

HENDERSON COUNTY FISCAL COURT-MINUTE & ORDER BOOK

Record of Regular Meeting Minutes from 1/27/2026

Court convened for a Regular Meeting at the Courthouse, Henderson, KY, on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. County Judge/Executive Brad Schneider presiding.

Call To Order

County Judge/Executive Brad Schneider called the meeting to order.

Invocation

The invocation was given by Judge/Executive Brad Schneider

Pledge Of Allegiance

Judge/Executive Schneider led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Magistrate Berry	Absent
Magistrate Puttman	Present
Magistrate Southard	Present
Magistrate Starks	Present
Magistrate Tompkins	Present

Minutes January 13, 2026 Regular Meeting

Magistrate Puttman clarified that the date on the Minutes from the previous meeting was typed as December 25 vice December 23 in the body of the minutes. A pen and ink change was made to the previous minutes to reflect this. Magistrate Southard made a motion to approve the January 13, 2026 Fiscal Court minutes to include the correction. Magistrate Tompkins seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

Henderson County Water District Report – Superintendent Mark Julian

Mr. Julian presented December's report. He said they purchased 38 million gallons of water and sold 25 million. Water loss was up due to undetected leaks in Reed that have now been repaired. Mr. Julian said they will begin in February to replace 1100 customer meters in Baskett, Reed and Spottsville. He reported that 68% of the countywide inventory is complete. Mr. Julian then gave a report of the progress the Water District has made since June 2025 with the funding received from Fiscal Court. Supporting documentation showed the Water District has made substantial progress by effectively using the first half of the \$3 million grant to expand operational capacity, implement critical infrastructure and technology, and significantly reduce water loss systems. Mr. Julian assured the court with the additional \$1.5 million, that once all work is complete there are plans in place to ensure sustainability so that there will be no need for assistance in the future.

Magistrate Southard made a motion to release the second half of the funds (\$1.5 million) that Henderson County Fiscal Court agreed to fund the project. Magistrate Tompkins seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all voting in favor and the motion carried.

Appointment – Henderson County Public Library Board of Trustees– Judge Schneider

Tiffany Sights has resigned from the Henderson County Board of Trustees. The Board has recommended to appoint Sean Leavelle to fill her position. Judge Schneider would like to appoint Sean Leavelle to fill the vacancy. The term will expire 7/31/2028.

Magistrate Tompkins made a motion to appoint Sean Leavelle to fill the vacancy on the Library Board. Magistrate Puttman seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried

Kentucky Ambulance Block Grant Program Application – Judge Schneider

Judge Schneider explained that the State of Kentucky has an ambulance block grant program, through which Deaconess would like to apply for a \$10,000.00 grant. The grant money must flow through Fiscal Court. Judge Schneider is requesting approval to sign the application for state submission.

Magistrate Puttman made a motion to authorize Judge Schneider to sign the application. Magistrate Starks seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

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Bid Request – Baskett Recreation Building Repair – County Engineer Nick Stallings

The Baskett Park recreation building that houses the concession stand and bathrooms needs repaired. The bathrooms had to be closed last year due to an inoperable septic tank. County Engineer Nick Stallings said that the Health Department has granted approval to install a new septic tank. Mr. Stallings would like to solicit bids for the needed repairs to the building and installation of a new septic system. Discussion ensued about possibly negotiating a future purchase of the old Baskett Fire Department to create more parking and storage which will be revisited at a later date.

Magistrate Starks made a motion to authorize the County Engineer to solicit for bids for building repairs and installation of a septic system. Magistrate Puttman seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all voting in favor and the motion carried.

Bid Opening Drainage Obstruction Removal – County Engineer Nick Stallings

The sealed bids were received and opened by the County Engineer who read the amounts into the record. Bids were received from O’nan Excavating Services, Glassco Excavating, A & S Services INC and Glenn’s General Contracting.

He would like to take these bids under review and come back with a recommendation at the February 10th Fiscal Court Meeting. All agreed.

Bid Recommendation – Road Department Material Bids – County Engineer Nick Stallings

County Engineer Nick Stallings presented his recommendations for the Road Department’s annual materials.

Concrete: Meuth Concrete (only bidder)

Culvert Pipe: Winwater Hartford Company for plastic pipe and corrugated steel pipe.

Aggregates: Audubon Sand & Gravel and Mulzer Crushed Stone Inc.

For Aggregates, because both bids were very close, Mr. Stallings said he would like approval to use both ASG and Mulzer. Depending on where work is performed in the county it would more cost effective to use both due to haul time from each yard. County Attorney Gold said before court could give approval to use separate contractors, he would need to make sure the bid specs did not specify exclusivity.

Magistrate Southard made a motion to accept the recommendations to use Meuth Concrete and Winwater Hartford Company. Magistrate Tompkins seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

After reviewing the bid specs, County Attorney Gold said the language states that Fiscal Court reserves the right to award contracts to separate bidders. With that, Magistrate Tompkins made a motion to approve the recommendation to use both Audubon Sand and Gravel and Mulzer Crushed Stone Inc. Magistrate Southard seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

Household Hazardous Waste Grant Application – Recycling Supervisor Eric Higgs

Mr. Higgs is requesting authorization to apply for the Household Hazardous Waste Grant. With this grant, a quote for the event is sought from an environmental company as to what the anticipated cost would be. If we do not use the total, a reimbursement to the state is expected.

Magistrate Puttman made a motion authorizing the Judge to sign the grant applications. Magistrate Starks seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

Ordinance # 26-01 Insurance Premium Tax Reduction – 1st Reading

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE 1 OF SUBSECTION 137 OF THE HENDERSON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING INSURANCE COMPANY LICENSE FEE OR TAX TO REDUCE THE LICENSE FEE OR TAX FROM 9.75% TO 4.675%

The Fiscal Court Clerk read the ordinance into record.

On first reading of the foregoing Ordinance, at the regular meeting of the Henderson Fiscal Court on January 27, 2026, it was moved by Magistrate Puttman, seconded by Magistrate Tompkins, that the ordinance be adopted on its first reading.

HENDERSON COUNTY FISCAL COURT–MINUTE & ORDER BOOK

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A Roll Call vote was held with the voting as follows:

Roll Call

Magistrate Berry	Absent	Magistrate Starks	Aye
Magistrate Tompkins	Aye	Magistrate Puttman	Aye
Magistrate Southard	Aye	Judge Schneider	Aye

Whereupon, County Judge-Executive Brad Schneider declared the Ordinance adopted on its first reading and ordered that the same be published in summary form and presented for second reading on February 10, 2026 at the regular meeting of fiscal court.

Ordinance #26-02 Small Farm Winery Farmstays 1st Reading

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE HENDERSON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE (FOUND IN THE HENDERSON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES IN APPENDIX A THEROF) TO INCLUDE SMALL FARM WINERY FARMSTAY AS A CONDITIONAL USE WITHIN AGRICULTURAL ZONES OF SAID ORDINANCE

The Fiscal Court Clerk read the ordinance into record.

On first reading of the foregoing Ordinance, at the regular meeting of the Henderson Fiscal Court on January 27, 2026, it was moved by Magistrate Puttman, seconded by Magistrate Tompkins, that the ordinance be adopted on its first reading.

A Roll Call vote was held with the voting as follows:

Roll Call

Magistrate Berry	Absent	Magistrate Starks	Aye
Magistrate Tompkins	Aye	Magistrate Puttman	Aye
Magistrate Southard	Aye	Judge Schneider	Aye

Whereupon, County Judge-Executive Brad Schneider declared the Ordinance adopted on its first reading and ordered that the same be published in summary form and presented for second reading on February 10, 2026 at the regular meeting of fiscal court.

Animal Control Reports – Animal Control Executive Director Laurie Miller

Ms. Miller submitted her report. She said that they have currently been doing lots of welfare checks leading up to the bad weather. Animal Control has been providing straw and public education to help keep animals warm. Ms. Miller told the court that they are currently working on a project called Pete’s Pantry that provides pet food for families that may be struggling financially. The goal is to keep animals with their owners during hardship rather than being surrendered. She said she is currently seeking grants for that and will provide more information as it transpires. Ms. Miller also reported that currently there are only 44 dogs in the shelter.

Approval of the Order Setting Maximum Salaries for Deputies and Assistants (Sheriff’s Office) – Sheriff Chip Stauffer

The Sheriff’s 2026 Annual Order Setting the Maximum Salaries of \$4,072,225.55 was presented to the court. This is an annual requirement of the Department of Local Government.

Magistrate Tompkins made a motion to approve the Sheriff’s Annual Order. Magistrate Southard seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried

Approval of the Order Setting Maximum Salaries for Deputies and Assistants (Clerks) – County Clerk Renesa Abner

The Clerk’s 2026 Annual Order Setting the Maximum Salaries of \$1,275,000.00 was presented to the court. This annual order is required by the Department of Local Government.

Magistrate Southard made a motion to approve the Clerk’s Annual Order. Magistrate Starks seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

HENDERSON COUNTY FISCAL COURT-MINUTE & ORDER BOOK*Record of Regular Meeting Minutes from 1/27/2026***County Clerk's Report, Fee Office Budget & Annual Settlement – County Clerk Renesa Abner**

Renesa presented the monthly, quarterly and annual reports and turned over a check for \$121,022.80 in excess fees for a total of \$173,037.33 turned over to the county this month. For the year she has turned over \$1,526,547.60 in excess fees. She also presented a check for \$16.91 for interest in her usage account.

Magistrate Puttman made a motion to accept the County Clerk's Annual Settlement into the record. Magistrate Starks seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

Magistrate Puttman made a motion to accept the County Clerk's monthly, quarterly & annual reports into the record and accept the County Clerk's Fee Office Budget. Magistrate Starks seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

County Attorney Report – County Attorney Steve Gold

County Attorney Steve Gold presented a report of payments dated January 27, 2026 and turned over \$22,885.74 in various checks to the court.

Magistrate Southard made a motion to accept the County Attorney's report. Magistrate Puttman seconded the motion. A voice vote was held. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Fund Transfers – Treasurer Brenda Rider

Treasurer Brenda Rider reported the transfers are to redistribute appropriations within the existing budget. Judge Schneider asked for explanation on the first item which was posting errors. Treasurer Rider explained that in the current year's budget she split the full-time custodial staff from the part-time custodial staff into 2 separate line items but they were not coded correctly at the beginning of the year.

Magistrate Puttman made a motion to approve the transfers. Magistrate Southard seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor. The motion carried.

Claims – Treasurer Brenda Rider

Treasurer Brenda Rider presented the monthly claims and the bank balances after the claims are paid. She also presented the following additional claims for payment.

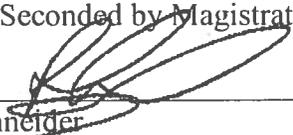
General Fund: \$5,463.17 Kentucky State Treasurer (Sheriff's Fee Audit ending 12/31/24)
Jail Fund: \$810.74 Republic Services (Monthly Service)

Magistrate Puttman made a motion to pay the claims. Magistrate Southard seconded the motion. A voice vote was held with all present voting in favor and the motion carried.

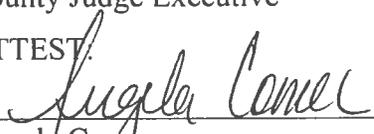
Good of the County-**Emily Herron -Executive Director of the Henderson City/County Airport**

Ms. Herron updated the court on the Runway Rehabilitation and Extension Projects. She said the runway was extended 1600 feet and new signs and lighting have been installed. Ms. Herron said the remainder of the work, such as sodding, seeding and final pavement markings, will be completed in the spring but the runway has been in full operation since December 22nd. She extended an invitation to the court to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 11, 2026.

There being no further business to come before the court, Magistrate Tompkins made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Magistrate Tompkins. Meeting adjourned



Brad Schneider
County Judge Executive

ATTEST:


Angela Comer
Fiscal Court Clerk