School board advances superintendent search, facility projects

The board also authorized the district to seek proposals for roof and masonry work at the Lincoln County Area Technology Center and Central Office

Staff Report

STANFORD — The Lincoln County Board of Education moved forward with the search for a new superintendent and approved more than $1 million in school facility projects during its Aug. 13 meeting.

The board formally determined that a vacancy will occur in the superintendent's office effective Jan. 1, 2027, following Superintendent Bruce Smith's submitted resignation.

Board members also directed the district to establish a superintendent screening committee no later than Sept. 3. Board Chair Christine Killen appointed board member Tyler McGuffey as the board's representative on the committee.

The board selected the Kentucky School Boards Association to assist with the superintendent search. KSBA charges $7,000 plus mileage for a facilitator.

The district also considered services offered by the Kentucky Association of School Administrators, which were listed at between $4,500 and $5,950 plus mileage.

The board also had the option of conducting the search without an outside organization.

Much of the meeting focused on facility and safety improvements throughout the district.

The board approved purchasing and installing EPIC public address systems at Lincoln County Middle School and Stanford Elementary School for a combined $805,084.81.

The middle school system will cost $455,209.75, while the Stanford Elementary system will cost $349,875.06. The projects will be paid for using the first $2.5 million installment of state facility funding received by the district.

During the presentation, district officials said existing speakers and some older equipment will remain in place rather than being removed. Some clocks and other equipment will be removed and replaced as part of the project.

Officials also said the schools already have most of the network infrastructure needed for the new systems. Any additional network drops that are required are expected to be handled by district technology staff.

The board also approved the purchase of a new playground for Hustonville Elementary School at a cost of $205,432, also using the state facility funding.

The district has received the first $2.5 million of a $5 million allocation for facility improvements and is scheduled to receive another $2.5 million on July 1, 2027.

A financial and facility plan presented at the meeting showed the first installment being used for projects throughout the district.

Those projects include playgrounds at Crab Orchard Elementary, Stanford Elementary, Waynesburg Elementary and Hustonville Elementary; work at Lincoln County Middle School and Lincoln County High School; paving and flooring projects; roof work; repairs and the new public address systems.

The district listed the projects funded through the first installment at approximately $2.31 million, leaving about $188,000 available for contingencies.

The board also authorized the district to seek proposals for roof and masonry work at the Lincoln County Area Technology Center and Central Office. The work had been estimated at $206,450 for the Area Technology Center, but the board did not approve a construction contract because bids had not yet been received.

Plans presented for the second $2.5 million installment include additional EPIC public address systems at Crab Orchard, Hustonville and Waynesburg elementary schools, along with new security cameras at those three schools and roof and masonry work at Central Office.

Those proposed projects total approximately $1.67 million.

Finance Officer Lee Ann Smith told the board that the district's auditor advised that general fund money could be committed in advance of the second installment, allowing the district to issue purchase orders before receiving the state money and reimburse the general fund after the second installment arrives.

The board also approved Change Order No. 8 for the Lincoln County High School renovation project. The $29,455.28 increase covers additional site work, storm line work and steel casing.

Board members approved Pay Application No. 10 totaling $475,766.26 for the high school renovation's first bid package, along with direct purchase orders totaling $21,289.45.

Several student service agreements were also approved.

The board authorized a shortened school schedule for one special education student for medically necessary therapy. The student will attend for 3.5 hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the 2026-27 school year.

An independent service contract was approved for a retired moderate to severe disabilities teacher to mentor a new teacher at Waynesburg Elementary School. The contract allows for up to 30 days at $281.76 per day, with a maximum cost of $8,452.80 paid through Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funds.

The district also approved agreements with Children and Family Counseling Associates Inc. and the Danville Counseling Center to provide on-site mental health services to students whose parents or guardians give permission.

An agreement with FRYSC AmeriCorps was approved to provide additional tutoring for Hustonville Elementary students, with AmeriCorps sharing the cost of the program.

The board also approved an agreement with Midway University allowing student teachers to work in Lincoln County Schools.

Transportation officials received approval to add Premiere Energy and Lasure Oil Co. as vendors for gasoline, diesel fuel and lubricants.

As part of its consent agenda, the board approved participation in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for all elementary schools, several medical leave requests, a Lincoln County High School FFA trip and fundraising activities at multiple schools.

Kerbaugh, Rodes & Butler, PLLC — **Certified Public Accountants**

John B. Rodes, CPA
Martha Kerbaugh King, CPA
Chad Robinson, CPA

132 North Second Street
P.O. Box 729
Danville, Kentucky 40422
859/236-3924
FAX 859/236-6435

52 Liberty Square Liberty, Kentucky 42539
606/787-9928
krb-cpa.com

Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable Mayor, Members of the City Council
Utility Commission
City of Stanford, Kentucky

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the City of Stanford, Kentucky (the City) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the City as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, the City adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement 101, Compensated Absences. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter..

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not absolute assurance, and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information on page 33, and the historical pension and OPEB information on pages 34 through 39, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Prior Year Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the City's 2024 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified opinion on the respective financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund in our report dated June 16, 2025. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2026, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of the complete audit report of the City of Stanford, including financial statements and supplemental information, is on file at city hall and is available for public inspection during normal business hours; any citizen may obtain from city hall a copy of the complete audit report, including financial statements and supplemental information, for personal use; citizen's requesting a personal copy of the city audit report will be charged for duplication costs at a rate that shall not exceed twenty-five cents ($0.25) per page; and copies of the financial statement prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220 are available to the public at no cost at the office of Kerbaugh, Rodes and Butler, 132 N 2nd St., Danville, KY 40422.

Kerbaugh, Rodes & Butler, PLLC

Kerbaugh, Rodes & Butler, PLLC
Certified Public Accountants

Danville, Kentucky
June 30, 2026

CITY OF STANFORD, KENTUCKY
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	$2,095,086	$1,807,793	$3,902,879
Investments (certificates of deposit)	314,000	362,289	676,289
Receivables, net of allowance	18,807	337,046	355,853
Inventories	-	47,736	47,736
Prepaid expenses	-	108,396	108,396
Loan receivable - Fire Truck	95,000	-	95,000
Loan receivable - Industrial Authority	223,122	54,500	277,622
Restricted assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	25,747	1,170,554	1,196,301
Capital assets not being depreciated			
Land	336,905	519,855	856,760
Construction in progress	-	92,850	92,850
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	3,274,223	17,078,071	20,352,294
Net OPEB Asset	-	36,163	36,163
Total assets	6,382,890	21,615,253	27,998,143
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension	829,589	338,880	1,168,469
OPEB	300,611	104,456	405,067
Total deferred outflows of resources	1,130,200	443,336	1,573,536
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	19,514	69,774	89,288
Accounts payable - contractors	-	109,360	109,360
Accrued expenses	42,646	57,919	100,565
Customer deposits	-	251,410	251,410
Accrued interest payable	-	86,428	86,428
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Due within one year	51,515	415,435	466,970
Due in more than one year	294,257	10,262,962	10,557,219
Net pension liability	2,833,284	1,249,071	4,082,355
Net OPEB liability	105,245	-	105,245
Accrued compensated absences	61,862	39,432	101,294
Total liabilities	3,408,323	12,541,811	15,950,134
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension	551,339	265,485	816,824
OPEB	813,757	395,795	1,209,552
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,365,096	661,280	2,026,376
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	3,265,356	7,012,359	10,277,715
Restricted for:			
Debt service	-	360,657	360,657
Logan's Fort cabins	8,456	-	8,456
Unrestricted (deficit)	(534,141)	1,482,482	948,341
Total net position	$2,739,671	$8,855,498	$11,595,169

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!