

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT
(MAYORS' MEETING)
MINUTES
January 28, 2014**

A special meeting of the Campbell County Fiscal Court (Mayors' Meeting) and local representatives was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Campbell County Fiscal Court Chambers, 1098 Monmouth Street, Newport, Kentucky. Items on the Agenda were: (1) Changes in the Federal Flood Insurance Program, (2) Vision 2015 Presentation on myNKY, (3) Response to Heroin Problems and Recent Activity, (4) Raven 911 Presentation, (5) General Assembly 2014 Session, (6) County Economic Development Officer Position, (7) Updates on Transportation Issues, 911 Service Fee Implementation, Northern Kentucky Caucus Meeting Dates, Weather Spotter Training and Spring 2014 Solid Waste Events, and (8) Other Items of Interest.

Steve Pendery	Judge/Executive
Pete Garrett	County Commissioner
Brian Painter	County Commissioner
Ken Rehtin	County Commissioner
Robert Horine	County Administrator, CCFC
Melissa Williams	Director of Administration, CCFC
Paula Spicer	Fiscal Court Clerk, CCFC
Matt Elberfeld	Finance Director, CCFC
David Plummer	Solid Waste Coordinator, CCFC
Cindy Minter	Planning and Zoning Director, CCFC
William Turner	Office of Emergency Management Director, CCFC
Jim Daley	Campbell County Jailer
Joe Fischer	Kentucky State Representative
Mary Brown	Mayor, Ft. Thomas
Greg Meyers	Mayor, Highland Heights
William Rachford	Mayor, Alexandria
Jim Hamberg	Mayor, Southgate
Neal Bedel	Mayor, Silver Grove
Ed Riehl	Mayor, Bellevue
Ronnie Walton	Mayor, Melbourne
Joe Wind	Northern Kentucky University
Meghan Sandfoss	Northern Kentucky Area Development District
David Rager	Sanitation District No. 1
Bob Porter	Congressman Thomas Massie's Office
Dennis Gordon	Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission
Trisha Brush	Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission
Christine Grimmelsman	Cincinnati Fire Department/Homeland Security
Bill Scheyer	Vision 2015

Judge Pendery called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Introductions followed.

Cindy Minter, Campbell County Planning and Zoning Director, addressed the group about changes in the Federal Flood Insurance Program. Ms. Minter asked all of the Mayors to thank their City Clerks for working with her to update their respective flood prevention ordinances and the adoption of the 2014 maps from FEMA. She announced that the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission is hosting the Kentucky Division of Water at a Risk MAP discovery meeting on February 26, 2014; fliers are available with more details. Ms. Minter offered to meet with individual cities regarding the flood insurance program. Bob Porter of Congressman Thomas Massie's office advised that Congressman Massie has co-sponsored legislation to delay for two years implementation of the Biggert Waters Act which is behind the increase in insurance premiums. There is also a bill pending in the Senate requesting a four year delay. He stated that a state-wide, as well as national coordinated effort it needed. Robert Horine explained that Congress has taken away the subsidy for the National Flood Insurance Program. The subsidy expires over a four year period for people with existing policies, but the new rates apply immediately for new property owners. Mayors Neal Bedel and Ronnie Walton shared some of the experiences of property owners and potential property owners in their Cities. Mr. Porter stated that the cancellation of subsidies is due in part to the large number of claims from Hurricane Sandy.

Bill Scheyer, Vision 2015, introduced myNKY.org as a tool to develop future plans for Northern Kentucky. Mr. Scheyer gave a brief history of Northern Kentucky's Vision beginning with the first plan in 1981, followed by Quest in 1995 and Vision 2015 in 2005. The Vision 2015 plan expires at the end of this year and a new plan will be rolled out next year. He described and demonstrated the myNKY.org website and its interactive features. Mr. Scheyer asked that those present share the information presented with others so that they can get as many ideas as possible. Vision 2015 serves nine Northern Kentucky counties. Judge Pendery complimented Mr. Scheyer on the presentation and materials.

Judge Pendery introduced Meghan Sandfoss of the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (ADD), to open discussion on the Heroin epidemic in Northern Kentucky. Ms. Sandfoss distributed copies of the Plan for Recovery released by the Northern Kentucky Heroin Impact Response Leadership Team in November 2013. The ADD serves as fiscal agent for the Team, and has been awarded a \$75,000 grant to be used to implement the plan. She described how the ADD will use the grant funds. Ms. Sandfoss advised that the Governor and Attorney General announced that they will earmark drug lawsuit settlement funds for the treatment of heroin in Kentucky. The ADD will apply for these funds to construct an adolescent treatment center in Northern Kentucky. In addition the ADD is looking for input from local governments. Jim Daley, Jailer, advised that the population of the main jail has increased as a result of the local heroin problems. In a 10-day period beginning January 17, 2014 the Campbell County jail has booked in 33 people with heroin charges. He estimates that 40-50% of the jail population is there on heroin or heroin-related charges. It is an extremely expensive problem for the County. Judge Pendery pointed out that many inmates are jailed for property related offenses – they are stealing to support a drug habit. Mr. Daley explained how treatment of addicted inmates has affected the jail's medical budget. The State does not fund substance abuse programs in jails. He would like to move forward with a SAPP Program. Judge Pendery stated that about one quarter of the County's budget goes to operate the jail. He would like to have a substance abuse program for inmates in the former District Court building once it is vacated. Judge Pendery

described a coordinated effort of local police and the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force to combat the heroin problem. The cost of the Recovery Plan is estimated at \$8 million dollars. Ms. Sandfoss offered to attend meetings at any City to further discuss the plan.

Dennis Gordon, Executive Director, Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission, stated that seven years ago the Fiscal Court signed an interlocal agreement with the Water District, SD1, the PVA and NKAPC to build a GIS system for Campbell County that would serve a multitude of needs. Over the past seven years the staffs of those entities have put together a remarkable GIS system that covers all of Campbell County. He gave an example of how this coordination of efforts can save everybody time and money. Mr. Gordon stated that the RAVEN 911 system is the most exciting thing relative to GIS usage. Trisha Brush, Director of LINK-GIS, suggested that people log onto www.linkgis.org, the Planning Commission's on-line mapping program, to see the information that is available. Without the forethought of the entities that built the GIS systems there would not be a RAVEN 911 system. Chris Grimmelsman, Cincinnati Fire Department's Homeland Security unit, one of the co-creators of the RAVEN 911 (Regional Asset Verification & Emergency Network) mapping system gave a brief history of the system which started as a result of the region's windstorm in 2008. She explained the process by which data was collected for the system. Ms. Grimmelsman stated that the RAVEN 911 has received five awards and plans to apply for an award that comes with \$100,000 which they'd like to use to obtain an unmanned aircraft system for search and rescue missions. Ms. Grimmelsman demonstrated some real-life instances in which RAVEN 911 was used and how it can be used in fictional situations. The system can be used to identify witnesses and for crime prevention through social media, and for VIP/diplomat security. It also has access to the National Weather Service Doppler radar and a meteorologist. RAVEN 911 has users from across the country and a lot of military users. They have recently stopped getting users from outside the area due to lack of funding; the funding for RAVEN 911 is running out. Ms. Grimmelsman advised that emergency response personnel and emergency response disciplines as defined by the Department of Homeland Security are eligible to use the RAVEN 911 system. Mr. Gordon concluded by stating that this would not have been possible if not for the foresight of the Fiscal Court and other parties to the Interlocal Agreement.

Judge Penderly asked Representative Joe Fischer to update the group on the current General Assembly session. Representative Fischer stated that the General Assembly has completed 15 days of the 60-day session with today being the last day to file bills. There is a lot of bipartisan support for the heroin bill sponsored by Northern Kentucky legislators. Representative Fischer stated that it is significant that the Attorney General has dedicated funds from a lawsuit for treatment. He stated that the heroin bill may be the first bill to pass both the House and the Senate. Representative Fischer announced that the Northern Kentucky Legislative Caucus will meet on February 1, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Grant County Courthouse and again on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the NKU METS Center in Erlanger.

Joe Wind, Vice President, Government & Community Relations, Northern Kentucky University (NKU), presented statistics about NKU regarding its lean operating budget, current space deficit and shift of the percentage of funding from the State to being 72% funded by tuition. The University is in need of \$4 million to update the technology in its informatics college and expand in areas of healthcare. NKU has requested the General Assembly to create an outcome based

funding model - investment based on what the university delivers. He stated that President Mearns is asking people to support the University and its students by encouraging their legislators to fight for these issues. For the first time the Governor has recommended \$97 million in state bond funds for NKU's health innovation center. The two highest growth areas in Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati region are informatics and healthcare. NKU is the engine for the next generation of economic development. The Health Innovations Center along with the College of Informatics is the foundation for a new consumer health and wellness economic cluster in Kentucky. At this point NKU loses about 200 students every year that want to be in healthcare disciplines because NKU doesn't have the facilities to accommodate them. Mr. Wind stated that NKU faces a recurring cost of \$5 million for pension costs. NKU would have to raise tuition or make program cuts to fund this cost. The Governor's budget proposes a 2.5 percent funding cut for all public universities.

Robert Horine addressed the group about the new Economic Development Officer position. He stated that the Campbell County Economic Progress Authority (CCEPA) has had several people in a similar position; however the position has been vacant since 2012. The Fiscal Court and the CCEPA have agreed to share the cost of filling this position and have begun the process to fill it. Mr. Horine stated that this position will be available to help the Cities in Campbell County, and he expects to have an announcement soon.

Judge Pendery made reference to the handouts placed at each seat regarding transportation projects updates, Northern Kentucky Caucus meeting dates, Weather Spotter training class and Spring 2014 Solid Waste events.

Robert Horine stated that the County successfully implemented the new 911 fee. Over \$1.6 million collected has been transferred to the Campbell County Consolidated Dispatch Center and the fee on landlines has been discontinued. He also pointed out that a lawsuit has been filed challenging the new fee.

Judge Pendery asked if there were any subjects that the attendees would like to see on the next agenda, and announced that the next Mayor's Meeting will be on April 22, 2014.

There being no further items for discussion, Judge Pendery thanked those in attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

APPROVED:

STEVE PENDERY
Campbell County Judge/Executive

ATTEST:

Paula K. Spicer, Fiscal Court Clerk