

THE STURGIS NEWS

Delivering For Sturgis and Union County

141ST YEAR STURGIS, UNION COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026 NUMBER FOUR

Board Of Education Meets In Brief Session

The Union County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday night with Superintendent Dr. Terra Hancock and all board members in attendance. Also present was Amy Morris, Chief Finance Officer for the Union County Schools.

The board discussed an abbreviated agenda due to the forecast for inclement weather on Monday evening. The session lasted only 25 minutes.

In her report to the board, Dr. Hancock presented an overview of student and staff activities for the preceding month. Students at Uniontown Elementary School were treated to a special presentation by a Holocaust survivor, a "memorable event for the students," according to Dr. Hancock.

She also reported that students at Union County High School

are taking advantage of the opportunity to participate in learning academies at several different post-secondary institutions. Dr. Hancock noted the high school students are also seeing more dual credit opportunities, and high school teachers are taking advantage of the change to teach dual credit courses.

Students at Sturgis Elementary School focused on attendance improvement during the past month, and that effort was successful as the school had the highest attendance percentage in the district. Across the Union County School District, attendance for the eighth month was 92.79%, a marked improvement over number for the seventh month.

Tammy Mosby, principal of Victory Tech High School at the Earle C. Clements Job Corps

Academy, presented a short report concerning her students. She told the board Victory Tech can participate in co-enrollment at both UCHS and ECCJCA or full enrollment at Job Corps. Additionally, students can be resident or non-resident. Currently, there are 13 to 15 non-resident students enrolled in the program. There are 40 students taking classes at Victory Tech at this time, and for the year,

Victory Tech has served 105 students.

In other business, board members approved the financial report presented by Ms. Morris; approved the payment of bills; and approved the expenses for the superintendent's office.

In final business, members approved 21 items on the consent agenda, including the travel report, requests for fund-raisers, trip requests, leaves of ab-

sence, a FRYSC grant contract, a FRYSC grant request, a memorandum of agreement with Jobs for America's graduates, a job shadowing opportunity for UCHS seniors, the auditor's contract for fiscal year 2025-2026, a donation acceptance, the bid awards for several items, a service contract with Evansville Association for the Blind, a memorandum with KY ASAP, a declaration of surplus

equipment and surplus library books, an agreement with Union County Fiscal Court for non-public school transportation, revisions of the salary schedule for the summer feed program, and approval of construction documents for boiler replacement at Union County Middle School.

No further business came before the board, and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

Morganfield City Council Passes Ordinance To Repeal Restaurant Tax

The Morganfield City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 23 with Mayor Randy Greenwell presiding and all council members in attendance.

Following approval of the minutes from the March meeting and the bills and claims, the council dealt with a short agenda and heard updates on several events and activities in the city.

Council members approved the second reading and passage of an ordinance which eliminates the one percent restaurant tax in the city. That tax was implemented to further tourism activities in Morganfield; however, other ventures are ongoing, and council members determined it was in the best interest of both businesses and the residents of Morganfield to eliminate the tax. Those changes will take effect on July 1, 2026.

The council also passed a resolution authorizing Mayor Greenwell and City Administrator Scott Clements to act as the city's agents in securing interim financing for the PH 3 Combined Sewer Separation project. That project, originally estimated to cost \$3.3 million, is currently estimated at \$3.9 million. United Community Bank of West Kentucky is working with city officials on those funding options. Mayor Greenwell expressed his appreciation to bank officials for their help with the project.

Camilla Holbrook, executive director of the newly-formed Breckinridge Legacy Foundation, and Jim Peak, a member

of the foundation's board of directors, updated the council on the vision for development of residential housing along and around Breckinridge Golf Course. According to the pair, dozens of houses - affordable residences - are expected to be built on and in areas of the golf course. While those goals are not in the immediate future, the pair indicated those homes are expected to be built in the coming years and will provide the Morganfield area with much needed housing.

Steve Woosely and Duncan Taylor addressed the council concerning upkeep of the Masonic Cemetery located near St. Ann Catholic Church. Woosley told the group the local Masonic Lodge is going to be bankrupt "if we are not careful." Taylor added the cost of mowing is expensive. He told members there are a number of plots remaining in the cemetery, and those plots could be a source of revenue for the city. The pair asked that the city take over mowing and upkeep of the cemetery. Currently, mowing costs during the summer total \$370.00 per week.

Mayor Greenwell told the pair the city will have to consider the request, and council member Jeremy Collins asked if the lodge could maintain the cemetery this season in order to give city officials and public works employees the time to develop a plan for the upkeep of the cemetery.

Taylor responded, "We could

do it, but it likely will shut down the lodge."

David Russell addressed members concerning Hometown Hope, a non-profit organization that has recently begun activities in Morganfield. The group is planning an event in June and asked that both Court Street and Short Street be closed beginning Thursday, June 11 and remain closed for that weekend. "We are here to help people who need help," Russell said.

Mayor Greenwell pledged the support of the city to help the organization with their event.

A farmers market opened in Morganfield last weekend. The market features 32 vendors and will offer a variety of produce, vegetables, and other items through October. The market is open at Morganfield City Park from 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Additionally, the market will be open in Sturgis each Thursday, 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

David Burke was introduced as the city's wastewater treatment plant operator.

In final business, council members reviewed the monthly financial report. There were no questions or concerns regarding the monthly financials. Mayor Greenwell noted the city is in solid financial condition.

No further business came before the council, and the meeting adjourned after about an hour long session.

The next regular meeting of Morganfield City Council will be Thursday, May 28, 5:00 P.M.

UC Fiscal Court Sets Bid Dates; Makes Appointments

Union County Fiscal Court met in regular session Tuesday morning with magistrates giving second reading to an ordinance, setting bid dates for road materials and a date for a public hearing as well as making appointments to two boards.

Following the approval of the minutes of the last meeting, the court held second reading of an ordinance that will reduce the speed limit on Chapman Road to 35mph. According to magistrate Jerri Floyd who made the request for the reduction, Chapman Road in a narrow, curvy road and citizens will be safer if reduced speeds are implemented. The ordinance was approved by the court.

As the new fiscal year approaches, the court will begin advertising for bids on road materials (rock, culverts, fuel and road salt. Those bids will be published April 29 and May 5 with bid openings set for May court meetings. Bids will be opened on May 12, at the regular fiscal court meeting. Magistrates also approved an advertisement for a budget hearing for proposed use of county road aid funds and Local Government Economic Assistance (LGEA) funds. That hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on May 12, in the courtroom.

Other business to come before the court included two part-time hires at Moffit Lake. Sutton Sheffer and Tessa Bibbs will work as seasonal gatekeepers.

The court also re-appointed Stephen Loxley to the Union County Water Board for a four-year term

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Board Hears Project Updates; Reviews Agenda Items

The Union County Board of Education met Thursday evening in a work session where they heard a progress report on the district's capital construction projects, reviewed the agenda for their April 27 meeting and learned of two donations to UC school programs

Dalton Jackson, who is overseeing the district construction projects appeared at the meeting virtually following the boards walk-through of the multipurpose building earlier in the day. Jackson provided pictures and drawings of the work underway including HVAC duct work and concrete work at the exterior of the building.

The multi-purpose building that is now under roof is presently awaiting the installation of the fire suppression system; Jackson said the electricians are making good progress and the HVAC equipment is scheduled to be set this week. Jackson also told the board that there have been struggles with electricians but that issue has been addressed

their work is moving along nicely on the project Superintendent Dr. Terra Hancock refers as the Braves Activity Center.

Board members learned that there could still be some small change orders, but presently the district has about an \$11,000 credit on the project.

Following Jackson's discussion with the board, Logan Overton of Marcum Engineering in Paducah reviewed the boiler replacement project that is schedule for UC Middle School. He reported that food service director Nikki Hancock found issues with the floor drains and utility service hook ups where the new freezer is to be installed. Replace of the connections is estimated to cost \$38,850. A BG-1 for the work has been submitted to KDE. Overton told the board that the original bid on the project came in at \$140,000, an estimate he found to be extremely high. As the company worked to secure other bids, they received bids of \$54,000, \$67,000 and the

\$38,850.

In his discussions with the board Overton reviewed the scope of the boiler replacement project and the demolition plan. He reported that the pumps on the units have been upgraded to 7.5 HP. The cost of the boiler project is estimated at \$570,000.

In other business, the board discussed a request for the food services department to apply to the KDA point of purchase program for the district's summer feed program. The summer program will include congregate meals at Morganfield Elementary and UCHS with satellite sites at the YMCA and grab and go meals provided through Uniontown and Sturgis elementary schools. Hancock told the board that the state's Kentucky Kids Eat program will use the May 29 summer feed kick-off as the official kick off the statewide summer feed program. A number of activities are being planned for the event with several agencies and organizations taking part and providing backpacks,

notebooks and other gifts for school children. Hancock is applying for up to \$8000 in grant funds for promotions and marketing of the event.

During their review of the Monday night agenda, the board learned that the fishing team has been awarded a \$7500 piece of camera equipment for their program and Audrey and Billy Brewer are making a \$2800 donation to the district.

On Monday night, the board plans to approve a 23 item consent agenda which includes regular reports, the FRYSC grant contract for a two year span, an memorandum of understanding with Jobs for America's Graduates Kentucky, a job shadowing opportunity for seniors, and the Community Eligibility Provision intent to participate for school lunches for children.

Other items on the consent agenda include renewal of the cyber insurance policy, approval of the auditor's contract, acceptance of bids for office maintenance and instructional supplies for

the 26-27 school year and approval of apparel bids as well as transportation fuel.

The board was also expected to approve the contract with the Evansville Association for the Blind and the Kentucky ASAP memorandum of agreement for 2026-2027. They will also declare several items as surplus including old serving lines and library books.

The contract for the proposed freezer/cooler is also on the agenda for approval as is the fiscal court agreement for transporting non-public school children. The board is also expected to make a revision to the summer feed salary schedule with work opportunities scheduled to pay \$18 an hour to site workers. Both food services and other classified employees are eligible to apply for those positions. The program runs in both June and July.

Construction documents for the UCMS boiler replacement project were also scheduled to be approved Monday night.