

Fiscal Court

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closed session, the court approved the Treasurer’s transfers and Treasurer’s report; and approved a resolution with City National Bank to renew the court’s existing loan regarding the joint industrial park.

Following closed session, with no action, the court graciously approved and accepted a generous \$1,000.00 donation to the Mathers Fund.

The court discussed and approved two bids that it had previously received, that were opened on Aug. 5, 2026, for the installation of a 12-inch water line, which will eventually be a Nicholas County Water District line, as Nicholas County received the funding as an ARC county.

The court approved the termination of two Nicholas County Road Department employees for attendance issues; and approved Judge-Exec. Hamilton to advertise for two available positions, at the Nicholas County Convenience Center and Nicholas County Road Department.

Before adjournment, the court discussed how proud they were of seeing the community come together during and after the heavy thunderstorm that swept through the county on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026. Judge-Exec. Hamilton said there were numerous trees and limbs that fell across the roadways throughout the county and there were some flooding issues, as well. The court thanked the Nicholas County Road Department, Nicholas County Fire Department, and Nicholas County EMS Service, and the Nicholas County residents that helped out during and after the storm.

The court also discussed and approved to pursue and apply for a grant pool funding program, regarding completing the paving of Upper Sharpsburg Road.

The meeting was subsequently adjourned.

COMMUNITY

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

WEEK IN REVIEW: LEGISLATURE FOCUSES ON OVERSIGHT ROLE

Representative Matthew Koch

Friday, Aug. 14, 2026 - We talk a great deal about passing laws, but one of the legislature’s key responsibilities is providing oversight of state government. That includes making sure state agencies and programs are serving Kentuckians properly, as well as ensuring taxpayer resources are used responsibly. Through the legislative committee process, lawmakers have an important role in the checks and balances of government, asking tough questions, reviewing agency decisions and holding state officials and contractors accountable.

While oversight is a responsibility of all leg-

islative committees, a great deal of the work is done by statutory committees that meet regularly throughout the year. During the second week of August, several statutory committees met to examine state contracts, administrative regulations, technology investments and Medicaid operations. These discussions give lawmakers an opportunity to identify concerns, seek answers and look for ways to improve how government serves Kentuckians. However, this process only works when all branches of government are transparent with information – something that is at times difficult with this administration.

Government Contract Review Commit-

tee: Members reviewed funding requests and questioned Kentucky agencies and organizations about rising contract costs, federal and Medicaid funding availability, and significant requests for additional taxpayer dollars. The committee also voted to defer 13 contracts until next month to allow for further review and ensure responsible stewardship of public funds. The contracts range from funding for the University of Louisville to services supporting the health and well-being of incarcerated juveniles. Several agencies and organizations also appeared before the committee to discuss requests for legal counsel, treatment for individuals with traumatic brain

injuries, and additional costs stemming from recent changes involving the Kentucky State Fair Board.

Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee: Lawmakers reviewed several administrative regulations related to unclaimed property, state licensing boards, fish and wildlife, and conditions that qualify a patient for medical cannabis. An in-depth discussion took place on a Department of Fish and Wildlife regulation concerning bag limit increases for bobcats and river otters. Lawmakers also asked several questions about an emergency regulation that expands the qualifying medical conditions for medical cannabis.

Information Technology Oversight Committee: Members received an update on Kentucky’s Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, including the state’s efforts to expand reliable, high-speed internet access to underserved communities. Officials from the Office of Broadband Development, Kentucky Wired Infrastructure Company and the Governor’s Executive Cabinet provided an overview of the program’s funding, infrastructure efforts and next steps after the program has come under a great deal of scrutiny for multiple delays and legal challenges from former partners.

Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee: Legislators discussed ongoing concerns within the program that

provides medical care to Kentucky’s low-income, elderly, or those with disabilities. A representative of the state auditor presented a report based on data from January 2019 through December 2022 that identified fraud, including Medicaid recipients who could not be located in Kentucky, and raised concerns about the Cabinet for Health and Family Services’s (CHFS) response. Leaders from Medicaid Managed Care Organizations answered questions and clarified that CHFS, not them as care managers, is responsible for determining Medicaid eligibility. The discussion was the first of several planned conversations focused on identifying opportunities to strengthen oversight, improve accountability, and ensure resources go to eligible Kentuckians.

These updates are intended to provide a brief summary of the work we are doing. If you would like more information, please reach out to me or visit our website at legislature.ky.gov. The website contains a great deal of information about committee presentations, schedules, research, and even a link to the archives of livestreamed meetings.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Matthew.Koch@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature’s website at legislature.ky.gov.



People’s Bank backs Regional Cycling Championship

Photo courtesy of Gary Bentley / Kentucky Road Racing Series Facebook page

Gary Benley sends out “a huge thanks to Mackenzie Markley, Branch Manager, and Adam Burns, Central Kentucky Regional Manager, as well as everyone else at People’s Bank – Mt. Olivert for supporting the Kentucky Road Racing Series, specifically the INKY Cycling Association Regional Championship.”

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 TAX ORDINANCE	
AN ORDINANCE Relating to the Annual Levy for 2026 Property taxes in Nicholas County, Kentucky.	
WHEREAS, the 2026 Nicholas County property assessment has been certified as follows:	
Real Estate	\$341,632,229.00
Tangible Personal Property	\$42,772,698.00
Motor Vehicle	\$73,987,503.00
Watercraft	\$2,029,741.00
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Fiscal Court of Nicholas County, Kentucky:	
SECTION ONE: There is levied for the year 2026 the general ad valorem tax rate per \$100 Assessed valuation on all taxable property within the Special District or other fund as Indicated.	
	Tax Rate
(a) General Fund	
Real Estate	14.7
Tangible Pers. Prop.	15.2
Motor Vehicle	15.8
Watercraft	15.8
(b) Fire District (county only)	10.
(c) Library	
Real Estate	9.5
Tangible Pers. Prop.	13.68
Motor Vehicle	2.2
Watercraft	2.2
(d) Board of Health	
Real Estate	5.
Tangible	5.
Motor Vehicle	5.
Water Craft	5.
(e) Extension District Board	
Real Estate	4.5
Tangible Pers. Prop.	5.81
Motor Vehicle	5
Watercraft	5
(f) Soil Conservation District (Real Property Only)	
Real Estate	1.5
The above figures do not include franchises.	
SECTION TWO: This ordinance shall be published in The Carlisle Mercury by title and summary within thirty (30) days after adoption.	
SECTION THREE: This ordinance becomes affective upon passage and publication.	
Given this the 14th day of August 2026:	
ATTEST: Martha Moss	Steve Hamilton
NICHOLAS COUNTY FISCAL COURT	COUNTY JUDGE/EX.

RETIREMENT

ARE YOU RETIRING OR HAVE YOU RETIRED?

WANT TO ROLL OVER YOUR IRA OR 401K AND PAY NO TAXES OR DO YOU HAVE FUNDS THAT ARE NOT WORKING FOR YOU?

DO YOU NEED AN INCOME WITHOUT TOUCHING THE PRINCIPLE?

BE THE BOSS OF YOUR RETIREMENT, PUT YOUR MONEY TO WORK FOR YOU WITH UP TO 8% INTEREST!

FOR A PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT: CALL JIM AT 606-683-2104 CELL: 859-948-4376 EMAIL: gatesjimmie@yahoo.com

WHO YOU GONNA CALL??? INTEREST BUSTER!!!

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