

FISCAL

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As well as Resolution #20250925-02, which authorizes the filing of a Kentucky Local Government Economic Development Fund House Bill 6 Project proposal/grant application for up to \$95,000.00, for Knox County Utility Commission Water Line Location, being approved.

The Knox County Detention Center’s Canteen Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year was represented, with a reconciled balance from June 30, 2025, reporting at \$142,642.86, an inflow total of \$1,197,813.53, an outflow balance of \$1,129,788.72, a reconciliation total of \$142,642.86, and an unreconciled total of \$68,024.81. Fiscal Court members discussed and approved the reports.

Fiscal Court members discussed Executive Order #20250925-01, which approved the closing of Knox County Courthouse to be closed on Thursday, October 9th, and Friday, October 10th of 2025, for the Daniel Boone Festival.

The tax rates for 2025 were approved, with real property set at .09 cents per \$100, tangible personal property set at 24 cents, and inventory at 24 cents.

Knox County Sheriff’s 2024 local tax settlements were represented and approved, with a report of \$1,280,651.36 charges throughout 2024 in total, as well as the estimated advancement for the months of September and October of 2025 to be \$25,000 and \$50,000.

A discussion involving the demolition and restoration of Kay Jay buyout properties took place, which ended in a tabled motion due to an appar-



From left, Magistrate (Dist. 3) Tony Golden, Judge-Executive Mike Mitchell, Clerk Amy McAdams, and Magistrate (Dist. 4) Jeff Ketcham at Thursday’s meeting of the Knox County Fiscal Court. Photo by Bryleigh Middleton

ent misunderstanding or miscommunication with a bidder concerning a mandatory pre-bid meeting, to which the bidder did not attend.

A Statement of Affiliation between Knox County Emergency Management

and the Knox County Fiscal Court, and the Knox County Special Operations Response Team was approved by fiscal court members, set to go into effect on October 1, 2025.

The Fiscal Court approved the purchase of an

electric switchgear from the Knox County Board of Education for a new administration building, totaling out at \$64,910, a surplus vehicle for the Knox County Fiscal Court, the purchase of a used backhoe, admitting James Sproul to the Li-

brary Board for a four year term, and a new hire at the Knox County Detention Center.

Budget transfers and interfund transfers were approved, along with claims and other regular county business.

LOVELL

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to offer my services in the area that I’m really fond of,” stated Lovell.

Lovell explained that tho Trinity Family Health is a fairly new facility, it has been around for nearly 10 years and is present in several locations throughout the

tri-county area. They offer primary care to both adults and children, mental health care, medically assisted treatment for behavioral health, counseling, testing for autism, and more. “Part of my role as CEO is marketing and getting more contacts for the clinic,” stated Lovell.

When questioned about just how Lovell

feels about this new job, he stated, “When this opportunity came up to go back to work, I knew it was a good fit for me. It wasn’t as hectic as being in a hospital, and so I just thought it was a good opportunity to stay involved.”

Not only does Lovell see it as a way to stay involved, but also an opportunity to offer his

expertise in leadership to a clinic that is seeking more visibility, as well as offering guidance to grow their business.

However, Lovell reassures members of the community that this will not lead him to stray from his ongoing work, such as serving as the Chamber of Commerce President and participating in local

groups, including Knox County Autism Awareness.

“Taking this role just helps to keep me connected and also to get the clinic more connected throughout the community,” stated Lovell. “My goal is to make people aware of Trinity and what we offer. When I tell people I work at Trinity Family

Health, I want them to be like, ‘I know where that’s at and what they offer.’”

Lovell expressed his gratitude and excitement for this new opportunity and journey, stating, “It is a great opportunity for me at this point in my career, and it’s great. I hope I can bring the great benefit of my skills to Trinity and to the community.”



Chamber luncheon attendees were treated to exploring the new career labs at Barbourville City School on Tuesday. Photo by Bryleigh Middleton

CHAMBER

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dentistry, optometry, and radiology.

The meeting began with Chamber Ambassador, Maxine Reid, blessing the food, provided by Barbourville High School, and introductions from Chamber of Commerce President, Charles Lovell, and attendees.

Lovell reported that they were in a very good financial position, with a balance of \$38,811.59, and would then introduce Superintendent Dennis Messer.

Messer recognized the rise of the Barbourville High School, stating they currently educate around 760 students, when they once sat at less than half of that amount, along with 47 graduating seniors, growing to 60 next year.

Not only is the growth impressive, but Messer reported that the school is currently ranked number 10 in the state of Kentucky, according to the U.S. News and World Report, as well as their new relationship with Dr. Washington at Union Commonwealth University, and their new dual credit programs and opportunities for students to complete associate degrees.

Messer also recognized the hard work to respond to the hunger throughout Knox County.

A program started approximately four years ago, where they partnered with the First Baptist Church to serve dinner every year, the day before Thanksgiving. This program is called Barbourville Cares.

Last year at their last dinner, Barbourville Cares served almost 550 people, free of charge. Members of the community were also given clothing, and will be given the opportunity to have a health screening this year, as they have

partnered with Barbourville ARH.

“I just want to make sure everybody gets a good meal at Thanksgiving,” stated Messer.

The next Barbourville Cares will be held at Thompson R.V. Park, and there will be inflatables for kids and Bible study for those who wish to participate.

Messer informed attendees of a fairly new project for middle school and high school students, where the students will take one day out of the last week of school to help tourism and the community. Students recently painted a memorial.

Messer stated, “We’re trying to produce quality and well-rounded individuals that are not only academically strong, but also community-minded and willing to give back.”

The new Paxton Patterson labs were a hot topic for the meeting, as attendees got the first look at students in action.

Messer reintroduced the program and explained how beneficial it can be for students to have an early decision on what they want to do after graduation, even announcing that they have future plans to introduce new labs concerning health science. With the new labs, the students can study dentistry, optometry, and what it is like to be an X-ray tech firsthand.

The meeting commenced with a tour of the students participating in the brand-new labs.

In other news, November 20th will be the annual Chamber Banquet, which will be held at First Baptist Church. Prayer on the Square will be on October 1st at 7 p.m., and the Shop with a Cop 5K and one-mile run will be on October 4th at Fort Bank at 9 a.m. Proceeds are used to support children during the Christmas season to be able to buy gifts for themselves and their families.



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