wellington Way, Suite 275
Lexington, KY 40503

Phone: (859) 296-4580
Fax: (859) 296-4583



Invoice # 176773	Page 1 of 1
Account Number	Date
OHIOCD-P05	7/22/2025
BALANCE DUE ON	
8/22/2025	
AMOUNT PAID	Amount Due
	\$2,687.52

Ohio County Fiscal Court
130 East Washington Street
Hartford, KY 42347

CSR
Zach Mundell

Commercial Bond	PolicyNumber: 212 40 15	Effective: 8/22/2025 to 8/22/2026
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Item #	Trans Eff Date	Due Date	Trans	Description	Amount
1939525	8/22/2025	8/22/2025	RENB	25-26 Occ. Tax Administrator Bond Renewal	\$2,640.00
1939526	8/22/2025	8/22/2025	CFEE	KY Surcharge	\$47.52

Total Invoice Balance: \$2,687.52

01-5047-531-0

VOUCHER _____
OCC TAX 01-5047-_____-0_____
Approved By: _____

VOUCHER _____
OCC TAX 01-5047-445-0-7_____
Approved By: *Charlette Janner*

1237.52 Move \$

PAYMENT DUE BY DUE DATE OR UPON RECEIPT OF INVOICE.

OHIO COUNTY
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
CURRENT

Print Date: 9/8/2025 10:55 am
Page 1 of 3

Receipt Start: 8/1/2025 Receipts End: 8/31/2025 Period: 8/1/2025 thru 8/31/2025 using expense date for Accounts 25G - 25G

REVENUES	
FROM STATE & COUNTY:	
Registration of Voters	
Prepare Tax Bills	
Board of Supervisors, Appeals	
Grants Library & Archives	
Voter Personnel Reimbursement	
Salary, Clerk of Fiscal Court	
County Reimbursement	
Election Commissioner	
HB537 SPECIAL REVENUE	
FEES FROM TAXES & LICENSES:	
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$57,039.37
Child Victim Fund	
Motor Vehicle Usage Taxes	\$184,768.52
Motor Vehicle Notary Fees	\$12.00
Motor Vehicle Lien Release Fees	\$1,844.00
Motor Vehicle Property Tax - Motax	\$179,380.64
Delinquent Taxes	\$16,444.71
Hunting & Fishing Licenses	
Marriage Licenses	\$850.00
Miscellaneous Licenses	
County Stickers	\$18,632.00
Deed Transfer Taxes	\$8,594.50
RECORDING FEES:	
Deeds & Power Of Attorney	\$4,987.00
Real Estate Mortgages/Fixture Filing	\$5,793.00
Chattel Mortgages	\$5,290.00
Wills & Estates	\$660.00
Releases	\$2,278.00
Liens	\$455.00
Leases	\$37.00
Election Filing	
Storage Fees	\$4,000.00
Affordable Housing Trust	\$2,250.00
Miscellaneous Recordings	\$1,129.00
Postage & Copy Work	\$480.72
Miscellaneous	
Refunds & Overpayments	\$833.86
TOTAL SALES	\$496,559.32
MISCELLANEOUS BANK TRANSACTIONS	
Transfer of Funds (earned prev yr)	
Cash Drawer Transactions	
NSF Checks Less Redeposits	(\$105.22)
Interest Received on Bank Account	\$6.87
Misc Income/Refunds/Bank Cr Memos	\$14,823.13
Accounts Receivable Credit Memos	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS BANK TRANSACTIONS	\$14,724.78
Outstanding Accounts Receivables	(\$14,826.13)
TOTAL REVENUES GENERATED	\$496,457.97

OHIO COUNTY
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Page 2 of 3

Receipt Start: 8/1/2025 Receipts End: 8/31/2025 Period: 8/1/2025 thru 8/31/2025 using expense date for Accounts 25G - 25G

EXPENDITURES	
MOTOR VEHICLE DEPARTMENT	
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$38,379.37
Motor Vehicle Usage Tax	\$179,225.45
Motor Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax	\$172,205.42
MOTOR VEHICLE DEPARTMENT TOTALS	\$389,810.24
REAL ESTATE & PROPERTY TAXES	
Deed Transfer Taxes	\$8,164.77
Delinquent Taxes	\$14,993.18
TOTAL REAL ESTATE & PROPERTY TAXES	\$23,157.95
COUNTY STICKERS	
Legal Process Taxes	\$2,079.97
Misc Licenses/Commissions	
Affordable Housing Trust Fund	
Storage Fees to Fiscal Court	\$4,000.00
SALARIES	
Salary, Clerk	
Salary, Deputies	
TOTAL SALARIES	
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	
Health/Life & Unemployment Insurance	
Employer Match/Soc Sec & Retirement	
Clerk's Expenses	
Clerk's Insurance & Bonds	
Clerk's Dues & Convention Expenses	
Postage	
Operating Expenses & Office Supplies	
Election Reimbursements	
Microfilming & Indexing Records	
Misc Equipment & Maintenance Agmts	
General Repairs & Maintenance	
Candidate Filing Fee	
Refunds	\$833.95
NSF Check Charges	
Grant Library & Archives	
Uncollectible Accounts Receivable	
Outstanding Accounts Receivable	
Clerk's Final Settlement	
BANK CHARGES	
TRANSFER(S) OF FUNDS	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	
MISCELLANEOUS BANK TRANSACTIONS	
SUBTOTAL BANK ACTIVITY	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$437,768.83

OHIO COUNTY
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
CURRENT

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TOTAL REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES \$58,689.14

I certify that this statement, to the best of my knowledge, is true and correct.

SIGNED: Bess J. Ralph
OHIO COUNTY

DATE: 9/8/25

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF OHIO
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-5**

**AN ORDINANCE REGARDING BIODIGESTER AS AN ACCESSORY USE/INSTALLATIONS TO A
PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL AND/OR PRIMARY USE/INSTALLATIONS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to KRS 67.083, the Ohio County Fiscal Court is granted the authority to undertake all necessary governmental actions for the welfare of the county, and specifically is endowed pursuant to KRS 67.083(3)(h) and KRS 67.083(3)(m) for the regulation of commerce for the protection and convenience of the public, and with the power to protect and conserve the county's natural resources, including but not limited to soil and wildlife, to safeguard the livelihoods and well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Court has been informed of a proposal to install a biodigester within Ohio County, Kentucky to address waste from various distilleries; and

WHEREAS, Ohio County does not have an Ordinance to address the use of biodigesters in Ohio County, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio County Fiscal Court finds it necessary and appropriate to provide reasonable safeguards which mitigate potential nuisances such as pollution, environmental concerns, odor issues, noise disturbance, and impacts to local flora and fauna, among others, created by biodigester facilities as defined herein in order to protect adjoining properties and public at large; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio County Fiscal Court recommended the approval of this ordinance:

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF OHIO ORDAINS:

Section 1. Definitions

A. The following definitions are hereby

Anaerobic digester. See biodigester.

Biodigester. A device, structure, or system in which anaerobic digestion occurs. Anaerobic digestion is a collection of processes by which microorganisms break down biodegradable material in the absence of oxygen. A biodigester is typically used to manage biodegradable waste and/or to produce fuels and/or biosolids, such as fertilizer.

Further, the definition would also include an alternative energy system that is an accessory or principal use on a property and that utilizes anaerobic digestion for the primary purpose of producing energy. Mechanisms and processes that are part of the digester, including but not limited to separators and refining equipment, produce biogas, which is used for production of electricity and pipeline-quality natural gas.

B. The following specific development standards are hereby adopted as to the construction, maintenance, production and use of any biodigester:

A biodigester may be permitted per the following conditions:

1. The biodigester shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to building, safety, property maintenance, health, sanitation, fire, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, wastewater, stormwater, and all other applicable laws and regulations.
2. A biodigester shall be a minimum of five hundred feet (500') away from any existing residential use, residentially-zoned property, college, school, institution of learning, religious building, park, playground, community center, hospital, nursing home, daycare, airport terminal, or assisted living facility. This provision may not be waived or modified.
3. All feedstock, filtering chemicals, and digestate shall be delivered, stored, and processed on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system inside a fully enclosed building, sealed containers, or reactor vessels. Feedstock and/or waste shall be stored in enclosed containers or reactor vessels.
4. The building shall have equipment to control the release of objectionable odors, bioaerosols and microorganisms into the ambient air. Objectionable odors, bio aerosols, and microorganisms shall not be released into the ambient air. The building may be required to maintain negative air pressure if needed to control the release of objectionable odors.
5. The property owner shall submit to the Emergency Management Director an operating plan, which includes strategies for mitigating odor. The operating plan shall be subject to future amendments as needed to implement measures that adequately address existing and future odor issues.
6. Flaring of biogas shall be permitted in a location and manner approved by the Emergency Management Director and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. To the maximum extent reasonable, the flaring of biogas shall be screened from adjacent properties and rights-of-way.
7. Vehicles delivering feedstock, waste or materials to the biodigester shall not be offloaded until they are parked inside a fully enclosed receiving building, and all doors and windows of the receiving building are completely closed.
8. No outdoor storage of feedstock, waste, filtering chemicals, or digestate shall take place on the site. All feedstock, filtering chemicals, and digestate shall be stored inside a fully-enclosed building with all doors and windows closed.
9. All bulking, transfer, and pre-treatment of feedstock and/or waste shall be carried out in an enclosed building maintaining negative air pressure.
10. All storage and process tanks shall be bermed with a concrete barrier to prevent spills and shall have a total capacity of at least one hundred ten percent (110%) of the largest tank. Each individual tank shall have a capacity of twenty-five percent (25%) of the total tankage volume.
11. The biodigester shall be at least fifty feet (50') from a perimeter property line adjacent to a public right-of-way.

12. The biodigester owner/operator shall ensure that the noise level at the property line does not exceed 65 dBa. Any biogas production facility shall be designed and operated in compliance with all applicable noise standards as may be amended. The Ohio County Fiscal Court may require review by an independent noise professional to confirm compliance with this requirement.

13. The biodigester shall be screened as a utility substation in accordance with any state or federal law concerning same. If no law exists, the project site for a commercial biogas production facility shall be fenced to prevent unauthorized access, including provision of signage addressing site security.

14. Prior to the operation of a biodigester, the owner shall submit an emergency response plan to the Emergency Management Director of Ohio County.

15. Prior to the application of any biodigester product to any land/real estate, an environmental study must be performed on such land/real estate where application is sought. The owner(s) shall execute a consent to have the digestive nutrients applied.

16. Liquids may be discharged into a sewer only as approved by the water agency servicing the biodigester and the Ohio County Regional Wastewater District or may be taken off site in a closed tanker.

Section 2. Findings. The recitals set forth in this Ordinance are incorporated into and made a part of this Ordinance and where applicable, constitute the findings of the Fiscal Court.

Section 3. Authorization to take additional steps. Ohio County, its agents, employees and/or representatives are hereby authorized and directed to take any additional steps and actions necessary or convenient to accomplish the intent of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Effective date. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force after its passage and publication, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Date of First Reading: September 9, 2025

Motion by: **Larry Morphew**

Seconded by: **Dale Beavin**

Vote: **Bullock Yes**

Bennett Yes

Johnston No

Beavin Yes

Morphew Yes

McKinney Yes

