

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Berea Board of Adjustment will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, July 23, 2025

On July 24, 2025, at 5:30pm At the Madison County Courthouse Annex at 135 W. Irvine St, Richmond Ky 40475, 1st floor

at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at the Berea City Annex located at 304 Chestnut Street to consider the following request:

THERESA NELSON– 104 DINSMORE ST – REQUESTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR PET SITTING / PET CARE SERVICE IN AN R-3 (Multi-Family Residential) ZONE.

The public is invited to attend and make comments.

Amanda Haney Codes Administrator Melissa Issacs Board Secretary

FEE

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commission meeting was perhaps precisely what Madison County Judge/Executive Reagan Taylor dreaded earlier Tuesday. Taylor addressed the issue in Berea at the Madison County Fiscal Court.

"It gets disheartening when you're supposed to be in something together, and others that you're partners in this with just continue to put it out there in public like it's us," Taylor said, suggesting the county was being blamed for something all three governments approved. County officials did say, however, that Berea officials had been supportive.

Taylor also said suggestions that the governments sprung the fee on taxpayers simply isn't true.

"I want the people that are maybe watching this today [to know], that for two and a half years, the city of Richmond and the city of Berea [and Madison County] have been working together to create a plan of how we are going to collect a fee that has been around in another method of collection, on landline phones, since the early 1990s."

The \$4.2 million derived from the fee is needed to replace federal money from the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, which concluded this year with the destruction of at the Blue Grass Army Depot Additionally, the county had been collecting money for 911 through a telephone landline fee, but as the popularity of cell phones proliferated, and with the end of CSEPP funding, the three governments began discussions on forming a new plan in 2023.

the chemical weapons stockpile

Following the recommendations of an intergovernmental task force, all three governments adopted a 911 service fee ordinance in 2024, later opting to delay implementation of the fee until 2025.

Brewer expressed his belief that officials had actually agreed to a flat-fee structure, but that somewhere along the line that was changed. He said why it was changed and by who is an issue that needs investigation.

Madison County officials said if they had simply opted to have all property owners pay a flat fee, the amount of the fee could have run as high as \$75 annually. Under the current structure, the fee for a single-family home is about \$32 per year, said officials.

Further complicating matters is the fact that the zoning data collected from the three governments is not always accurate, leading to cases in which property owners are overcharged. At times, the amount of useable square footage is also miscalculated.

Magistrate Tom Botkin, however, said even if implementation has had some problems, the members of the Post-CSEPP Task Force did their job.

"The one thing that has really just bothered me in the last few days about it is the fact that folks have been attacking our task force," Botkin said. "Richmond, the county, Berea – they put the best people we had on that task force, and they worked hard for a year and a half, so, I just think it's unfair to them. They didn't go out and just look at one thing, they looked at many things to come up with what we have today."

Botkin closed his remarks by saying the three governments and citizens must invest in 911 service to ensure public safety.

"You've been paying a fee for 911, and you're going to pay a fee," Botkin said, noting that he's heard people complain that they never use 911 dispatch service. "I'm going to tell you something: the one time you do have to call them, you won't be worried about what you're paying for 911."

Though the deadline to appeal the amount of the 911 service fee expires late Friday, officials said extensions can be given if warranted. Property owners can appeal their assessments online at https://madisoncountyky. gov/911-fee-appeal-extension/, or if they do not have internet access in Berea, they can call 859-228-1048 or contact officials at the county at 859 624-4700 (option 3).

The purpose is to consider the following:

There will be a public hearing of the Madison County Board of Adjustments

Dimensional Variance: 509 Ryker Ct, Richmond Ky, 40475

For more information call:

Madison County Planning & Development at 859-624-4780

Or Applications and other documentation may be found on the Madison County website at madisoncountyky.gov under the Planning and Development tab.

Community CALENDAK

Thursday, July 10

• Berea Parks & Recreation is hosting Tummy Time Painting for babies and toddlers at Memorial Park from 10 a.m.-noon. There will be story time with a touch of art.

•There will be a free meal from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Ethan Health in Richmond. In addition to free meals they offer peer support and counseling, hygiene items, clothing, bus tickets, legal aid, harm reduction services, free cell phones, and more.

• The Chenault Vineyards in Richmond hosts free yoga sessions every Thursday from 6-7 p.m. at The Ceremony Point in good weather and The Reception Hall in poor weather. Location will be posted on Chenault Vineyards' social media. Bring your own mat. All levels of experience welcome.

• Join a women's mapping/orienteering class taught by Dr. Kelly Watson from EKU. 6:30 p.m. at Taylor Fork Ecological Area.

Friday, July 11

• The Berea Craft Festival will be held at Indian Fort Festival from Friday, July 11 to Sunday, July 13. Dates and times are as follows: July 11-12 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and July 13 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

• Flashback Friday will take place at Russel Action Folk Center from 6-8 p.m. Join a 1990s themed pajama party with books, finger foods, and music from the 90's.

Saturday, July 12

• The Berea Farmers Market will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 635 Chestnut Street.

• Join a free hike organized by the Berea College Forestry Outreach Center at the Pinnacles at 10 a.m. You will hike with FOC staff and Berea College students.

• The Red Oaks Art Club will be having a meeting from 10 a.m.-noon All ages and skill levels are welcome, art materials are provided, and the class is free. Bring snacks, water, and a blanket to sit on. Register here: https://omella.com/6iju9

• Attend a foam dance party organized by Berea Parks & Recreation at the Skatepark football field from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Monday, July 14

•There will be a free beach volleyball coed pickup game at the EKU beach volleyball facility (Commonwealth Hall) from 7-8 p.m.

• Get ready for all-ages team trivia at Rebel Rebel Studio & Lounge from 7-9 p.m. It is free to play and there are prizes for winners.

• There will be a family game night from 6-8 p.m. with outdoor games at the skate park football field. Organized by Berea Parks & Recreation.

Tuesday, July 15

• Join Richmond Parks and Recreation for Tasty Tuesdays, a free live music and food truck event, at Irvine-McDowell Park in Richmond from 5 -8 p.m. Music will begin at 6 p.m. Park at EKU Adam's Lot, EKU Crabbe Street Lot, or nearby street parking.

Wednesday, July 16

• Park & Play, a recreation program for kids hosted by Richmond Parks and Recreation, will take place 1 - 3 p.m. at Richmond Manor. Spray & Play, where firefighters spray kids with water hoses, will take place on the same date and location from 2 - 3 p.m. Kona Ice will give out free shaved ice to the kids.