

Fiscal Court approves reinstating Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Agreement

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

With all members present, including District 2 Magistrate Shawna Coldiron and District 3 Magistrate Roger Humphrey, who were both attending via Zoom, Judge/Executive Chuck Dills called the Grant County Fiscal Court to order on March 17. The agenda included a Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD) address on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Correy Eimer, associate director of NKADD, addressed the court concerning the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and requested the Court to approve signing to renew the five year interlocal agreement (IA).

He said he is to oversee all workforce programming, which includes the Workforce Investment Board, responsible for administering funds received through WIOA (pronounced wee-oh-uh).

WIOA became federal law in 2014 and is "essentially federal investment into workforce development across the country managed by the Department of Labor and Education" (DOLE).

Through this, DOLE

allocates resources through the 50 states, with each state allocating resources to workforce development areas.

He said in "Kentucky, funds received are allotted to 10 workforce areas across the state." Grant County is part of the Northern Kentucky Workforce Development Area which includes Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton.

Eimer said upon acceptance of dollars, the law requires an area to sign an interlocal agreement of the counties outlining how to use the monies effectively and providing accountability for those funds.

According to Eimer, the primary purpose of the agreement is to "define roles and responsibilities of the local elected officials representing participating counties; to outline governing structure for the local workforce development board, to establish fiscal oversight and liability provisions including how funds are managed, monitored and distributed, to clarify decision making authority related to budgeting, program oversight and policy direction, to ensure compliance with federal and state WIOA regulations and to provide a framework for collaboration to deliver coordinated workforce development

services to both job seekers and employers."

The agreement needs to be reinstated every five years; the last signing was in 2021 and expires June 20, 2026.

Eimer is requesting the Fiscal Court to consider reinstating the IA with the seven other counties. This will carry through 2031.

Answering questions, he noted it is important to have "private sector" involvement, with a goal of working for both job seekers and businesses.

Additionally, Eimer noted the Crittenden Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), located in the office of the old St. Elizabeth Physicians medical building. He said with the partnership between DCBS, NKADD and the Department of Education and Labor, they were able to have the first certified DCBS in the state of Kentucky to be a Career Center. It has the potential to "be replicated in other parts of the state."

He said when people come to that location they are looking for benefits and public assistance. However, many times they are in need of employment information which they can now get there.

For more information, you can contact Eimer at the NKADD by emailing correy.eimer@nkadd.org or calling (859) 488-1854.

The Court approved Dills

to sign re-enter the IA.

RE-APPOINTMENTS
Court unanimously approved the following re-appointments:

- Kristie Willoby, Grant County Joint Local Industrial Development Authority Board, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2026; expiring on Dec. 31, 2028.

- Jim Simpson, Grant County Joint Local Industrial Development Authority Board, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2026; expiring Dec. 31, 2028.

ORDINANCES
· The second reading of Ordinance No. 003-2026-0295, Data Storage Center Amendment, was conducted. Added by planning and zoning, the amendment adds "data storage center" to the Industrial-2 Industrial Zone.

- The second reading of Ordinance Number 0004-2026-0296, Troy and Tammy Pendleton Zone Change, was conducted. Approved by Planning for a 5.9 acre site with existing house, a recommendation was provided to change A-1 zoning to R-1A residential one agriculture. This allows a separating one acre with a house from the remaining 4.9 acres on which another house can be built.

Both ordinances were unanimously approved.

REPORTS

- Judge/Executive noted the surprise winter weather. He said Mason to Sherman

was the area most effected by the sudden storm.

He said the Sipple Road slippage should be finished and the road reopened by the end of the week.

- Magistrates Humphrey queried about the "jail bill."

Dills noted HB 557 is moving, and he has weekly meetings with the County Judges/Executive Association and Kentucky Association of Counties on the actions.

He said this would, more than likely, be done in phases. (This bill includes issues and changes in standards, transfers and payments to jails in Kentucky.)

Coldiron noted "a couple weeks ago" she attended a seminar on "roads and bridges," where she found "Lincoln ADD" had done a lot of mapping and uploaded the data that helps counties in that area to possibly help road issues using drone and newer tech to collect data for upgrading roads and bridges.

She said it should be online and would be a "good program to look into" adding that perhaps "our ADD district could" also have this.

Dills noted NKADD has a mapping person whom they have contacted.

MISCELLANEOUS

- There was a proposed interfund transfer from the

General Fund to the Jail Fund for \$50,000, however this was withdrawn by County Treasurer Peggy Updike as funds were received, according to Dills.

A second transfer for \$150,000 was approved. According to Dills, this transfer is intended to cover any shortfalls from state reimbursement for the next two weeks. If funds are received, these transfers will not be necessary.

· Court moved into Executive Session citing KRS 61.810(1)(f) personnel. Specifically, this statute concerns: "Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee's, member's, or student's right to a public hearing if requested. This exception shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret..."

The next meeting of the Grant County Fiscal Court is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse, 101 North Main Street Williamstown. For more information on the meeting, call (859) 823-7561.

Easy tips to stay hydrated

BY ASA CONKWRIGHT
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SOURCES: HEATHER NORMAN-
BURGDOLF, ASSOCIATE EXTEN

Hydration and electrolyte-replacement products are often marketed with buzzwords and flashy packaging. Originally developed for athletes, these products have found their way to grocery store shelves and are now promoted to the public.

In general, we get electrolytes needed for hydration from a balanced diet. But some individuals may benefit from a supplemented source.

Here are some tips on how hydration and electrolytes work together in supporting everyday health and how much your body needs:

What are electrolytes, and how much do I need?

Most electrolytes come from food and drinks we

consume. These include sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium and chloride. Other electrolytes can be made in our bodies and do not directly come from the diet, meaning that we don't have to take in all electrolytes through outside sources.

Individual needs for hydration and electrolytes depend on several factors such as age, body size, health status, daily medications, activity level

and more. We can get enough electrolytes and adequate hydration by consuming a balanced diet alongside unsweetened beverages throughout the day.

Individuals who do high labor jobs or activities, especially outdoors in the heat like landscaping and construction, may benefit from additional electrolytes and hydration. Active individuals who engage in intense activity

for more than an hour may also need to replenish fluid and electrolytes lost in sweat.

Where do electrolytes come from? How do we stay hydrated?

Hydration is related to electrolyte intake but also includes the amount of fluid we take in through food and drinks. It is important to regularly drink water throughout the day. Unsweetened beverages like

coffee, tea, and milk also contribute to hydration status. Foods like fruits, vegetables, and soups also help hydrate.

Electrolytes are found in a variety of foods and in smaller amounts in some water, depending on the source. Some commercially available bottled waters have electrolytes added to them. Coconut water is another option that is naturally rich in electrolytes.

SEE EASY/PAGE A8

April 2026



GCPL

Grant County Public Library

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p align="center">Daily Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Information - Patron Accounts Help - Tech Help - Reader's Advisory - Material Requests - Local History - Reference/Research - Inter-Library Loans - Genealogy 			<p>1 11am C Toddler Tales toddler storytime 1pm A Brighton Center* Free Tax Prep 4pm T Middle School Book Club</p>	<p>2 11am C Little Learners preschool storytime</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 2pm A Family Lego Day</p>
<p>5 C- Children S- Travelling Storyteller T- Teen A- Adult/All Ages • (reservation required)</p>	<p>6 6pm C Business Beginnings* (ages 8-12)</p>	<p>7 11am C Baby Bookworms infant storytime 12:30pm A Adult Yoga 1:30pm A Chair Yoga Hoxworth Blood Drive*</p>	<p>8 11am C Toddler Tales toddler storytime 4pm T Middle School Book Club</p>	<p>9 11am C Little Learners preschool storytime</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 1pm T Teen Acting 1pm A Crochet & Knitting 1pm A Local Author Talk w/ Toni Blake</p>
<p>12 201 Barnes Rd. Williamstown, KY 41097 859-824-2080 info@grantlib.org</p>	<p>13 6pm- Board Meeting</p>	<p>14 11am C Baby Bookworms infant storytime 12:30pm A Adult Yoga 1:30pm A Chair Yoga</p>	<p>15 11am C Toddler Tales toddler storytime 4pm T Middle School Book Club</p>	<p>16 11am C Little Learners preschool storytime</p>	<p>17 10am A Sit & Sew</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Library Hours M-Th: 10am-8pm F: 10am-6pm Sa: 10am-4pm</p>	<p>20 6pm C Coral: a colorful community* (ages 5-10)</p>	<p>21 11am C Baby Bookworms infant storytime 12:30pm A Adult Yoga 1:30pm A Chair Yoga</p>	<p>22 11am C Toddler Tales toddler storytime 4pm T Middle School Book Club</p>	<p>23 11am C Little Learners preschool storytime 12pm C Tales to Tails w/ Lark the Reading Dog</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 11am C Baby Bookworms infant storytime 12:30pm A Adult Yoga 1:30pm A Chair Yoga</p>	<p>29 11am C Toddler Tales toddler storytime 4pm T Middle School Book Club</p>	<p>30 11am C Little Learners preschool storytime</p>		