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District Preparing for 2026-27 School Year

& Other LC School Board News for July 2026

On Tuesday July, 14th, the LC School Board held its regular monthly meeting with board members Lanham and Owens absent.

Superintendent Shuler recently spent 3 days at training in TN with other Superintendent along with former LC Superintendent; Dr. Evans. Shuler stated this training will hopefully result in more grants being

written for the schools.

Danny Wright announced this year (26-27) will be his last year until retirement.

According to finance officer; Tina Lucas, expenditures for the month of June were approximately \$917k (+) and revenue was approximately \$521k (+).

Phillip Angel stated this year, the schools will be implementing a new automated call/text system for student absences. Texts will be automatically sent to parent or guardians listed numbers.

Angel also stated that both schools will be implementing the clear

backpack policy for the upcoming school year. LCE students can receive a free clear backpack during this year's Ready- Fest.

n behalf of Bethany Roberts (absent) a request was made to the board to approve emergency certifications for the following positions; middle grades ELA, middle grades science, high school biology. The district has returning teachers in each of these positions who are still working towards certificates.

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burg Tank and Coal Branch Tank) we are into the design. There is an Invoice in the packet that needs to be paid off. The Crystal Creek Trailhead – you got \$233,000.00 awarded for the project. We used a \$50,000.00 grant for the match. The design is currently being worked on. The Beattyville Outlook – you got the \$125,000.00 for the project. I think that includes some sidewalk extensions. The Bald Rock Project – we had them dig up the water lines and they are in better shape than we anticipated. This past week we met with the people that were here from the Heidelberg Dam. (They brought in an action plan a couple of months ago.) We had some things that we wanted them to consider. The Division of Water, River Authority, folks over the dams and some city employees, the mayor and Nesbitt Engineering were all present at the meeting. I think there were some other issues that they came up with that needed to be addressed in their plan. It is moving forward.”

Nathan McIntosh from KRADD gave a brief update on some of the things that they are working on for the city. “We are still waiting to hear back on the Old Yellow House. The WPA Building – we have located a contractor but that still needs approval. The Beattyville Outlook – we have the Environmental in progress (about 75% done). I did take off the Beattyville River Park.”

Mayor Jackson read the Beattyville Tank Rehab Project Resolution to everyone. A motion was made and carried to approve the resolution. A motion was made and carried to approve the Beattyville Tank Rehab Project – Adopting Mitigation Measures

Resolution. A motion was made and carried to approve opening a new bank account for the Beattyville Tank Rehab Project. A motion was made and carried to approve the Water Plant Rehab Phase 2 Requisition #2. A motion was made and carried to approve the Water Rehab Tank Requisition #1for \$98,000.00. The Bear Track Waterline Replacement Project Resolution required a roll call vote. All members present voted yes.

The Resurrection Home has asked for more Opioid Funds. They are asking for twice the amount that they asked for the first time. This was tabled until the next meeting.

The E.V. Charging Station was tabled last month and the council decided to take it off the agenda until they can get the information we need to make an informed decision. As soon as we get the information, we will put it back on the agenda.

The Cumberland Mountain Outreach – Donation for the Lee County Fair – the council wants to know more before they commit to this.

Linda Smith asked the city about using a portable stage for the Woolly Worm Festival. “We are trying to find a place to have our entertainment. The Town Square doesn't handle the big bands like we have. Mark Adams and Michael Johnson have their own portable stage. They want to know if we could possibly sit it on the street in front of the Presbyterian Church. The back of the stage would be facing the red light. If we can do that, we will keep the Shriners and the ones on that side but we would have to move the others. Mark and Mike say that the stage will fit in there perfectly. It will take 4-5 hours to get it set up. They would bring it in late

Lee Co. Fiscal Court News for July 2026

On July 9th, the Lee County Fiscal Court held its regular monthly meeting with all magistrates in attendance.

*Noted - for record that Magistrates and County Judge have received bank balances/financial reports as of June 30, 2026 and a copy of claims adjustments from the June 2026 meeting, and a list of claims for JULY 2026.

*Noted – for record FY 26 Treasurer Settlement was made available to County Judge and Magistrates to view.

*Noted – for record Deputy Tyler Noe; KLEFPF eligible May 1, 2026 @ \$2.19 hour – Supplement check was written June 17th - New hourly wage to include Klefpf is \$22.19

*Noted – for record Deputy Tyler Noe effective July 1, 2026 Klefpf increase .05 cents – New hourly wage \$22.24.

Solid Waste Department collected approximately \$55k (+) in fees for the month of June 2026 according to director Mitch Cornelius. No issues amongst any trucks are reported at this time. Director Cornelius expressed thanks to the Daniel Boone Back Country By Way who recently hosted a clean up of Lee county backroads/water ways.

During the open comments portion of the meeting, Joanna Fraley, director of The Hub of KY River Dist. Health Dept. was present. Fraley requested three different proposals from the court on behalf of The Hub.

Proposal 1; Early Warning Initiative (\$5,000) - This will allow the Hub to test the strength level of drugs circulating within the county. Along with what drugs may soon be entering into the area in order for correct response/treatment.

Proposal 2; 4 joint member positions (\$30,000) - This is \$10,000 per person salary employed by the Hub who has either started out volunteer or with Americorp/Readicorp.

Proposal 3; Meals program (\$10,000).

The court approved the full \$45,000.00 requested.

LC EMS had 119 billable runs for the month of June 2026 according to captain Blake Sloan.

According to Trish Cole, LC Ambulance/EMS received their fiscal year numbers (report) (beginning July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026). Cole stated this year they received \$831,205.00 from billing.

According to Mayor/Economic Development; Scott Jackson, anyone who is interested in conducting property development in the county must first receive their 911 address and get into contact with the division of water. The county is currently facing ongoing issues with property builders/buyers installing water lines without permission or without consulting with the city/water co. leading to multiple issues and delays for both the water co/city and property owners.

Per request of Mayor Jackson, the court voted in favor of returning a vintage fire truck to the city of Beattyville that the city once owned and was given previously to the county. Jackson stated the city would like to restore the truck for use in future parades and events. According to Jackson the truck was affected by recent year's flooding but did not state which year.

The court approved Memorandum of Agreement/ Resolution between Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Dept of Highways Lee County Fiscal Court for the resurfacing of Long Branch Road – Project totals \$306,000.00.

The court approved the full time hire of Timothy Smallwood @ \$12.00 hourly wage effective 6/10/2026 Lee County Dispatch. 3 months probation

The court approved transfer from Part time to Full time Lee Co Ems – EMT Robert Mignerone effective July 2, 2026 @ same rate of pay \$12.50

The court approved transfer from Part time to Full Time Lee Co EMS – EMT Richard Gross effective July 2, 2026 @ same rate of pay \$12.50

According to Brian Murray of PRTC, the fiber optic project is now expected to be completed by the middle of 2027. Phase 1 is now over 90% complete. Areas that will soon/1st be available for connecting include Primrose, Union Road, Coal Branch, Collier Road, Abner Flats, Farmer's Ridge and Fox Hollow.

Thursday night after all the vendors are set up. It is self contained and all they would have to do would be to hook up the electricity.” The mayor asked about the church. Would they be blocked from going to church? The mayor asked if she would get in touch with the preacher and make sure that the stage would not be in their way.

A motion was made and carried to approve the prior meeting minutes.

Teresa Mays gave the Main Street & Economic Development Report. “We have received the \$15,000.00 grant award from AARP to enhance the Main Street Mile. The project will include new wayfinding signs, upgraded crosswalks and additional benches along Main Street. We have secured an additional \$15,000.00 through the Red River Gorge Foundation for the Beattyville Building activation & Flood Resiliency/

New Business Grant Program by completing a grant application and presentation to their board during their May meeting. This new grant program will be developed in partnership with the City of Beattyville, Kentucky Main Street and the Red River Gorge Foundation. Upon successful implementation of this initial funding we will receive an additional \$10,000.00. Our upcoming events include the Beattyville Burger Week (August 17-21) which is a new community promotion inspired by Pineville Main Street. It will feature a friendly competition among our local restaurants and food vendors offering specialty burgers. The public will have the opportunity to vote for their favorites. We are also doing an America 250 Shop Local Promotion. Beattyville Main Street and Beattyville/Lee County Tourism are partnering on a 'Celebrate 250 Years. Shop Local.

Win \$250!' campaign. Local businesses are invited to participate by offering customers an opportunity to enter for a chance to win \$250 while encouraging residents and visitors to shop locally. Businesses interested in participating should contact Teresa Mays or Dedra Brandenburg. The next Main Street Cruise In will be Saturday, August 1st at 6:30 pm at the Town Square.”

Police Chief Cody Sparks was not present but the mayor said he would give a double report next time. Ferrell Wise from Public Works Said that they had 63 work orders since the last meeting. 49 of those were complete and the other 14 are done but have not been entered into the computer yet. Sally presented the Financials. A motion was made and carried to approve the Financials. A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting.