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Owsley Co. Fiscal Court News for August

By Lisa Robinson; Booneville Sentinel

The Owsley County Fiscal Court met in regular session on Monday, August 10, 2026. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Executive Zeke Little. Alan Taylor was not present due to him being in the hospital. All in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Ron Roberts gave the Invocation.

A motion was made and carried to suspend the reading of the minutes. Cody Gayhart from KRADD said the only thing he has are the 911 addresses. Ron Roberts also asked about Roberts Branch Road being renamed to Charlie Roberts Road. He asked the court if there was any way to take it back to Roberts Branch Road. Judge Little stated that they would have to draft a Resolution and bring it to the next court meeting.

The Treasurer’s Report was given by Jordan Sebastian, new County Treasurer. “The General Fund has a cash balance of \$145,795.66, the Road Fund has a cash balance of \$1,015,054.94, the Jail Fund has a cash balance of \$50,064.93 and the LGEA Fund has a cash balance of \$58,052.05. The Solid Waste Fund has a cash balance of \$29,934.30, the Parks & Rec Fund has a cash balance of \$1,947.88, the LGEDF (Coal Severance) Fund has a cash balance of \$2,976.05 and the Clerk Storage Fund has a cash balance of \$6,988.37. The Opioid Fund has a cash balance of \$133,172.85, the Car Wash Fund has a cash balance of \$12,055.78 and the Land Acquisition CD has a cash balance of \$922,282.75. The Bridge CD has a cash balance of \$1,080,026.23, the Land Acquisition Fund has a cash balance of \$7,938.40 and the EKYSAFE Fund has a cash balance of \$355,688.31.” A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

A motion was made and carried to accept the Rural Secondary Recommendations. This is a list of roads that the state is going to blacktop. A motion was made and carried to approve keeping the tax rate the same as last year. A motion was made and carried to close the ARPA account and put the remaining balance of \$0.63 into the General Fund.

The Road Foreman’s Report was included in the packets that the magistrates received. “We have people out sick. If your garbage is late getting picked up, please be patient with us. We are still down one tractor,” said Judge Little. Jordan said, “Solid Waste is holding its own.”

Judge Little told the court that they have a small transfer to do for the Parks & Rec. A motion was made and carried to approve doing Transfers as needed. A motion was made and carried to approve paying all legally incurred bills providing funding is available.

Judge Little said that FEMA is about caught up on the projects that they are working on. “I also want to talk about some federal money that people are saying we gave away because we didn’t want it for cabins. I was asked if we wanted to continue working on the grant for cabins on the Sturgeon Creek Farm. I said we needed a bridge to get to the property before we needed cabins. We had no way of getting to the property. We talked about it and decided to go after a bridge so that we could access the property first without driving through 300 feet of creek trying to get to the other side. I was not told that the money was secured or the money was there. I was simply asked if we wanted to continue working on it.”

Ron Roberts said, “I want to thank whoever is over the roads. I appreciate what you are doing for my road because it is in better shape right now than it’s been in my life-time. It’s almost as good as blacktop to be honest with you. Not a hole one from my house all the way down – if they are, I can’t find it. That machine that you all bought is what done it. You have done a good job mowing, too. I appreciate all that you are doing.”

Congratulations to Eli Lewis and Dalton Gibson on completing The Kentucky Registered Apprenticeship Program. Eli and Dalton are now journey workers in the field of Information Technology.

Thank you to Brian Gupton and Dataseam for their sponsorship of this apprenticeship program at Owsley County High School



Willie’s Copper Top to Expand Community Services



Willies Copper Top of Booneville has expanded their support groups to the community. The following is a list of free to attend, meetings offered;

- Tuesdays; ACA- Adult children of alcoholics 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- Wednesdays; NA- Narcotics anonymous 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- Thursdays; OA- Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm to 7:30pm

At the HUB Tuesdays AI- Anon noon to 1pm, Wednesdays CoDA- Co Dependents Anon 11:45am- 12:45pm

At the OC Public Library Thursdays AI-Anon noon to 1pm

We at Willies are open to hosting other support groups such as the following: Grief Share; grief recovery process, Widows & Widowers with option for potluck, Grandparents Raising Grandkids, Divorce Recovery, Alpha- Intro to Christianity, MOPS- Mothers of Preschool children, Living Off Grid & Environment Care, Alzheimers Caregivers, Game & Movie Night, Exercise Class....If interested in joining or starting group please contact Sr Judy at 606.593.6948.

Willies Copper Top is sponsored by Holy Family Catholic Church. 1369 KY 11 South, Booneville. 606.593.6948.

Upcoming events sponsored by Willies/Holy Family; Mens and Women’s Christian Breakfast (See Page 7 for more info), Willie’s Friday Yard Sales (See Page 7 for Dates/Time).

Letter to the Editor

“Back in 1984, I invited a man named Mitch McConnell, who was running for the U.S. Senate, to attend a fish fry hosted by the Owsley County Sportsman’s Club in Pebworth, Kentucky.

The day of the event, it rained nonstop, finally clearing in the late afternoon. The downpour had turned the road leading up to the lake into a muddy mess, forcing everyone to park at the foot of the hill and walk up.

When Mr. McConnell arrived, I escorted him up the hill through the thick mud. Watching him trudge along, I thought, This guy must be serious if he's willing to wade through this just to meet some voters.

As we made our way through the crowd, shaking hands and making introductions, we came across old man Alison Baker. Alison was well up in years, and to say he was hard of hearing would be an understatement.

Mitch extended his hand, gave Alison a firm shake, and introduced himself. Alison nodded politely, but as soon as Mitch moved on, he turned to me and asked, "Who is that young feller?"

Leaning in close and speaking directly into his ear, I said, "That's Mitch McConnell. He's running for the U.S. Senate against Walter D. Huddleston."

Alison shook his head and chuckled. "I'll vote for him," he said, "but he ain't got a chance."

Over the years, I've often wondered what Alison would have thought of the long career that followed for our U.S. Senator.”

-William R. Turner
Alexandria, KY 41001

Homecoming at Fountainhead Baptist Church on Grassy Branch Rd.

August 29th,
service at 11am,
lunch at noon.
Bring a dish to share, everyone welcome!