

**GARRARD COUNTY FISCAL COURT
REGULAR MEETING
HON. CHRISTOPHER T. ELLEMAN PRESIDING
AUGUST 31, 2026 @ 4:00 P.M.
15 PUBLIC SQUARE, LANCASTER, KY 40444**

The meeting was called to order by Judge/Executive Chris Elleman.

Opening prayer by J.T. Prewitt.

Opening Pledge of Allegiance led by Willie Skeens.

MAGISTRATES PRESENT: Glendan Barker, Bobby Preston, Wayne Day, Chris Butner and Chris Davis

IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IN RE: OLD BUSINESS

The PVA building has water damage due to leaks from the building next door to it. An insurance claim was filed and paid. A quote from Joel Madison Contracting Inc in the amount of \$8,730.00 was presented for repair work to get the PVA office back to a functional workspace. A motion was made to approve the repairs by Magistrate Davis and seconded by Magistrate Day. All in favor.

Windstream Kinetic is doing some work on Mount Hebron Rd / KY-1355 and Lewis Ward Rd. They need permission to get into our right-of-way. A motion was made to allow by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

A quote was presented from Winner's Circle Painting in the amount of \$8,500.00 to paint the County Attorney's office, the PVA office, and the entry hall. A motion was made to approve by Magistrate Preston and seconded by Magistrate Davis. All in favor.

A quote was presented from Anthem Sports, LLC in the amount of \$2,674.98 for a Portolite Two-piece 6" game mound for Lancaster Parks & Recreation. A motion was made to approve by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: PLATS

Mary Coulter Living Trust property at the back of Whitney Dr. There will be five parcels. Parcel 1 and Parcel 2 are 5.26 acres, Parcel 3 is 38 acres, Parcel 4 is 7.4 acres, and Parcel 5 is .05 acres, but it's adding to the existing lot. A new easement has been added. A motion was made to approve by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Day. All in favor.

IN RE: APPROVE COURT MINUTES

August 10, 2026, minutes were presented. A motion was made to approve by Magistrate Day and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: APPROVE TRANSFERS

None.

IN RE: APPROVE BILLS TO BE PAID**01 – GENERAL FUND**

Airgas USA, LLC	\$1,725.60
Blue Moon Restrooms	\$230.00
Boundtree	\$6,647.28
Central Kentucky Sheet Metal, Inc.	\$1,215.00
Danny's Termite & Pest Control	\$390.00
Dr. Lacy K. Price	\$630.00
Elan Financial Services	\$810.51
Environmental Waste Systems	\$89.00
Galls	\$207.00
Garrard County Historical Society	\$1,000.00
Garrard Co Attorney	\$4,935.84
Global Emergency Vehicles, Inc.	\$68,875.00
Ibex Global Solutions Inc	\$1.21
Jessamine Humane Society	\$600.00
Kentucky County Judge Executive Assoc	\$100.00
L&W Emergency Equipment	\$880.54
Perfection Group Inc	\$2,101.77
Public Entity Insurance	\$1,065.64
Quill	\$111.67
Rumpke	\$157.96
Sarah Bryant Law PLLC	\$80.00
Shelton's Plumbing	\$135.00
Visual Edge It, Inc	\$147.90
Zoll Medical Corporation	\$476.73

02 – ROAD FUND

The Allen Company	\$1,653.71
Elan Financial Services	\$461.25
Mago Construction Company LLC	\$2,405.00
Pats Mowers	\$104.00
Performance Feeds LLC	\$209.80
Rumpke	\$90.00
Weldquip	\$15.15

13 – SOLID WASTE FUND

Elan Financial Services

\$17.81

86 – ABC FUND

Garrard County Sheriff

\$16,182.46

Garrard County Fiscal Court

\$4,045.62

A motion was made to approve the bills by Magistrate Preston and seconded by Magistrate Butner. All in favor.

IN RE: APPROVE LAST MONTH'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

None.

IN RE: OPERATION UNITE REQUEST

A proposal was presented from Operation UNITE requesting \$8,000.00 in opioid abatement funding. This funding will allocate "Action Plan Funding" to Garrard County for administration through the Garrard County UNITE Coalition for the January–June and July–December 2027 funding cycles. Each funding cycle is \$4,000.00. According to Willie Skeens, Operation UNITE Coalition is a group of school kids who participate in anti-opioid and anti-drug activities. During the summer, the Sheriff's Dept provided transportation to the UNITE Camp at the University of the Cumberlands. UNITE has done basketball camps in Garrard County. They do tip lines for drug trafficking, provide treatment vouchers to those in need, and have individuals assigned to federal drug task forces. They have a virtual reality trailer that they will bring to the high school. They also counsel parents regarding warning signs of opioid use in their children. Judge/Executive Elleman would like a motion to be made to approve the request being paid from the Opioid Fund, pending approval from the Opioid Commission (KYOAAC) at the state level. A motion was made by Magistrate Davis and seconded by Magistrate Barker. All in favor.

IN RE: DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Sheriff: Willie Skeens was in attendance. His office will have an online payment option available for property tax bill payments by October 1, 2026. He is requesting approval from the Fiscal Court to create a special events license for an event being held at Chenault Bridge at Lockridge Park. The special events license is \$150.00 per applicant for Alcohol Beverage Control purposes. The time of the event will be 11:00 am until midnight on October 31, 2026. A motion was made to approve the license by Magistrate Davis and seconded by Magistrate Butner. All in favor.

Animal Control: Tammy Burkhart was in attendance. The shelter is still at full capacity. Calls are starting back up regarding the heat.

Road: Kenneth Creech was in attendance. They've still been working on flooded roads. Culverts have been replaced at Locust Lane. The bushhog has been running on Boone's Creek. The Old Railroad Grade Road bridge has been completed. Final inspection will take place on Thursday. Jack Black Road is in bad shape. Compliments have been received from the Hamilton Springs and Dripping Springs areas on the mowing.

Bluegrass 911: Russ Clark was in attendance. From January 1 through the current date, they've answered 97.98% of their 911 calls in 15 seconds or less. 99.5% of calls have been answered in 20 seconds or less during peak hours.

EMA: Wanda Shelton was in attendance. There still has not been an emergency declaration. KYEM is trying to get a jump start on a disaster relief center, which would be Garrard EMS. Holland Roofing found a warranty on the EOC roof and came and fixed a lot of water damage.

Garrard County Health Department: Jay Smith was in attendance. Since January they've written 74 permits. They've done 144 site evaluations, which is an increase over the previous several years. They will be having a rabies clinic on September 12, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. until noon at the Garrard Middle School. Cost is \$10.00 (cash only) for a one-year rabies shot.

EMS: Rebecca Sizemore was in attendance. There will be an EMT class running from November 2026 through April 2027. They are offering five scholarships to high school seniors. Zoll has serviced the new monitors at a cost of \$1,420.00. They are offering a one-year warranty of \$7,704.00 for four monitors. Replacement cost of the monitors is nearly \$40,000.00 each. Further inquiry will be made into the warranty option. Last week only two of the five ambulances were in service due to repairs needed. The new ambulance van will take about three months, and all specs were met by Global Emergency Vehicles, Inc.

PVA: Brian Swinney was in attendance. The PVA office is required by the state to be within a 90% threshold to get certified. They just finished reassessments in Cartersville. They are looking at a \$26M raise in District 4 alone, and county wide is \$82M. District 4 had a 20.5% increase since last year, the city had a 6.2% increase, District 1 was about 6%, District 2 was 5.0%, and District 3 was 7.6%. Eagle View data was shared with Kentucky Emergency Management to aid them after the flash flooding.

Judge's Office: A meeting has taken place with Sazerac regarding the distillery by McDonalds. They are hoping to be up and running by January 1, 2027, and hope to hire 25 employees starting off. The county road funds are being cut so we need to prepare for future road repair issues. There will be an IDA meeting on September 17, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. at the Extension Office and the Fiscal Court and City Council have been invited. A meeting took place with Representative Meade and Judge/Executive Elleman with Spectrum regarding complaints from community members over conflicts with contractors causing damages/disturbances to their property. Once completed, 98% of the county will have access to high-speed internet. On September 29, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., a bridge re-naming dedication ceremony will take place at Dix River (Boyle/Garrard). There have been some culverts installed on the wrong side of the road on some of the new houses built on Boone's Creek. The employee cookout was a success. The Republican Fish Fry is scheduled for September 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Trunk-or-Treat will be held at the Senior Citizens Center on October 27, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. The Garrard County transfer station will close at noon on Labor Day.

A motion was made to accept the department updates by Magistrate Preston and seconded by Magistrate Day. All in favor.

IN RE: GARRARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2026 TAX RATE

Jay Smith was in attendance. The Garrard County Health Department has chosen the compensating tax rate of 3.5 cents per \$100 for all real property, personal property and motor vehicles. The rate has dropped from 3.7 cents down to 3.5 cents. A motion was made to approve the rate change by Magistrate Butner and seconded by Magistrate Day. All in favor.

IN RE: GARRARD COUNTY LIBRARY 2026 TAX RATE

Laura McWilliams was in attendance. The Garrard County Library has chosen the compensating tax rate of 6.0 cents per \$100 for all real property. The personal property tax rate will be 7.58 cents per \$100, and the motor vehicle tax rate will be 2.49 cents per \$100. These rates have decreased from 6.3 cents for real property and 9.08 cents for personal property. A motion was made to approve the rate change by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: EXTENSION OFFICE 2026 TAX RATE

The Extension Office real property tax rate will decrease from 4.5 cents down to 4.4 cents per \$100.00. The personal property tax rate will be 6.02 cents and the motor vehicle tax rate will be 2.3 cents per \$100. A motion was made to approve the rate change by Magistrate Day and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: CAMP DICK FIRE DEPARTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT

Greg Hensley has resigned from the board of the Camp Dick Fire Department, and his position needs to be filled. Magistrate Barker said he has spoken first to Tom Chestnut, and then to Stephanie Butner and Mark Marsee about their interest in filling the position. Magistrate Barker made a motion to appoint Tom Chestnut to the Camp Dick Fire Department Board. The motion was seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: PAINT LICK/CARTERSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT

Dean Vencill has stepped down from the board of the Paint Lick/Cartersville Fire Department, and his position needs to be filled. Magistrate Day made a motion to appoint Shawn VanWinkle to the Paint Lick/Cartersville Fire Department Board. The motion was seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: GARRARD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 2026 TAX RATES (4 TOTAL)

Unsubmitted – Cartersville/Paint Lick Fire Board

Camp Dick Fire Board – 7 cents per \$100 (same as last year)

Garrard County Fire District 1 – 10 cents per \$100 (same as last year)

Buckeye Fire Board – 6.9 cents per \$100 (same as last year)

A motion was made to acknowledge receipt of the tax rates by Magistrate Day and seconded by Magistrate Barker. All in favor.

IN RE: ROAD SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT'S

The special road district property tax assessment on Zane's Trace will be reduced from \$350 down to \$300 per lot and C Valley will be reduced from \$545 down to \$525 per lot for the 2026 tax bills. A motion was made to lower the rates by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Day. All in favor.

IN RE: HB 900 FUND BANK ACCOUNT

A Resolution was presented at the August 10, 2026, meeting authorizing the filing of a Kentucky House Bill ("HB") 900 Project Grant Application for up to \$1,500,000 in HB 900 funds with the Department for Local Government (DLG). A motion is needed to open a separate bank account for these HB 900 funds and to allow Judge/Executive Elleman and Treasurer Seagraves to be signors on the account. A motion was made to allow by Magistrate Day and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor, other than Magistrate Davis who abstained.

A second motion is needed to allow a transfer from the General Fund checking account into the HB 900 checking account should the proceeds be direct deposited. A paper check (if received) will be deposited straight into the new HB 900 checking account. A motion was made to allow the transfer (if needed) by Magistrate Barker and seconded by Magistrate Preston. All in favor.

IN RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

IN RE: ADJOURN MEETING

A motion was made to adjourn by Magistrate Preston and seconded by Magistrate Barker.

Hon _____

Garrard County Judge/Executive