



Judge Executive's Report

By George Sparks

March 2026

With warmer temperatures, the road department has been busy repairing potholes, cleaning out culverts, and graveling and grading roads. The mowing season has already started, and we are preparing to begin trash pickup along the roads. Plans are also being made for our countywide trash cleanup in Lewis County during the first week of June.

I attended the Lewis County Ambulance Board of Directors meeting held in the Fiscal Court room. Chairman Danny Palmer called the meeting to order, and Secretary Tim Douglas called the roll. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Treasurer Brenda Cunningham presented the financial report, which was also approved. Director Michael Byble presented his report and updated the board on several topics.

Assistant Director/Paramedic Derrick Lykins also attended the meeting. I appreciate Michael, the employees, and the board for their work in our community.

A public hearing was held for Two Buddies Wiser LLC RV Recreation Park. One person spoke during the hearing. I reviewed all submitted paperwork and visited the area with the property owners before approving the permit.

I was invited to attend a training session ("In the Know") hosted by the Bridge Church and DESCO Federal Credit Union. Topics included deed fraud, trending scams, and online safety. There were many helpful tips on how to spot scams and protect your property and assets.

I attended the Governor's

local leaders monthly update via Zoom. During this meeting, we heard from Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman. Commissioner Matt Sawyers gave a DLG update, while Secretary Jim Gray and Commissioner Bobbie Jo Lewis provided a KYTC update. Secretary Jeff Noel gave an update on Kentucky Economic Development. John Hicks, Executive Cabinet Secretary and State Budget Director, also provided a budget update.

Next, I attended an event at Ashland Community and Technical College. We heard from several speakers, including Rocky Adkins and Governor Andy Beshear, who spoke about Pre-K for All.

The regular March Fiscal Court meeting was held on March 9. The meeting opened with prayer by John Lewis, pastor at Blankenship Holiness Church in Camp Dix. Sheriff Johnny Bivens led the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the regular meeting on February 9 and the special meeting on February 13 were approved.

Phil Hall spoke to the court regarding closing Red Brush Hill Road. Mike Norse spoke about the court banning outfitters in Lewis County unless they owned their own property. Mitch Hull spoke about data centers.

The Lewis County Clerk's 2025 Fee Settlement was approved. The court approved an agreement with Brewer's Lawn Service for 2025. The 2026-2027 LC Jail budget was acknowledged. Resolution #26-07 (KY Pride Fund Recycling Grant) was approved. The court passed Resolution #26-08 supporting HB 557 related to jails.

The court approved Tonya

Merritt's transition from PRN to full-time E-911 dispatcher. Myron Conn was approved to return to Solid Waste as a seasonal employee. The court approved advertising for four Solid Waste positions for litter abatement trash pickup and one jail transport position. The court also approved advertising for bids on a new fire alarm for the LC Justice Center.

Traffic on Commonwealth Drive was discussed. All transfers and claims were approved, and the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 13 at 3 p.m.

The Licking Valley Community Action Program held a transportation coordination meeting. We discussed their fleet, including new wheelchair vans on order. The transportation department currently employs 69 full-time and part-time employees.

The Buffalo Trace Water Management Council held a meeting at BTADD. Judge Valerie Miley called the meeting to order. Guest speaker Andy Dezarn, Environmental Science Advisor from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, gave a presentation on lead and copper rule improvements. Infrastructure planner Mallory Bane presented project amendments and announced upcoming operator training at the Mason County Extension Office on March 24.

EM Director Dennis Brown and I attended the Buffalo Trace Regional Debris Management Plan meeting. Kaleigh Ziegler discussed priority infrastructure roads, critical facilities, RFP steps in the bidding process, shared services, mutual aid agree-

ments, and debris storage.

I led the BTADD monthly Board of Directors meeting. The financial report, audit RFP, and cost allocation plan were approved. Executive Director Kevin Cornette discussed the IRP loan payoff for defederalization of funds. HB 557 was explained, and a board resolution was approved. One IRP project was approved. We also heard updates from Angie Cain (DLG) and Megan Bankemper from Senator Mitch McConnell's office. Staff reports were presented, followed by Director Cornette's legislative update and monthly report. We thanked both staff and board members for their continued service.

I attended the Lewis County Extension District Board's quarterly meeting. Chairperson Mike Setters called the meeting to order. Secretary David Reis read the minutes, which were approved. Christa O'Cull and Raven Ford presented the budget versus actuals. Old business included new flooring installation. New business included FY26 budget amendments and FY27 budget review.

I also attended another Governor's local leaders Zoom meeting, where updates were provided on the budget, economic development, and education, including Pre-K for All. Additional updates were given by DLG Commissioner Matt Sawyers, Secretary Jim Gray, Commissioner Bobbie Jo Lewis, Cabinet Secretary John Hicks, Dr. Steven Stacks (flu updates), and KYEM Director Eric Gibson (weather and FEMA declarations).

I attended and led the Hospice of Hope Audit/Fi-

nance Committee meeting via Zoom. The minutes and financial report were approved. Sandi Doyle discussed financials and the audit process before adjournment.

We held our second quarterly Lewis County Tourism Advisory Board meeting, which had a great turnout. We discussed hosting an America 250 Liberty Tree Ceremony at Black Oak Recreation Park, upcoming Ohio River Way stops in Lewis County, and tourism promotion strategies. Ben Collier shared insights from the KTIA conference. Jamie Bloss with Greenup County Tourism joined via Zoom.

The Lewis County Recreational Park Board met in the Fiscal Court room. Chairperson Jack Lykins called the meeting to order. Minutes were approved, and discussions included Facebook updates, meeting schedules, and potential bylaw revisions.

I attended Comprehend Inc.'s Board of Directors meeting in Maysville. Rebecca Cartmell called the meeting to order. Minutes and financial reports were approved. Donna Hicks presented the CFO report, and CEO Goldie Williams provided an operations update, including discussion of CCBHC. Program planning, fundraising, and insurance were also discussed. The next meeting will be April 27 at 6 p.m.

I presided over the Licking Valley Community Action Board meeting. Minutes and financial reports were approved. Executive Director Kenny Walters presented program updates, including LIHEAP and legislative updates on HB 2 and HB 500.

BTADD Workforce Busi-

ness Services Specialist Steven Peed and I visited Superior Composites to meet with Plant Manager Greg Spears. We discussed workforce support and partnership opportunities.

I also visited Northern KY Cedar with Josh Rister, BTADD ARC Grant Specialist, to discuss the upcoming USDA Forestry Grant. The facility continues to impress visitors with its quality work and products.

I attended and led the BTADD Executive Committee meeting (both in person and via Zoom), where bids were approved for vehicle purchases.

I attended the KMRRA meeting via Zoom. Reports were presented and approved. Jeff Hirsch (DLZ) presented a master plan, and updates were given by KY Fish and Wildlife and the board director. Ben Collier represents Lewis County on this board.

Finally, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the South Shore/Lewis County Firebrick Water Project. This important project will improve quality of life for many residents. It was made possible through collaboration between state, county, and local partners. My goal has always been to ensure our people have access to water.

Many community leaders attended, including South Shore Mayor Cheryl Moore and representatives from various agencies and offices. I want to especially thank the citizens who advocated tirelessly for this project over the past decade or more.

As you can see, March was a productive month with many accomplishments. I look forward to continued progress ahead.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Citizens of Lewis County,

I am proud to offer my full and enthusiastic support for the reelection of George Sparks as your Lewis County Judge Executive.

In today's ever-changing landscape of local government, strong, steady, and principled leadership is more important than ever. Judge Sparks has consistently proven himself to be that kind of leader. He understands the real challenges facing rural counties and has worked tirelessly to strengthen infrastructure, promote economic growth, and ensure that taxpayer dollars are managed responsibly.

What sets Judge Sparks apart is not just his experience, but his unwavering commitment to the people he serves. He leads with

integrity, transparency, and a clear vision for the future of Lewis County. His ability to bring people together, work across county lines, and advocate for his community at every level of government has delivered meaningful results.

As Judge Executive of Fleming County, I know firsthand the importance of leadership that is grounded in common sense, fiscal responsibility, and a deep respect for the citizens we serve. George Sparks embodies those values. He has earned the trust of his community, and he continues to work every day to move Lewis County forward.

Elections matter, and leadership matters. Lewis County needs a proven leader who will continue to fight for its future, protect its interests, and build on

the progress that has already been made. I firmly believe that George Sparks is the right choice to continue that work.

I strongly encourage the citizens of Lewis County to support and re-elect George Sparks as your Judge Executive.

Sincerely,
John Sims Jr.
Fleming County Judge Executive



Dial
9-1-1
Emergency



Richard Walje
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ABSOLUTE ESTATE AUCTION

— SATURDAY —
APRIL 25, 2026
— 10:30 A.M. —

📍 **325 STANFIELD LANE**
TOLLESBORO (BURTONVILLE)
LEWIS CO., KY 41189

THREE TRACTS OF LAND

HOUSE & LOT – 325 STANFIELD LANE
PLUS 2 VACANT LOTS – STANFIELD LANE

THE DON & PHYLLIS STANFIELD (DECEASED) PROPERTY
Now owned by their children:
Tammi (Jackie) Boling | Darren Scott (Beverly) Stanfield | Kelly (Dana) Stanfield

PROPERTY DETAILS – HOUSE & LOT	VACANT LOTS	UTILITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located in the Burtonville community and accessed by a private drive off Buck Lick Road. This 1.704-acre newly surveyed parcel offers a secluded setting with a long gravel private roadway (shared access). 1.5-STORY FRAME FARMHOUSE FEATURING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Bedrooms • 1 Bath Excellent potential for owner occupancy, rental income, or a part-time residence for outdoor enthusiasts. Property is served by a spring that has never gone dry in approximately 60 years of Stanfield family ownership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two vacant lots fronting Stanfield Lane: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly cleared land • Each lot exceeds 1.5 acres Offered "CHOICE" following the home tract High bidder may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Select either lot ✓ "Double up" and purchase both at the same price per lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public water available at Buck Lick Road (extendable via easement) Public electricity available to all tracts

NOTE:
In a prior offering of the home tract, the high bidder did not complete the purchase and forfeited the down payment. That bidder **SHALL NOT** be permitted to bid at this auction.

FOR TERMS, SURVEYS & BIDDER PACKET:
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Commonwealth of Kentucky
Court of Justice
LEWIS CIRCUIT COURT
Civil Action No. 21-CI-00084

T & C PROPERTIES OF KY, LLC PLAINTIFF

AND

STEVEN K. REIS, ET AL. DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Lewis Circuit Court on November 24, 2025, and subsequent Order entered March 9, 2026, to raise the sum of \$5,241.23, plus interest, fees and costs, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder, at the Lewis County Courthouse, 112 Second Street, Vanceburg, Kentucky, 41179, on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., the following property:

Real Estate located at, 149 Manley Hollow Road, Vanceburg, KY 41179 and identified as Lewis Co. P.V.A. Parcel No.: 039-00-00-012.03. The land is more particularly described in the record of this action located in the office of the Lewis Circuit Court Clerk, where it can be reviewed upon request.

Terms of the sale are as follows: (A) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, said bidder shall post bond with surety acceptable to the Master Commissioner and pre-approved by the Master Commissioner at least by noon, two (2) business days before the sale date, as security for the unpaid purchase price, bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale. The surety must be present at the sale and must own real estate in Kentucky, but may not be the successful bidder's spouse. A lien shall be retained by the Commissioner as security for the purchase price; (B) The purchaser shall assume and pay all taxes and assessments for the current fiscal year; (C) All other delinquent taxes and assessments for previous years shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale; (D) If a successful bid is less than two-thirds of the appraised value, the defendant shall retain a right of redemption for six months from the date of sale; the purchaser shall receive an immediate writ of possession and a deed containing a lien in favor of the defendant reflecting the defendant's right of redemption. KRS 426.530; (E) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Lewis County Clerk's Office, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the Defendant(s); (F) For more particulars, reference is made to the records of the Lewis Circuit Clerk; (G) Bidders are advised to obtain a title examination; (H) Exceptions must be filed not later than ten (10) days following the filing of the Commissioner's Report of Sale; (I) Risk of loss for the subject property shall pass to the purchaser on the date of sale, and possession of the premises shall pass to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price and delivery of deed.

CLAYTON G. LYKINS, JR.
MASTER COMMISSIONER
P.O. Box 160, VANCEBURG, KY 41179
TELEPHONE: 606/796-2531

Public Notice 15c