



Judge Executive's Report

By George Sparks

I started July by attending the Vanceburg Fourth of July Celebration on the evening of July 3 for the parade and most of the all-day Fourth of July events. Despite the extreme heat, there was a great turnout and wonderful events for all to enjoy. Thanks to Mayor Billman, city officials, and city staff for their hard work organizing and hosting the celebration.

I attended a webinar about camera and security systems for school and workplace safety.

I met with Road Department Supervisor David Goodwin, Treasurer Penny Lee, and Applicant Agent LeAnn Kamer to talk about the road programs, including CPPP/LARP and Flex Funds. We discussed some of the projects that are currently underway in the county. We also discussed and planned the roads we will present to KYTC for Flex Funding for FY 2026-27.

Gov. Andy Beshear announced that the state is transitioning to Next Generation 911, which will improve response and collaboration across all Kentucky call centers. The system upgrades include allowing voice, text, photo, and video communications from compatible devices; leveraging mapping technology to route calls based on the caller's location; and allowing hearing- and speech-impaired individuals to communicate with dispatchers through live text and media sharing. Lewis County Emergency Management Director Dennis Brown and our E-911 dispatchers worked with the state on July 8 and 9 to install Next Generation 911 in Lewis County.

We have worked with Quentin Allen of Bluegrass Innovations to get cameras installed at the Courthouse and Black Oak Recreation Park. Our plan is to install an AED on the outside of the park restrooms in the event of a cardiac emergency. Once the cameras are up and working, we will place the AED.

I led the BTADD Executive Committee Meeting. The meeting was called to order,

followed by the approval of the previous meeting minutes. Executive Director Kevin Cornette covered several things related to personnel, such as job description realignment, employee probation reviews, and the annual leave buyback policy.

I presided over the July 2026 Fiscal Court Meeting. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Kevin Duff, pastor of Aills Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The previous meeting minutes from the regular and special meetings were approved. During response from the public, Carrie Cox and Guy Meade spoke. BTADD Executive Director Kevin Cornette spoke to the court about the Kentucky Nuclear Energy Ready Community Certification process. BTADD's Kaleigh Zeigler spoke about the BT Regional Debris Management Plan. Resolution #26-14, Local Assistance Road Program and Agreement, was approved. The 2025-26 Treasurer's Settlement was presented and approved. The court approved advertising the financial pages of the audit in lieu of the full audit settlement. County Attorney Ben Harrison presented a financial report to the court that isn't required, but he provides a report each year. The court approved advertising for bids on the 2026-2027 blackout projects. I spoke to the court about installing cameras in the Courthouse and at Black Oak Recreation Park and about renewing our contract with RAVE emergency notification software. Our EM Director is going to look at other emergency notification software programs and compare them before we renew. Reports were presented and approved by all departments. The claims and transfers were approved before the meeting adjourned.

County Attorney Ben Harrison held a ceremony before the Fiscal Court meeting to unveil an original artwork that was donated by Stephen Ludeman of Oregon. The artwork, depicting Lewis and Clark, will be hung in the Fiscal Court

Room. Ben spoke before we unveiled the artwork, Harvey Denham spoke about Lewis County history, and I spoke about America's 250th anniversary. Thank you, Stephen, Ben, Harvey, and everyone who attended to celebrate the beautiful artwork we were gifted to commemorate this milestone for our great nation.

I attended a BT Hazard Mitigation Plan and Debris Management Plan meeting at the Lewis County EMA/911 meeting room. The combined County/City meeting was led by Kaleigh Zeigler. We discussed the Hazard Mitigation Plan and then the Debris Management Plan.

I attended the Recovery Ready Community Committee meeting led by Tammy Brown at the Lewis County Health Department. We reviewed business from the last meeting, the community public forum on Opioid Abatement Funds, goals to establish a center for training, and becoming recertified as a Recovery Ready Community in 2028.

I attended the Salvation Army Board of Directors quarterly meeting, which was also held at the LCHD. The meeting was opened by Chairperson Anita Bertram. We discussed past business, financials, and Christmas in July. I gave Alex Halsey a certificate of recognition for his work at the Health Department, Salvation Army, Recovery Ready Community, and many other programs. Alex has accepted a new position in Frankfort. We want to wish him the best. Shanda Frye will become the next secretary of the Salvation Army. Welcome and thank you, Shanda!

I presided over the BTADD Full Board of Directors meeting. Meeting minutes, financial reports, committee minutes, Frankfort and Washington updates, and staff reports were discussed. Executive Director Kevin Cornette gave updates on several topics. The board went into closed session briefly, and the meeting was adjourned.

Business Manager of Local 248 Ben Collier and I traveled

to Frankfort to attend a public safety meeting. During the meeting, Ben and his business partner spoke with committee representatives about water backflow issues in hospitals, schools, industries, and communities. Contaminated water from backflow can cause sickness and death. The committee appreciated Ben and his partner explaining how required inspections and maintenance can make a difference. Ben and I also met with Forest Cleverger with the Ohio River Way and Commissioner Michael Mangeot of the Kentucky Department of Tourism. During the meeting, we discussed tourism in Lewis County and how to set up a commission. So far, we only have a tourism advisory board in Lewis County. Michael shared lots of information about tourism and how we can share attractions to draw tourists into Lewis County.

Next, I attended the BTADD Regional Debris Management Plan final planning meeting before it is submitted to the state KYEM and then to FEMA. Kaleigh Zeigler has worked very hard to put together a detailed plan.

I led the Hospice of Hope Finance Committee Meeting. We discussed several topics related to finance. Executive Director Shawn Flaughter gave the committee an overview and update on all hospice programs.

I took a walk with Dustin Caseman around the City of Vanceburg as he interviewed

me about Judge Executive job duties. I enjoyed sharing with him and with you about the incredible employees and the work they are doing. We have built great partnerships in Lewis County and across the state. When we all work together, we can accomplish great things.

I met with a group from the Administrative Office of the Courts, Lewis County Circuit Court Clerk Teresa Callahan, and County Treasurer Penny Lee to do an overall assessment of the Lewis County Justice Center. During the assessment, the team looked at structural soundness and building concerns, security needs, ADA compliance, storage space, interior finishes, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and environmental factors.

I was able to attend the Hospice of Hope full Board of Directors meeting. Chairman John Hutchings called the meeting to order. The previous meeting minutes were presented and approved. Shawn Flaughter gave the board an operational report. Sandy Doyle presented the financial reports and projected cash flow reports. The subcommittee meeting minutes were included in the packet.

Solid Waste Coordinator Roger Lewis and I attended the Team Kentucky Voluntary Battery Stewardship Organization Senate Bill 49 training at the Department of Energy and Environment in Frankfort. We heard presentations from Brian Osterman of the Division of

Waste Management; Mac Cann on emergency response to lithium battery emergencies; and Amanda Pratt with Rumpke Waste & Recycling. It was an informative training where we learned a lot about the impact of batteries on everyday operations in our state.

I presided over the LVCAP Board of Directors meeting. The previous meeting minutes and the financial report were approved. Executive Director Kenny Walters gave an update on all programs. Other business discussed included the strategic plan approval, weatherization, LIHEAP summer subsidy, and the resource carnival at Old Washington Park on Saturday, August 1.

I attended the Tollesboro Lions Club Horse Show, tractor pull, fair, and David Iery 5K run/walk events. It was an awesome event! I want to give a heartfelt thank you to all the Lions Club men and women who went above and beyond to make this year's fair special for everyone who attended. I also want to thank Sheriff Johnny Bivens and his deputies for keeping the peace and ensuring all attendees were safe. I also want to thank the Tollesboro VFD and several other local fire departments. Thank you to Lewis County EMS for being on standby and providing first aid.

I am looking forward to another busy month of serving Lewis County. I am grateful, blessed, and honored to be your Judge Executive.

Property Transfers



Ronald E. Perry and Joyce Perry to Charity Faith Riffe. Parcel near AA Hwy. No monetary consideration.

John W. Caudell to James W. Meadows and Jennifer Jan Meadows. Parcels KY 10. \$22,500.

F & T Hostetler Farms LLC to Carrs Land LLC. Parcel Lewis County Carrs. \$8,000,000.

Jonathan Douglas Wright and Donna Wright to Jonathan Singleton and Candi Singleton. 2.211 acres Wallingford. \$3,200.

Scott A. Malcom and Kimberly D. Malcom to Jaydn Salazar and Nathan Beach. Parcel KY 57. \$145,000.

Ronnie David Applegate, Jeffrey Lawson, and Cindy Lawson to Ronnie David Applegate and Sharon Scott Applegate. Parcel Happy Hollow Rd. \$8,500.

Ronald J. Lock and Donna Rebecca Lock to Ronald J. Lock, Donna Rebecca Lock, The Ronald and Rebecca Lock Living Trust. Tracts Cabin Creek.

Stanley E. Scheidler and Marla A. Scheidler to Stanley E. Scheidler and Marla A. Scheidler. 474.838 acres near KY 57. No monetary consideration.

Martha Skidmore to Carry June Mosley and Tina Ann Skidmore. Parcel near Spy Run creek. No monetary consideration.

Lance Tillery to Mark Jordan and Pamela Jordan. Tract Bellevue Subdivision - Quincy. \$2,500.

John D. O'Cull and Lois Marlene O'Cull to John D. O'Cull and the Lois Marlene O'Cull Revocable Trust. Parcels near Tollesboro.

John D. O'Cull and Lois Marlene O'Cull to John D. O'Cull, Eugene H. O'Cull, John D. O'Cull Revocable Trust, and Eugene H. O'Cull Revocable Trust. 22.569 acres near Tollesboro.

John D. O'Cull and Lois Marlene O'Cull to Christa Beth O'Cull. Two parcels near Tollesboro. \$386,000.

Joseph Maximilian to Christine Rose and Frank Rose. Parcels Quicks Run. \$420,000.

Jerry Morrison, Timothy Shane Morrison, and Xianna Morrison to Dawson Polley and Whitney Burns. 2.923 acres near Creamery Pike. \$4,500.

Benjamin Lee Ginn and Sarah George Ginn to Caleb Moore. 1.931 acre Fly Branch - Vanceburg. \$40,000.

Estate of Martha E. Polittle, Martha E. Polittle, David R. Polittle, and Patricia

R. McClurg to Todd A. Cluxton and Rachel M. Cluxton. Parcels Lewis/Mason Counties. \$153,000.

DCDJ LLC to Todd A. Cluxton and Rachel M. Cluxton. Parcels Lewis/Mason Counties. \$1.00.

JCA I LLC to Todd A. Cluxton and Rachel M. Cluxton. Parcels Lewis/Mason Counties. \$1.00.

Dorothy McGlone and Michael Blaydes Fox to Michael Blaydes Fox, Dorothy McGlone, and Dawn Hartman. 248.22 acres along Kinniconick, Trace and Wolf Creeks. \$82,300.

Lewis County Board of Education to Deer Park Holdings LLC. 21.685 acres KY Hwy. 8. \$850,000.

Shawna Sexton Voiers, Debbie Williams, and Lorena M. Sexton to Tollesboro Lions Club Inc. 3.423 acres KY Hwy. 9. No monetary consideration.

Barry M. Fite and Lori Fite to Tina McGlone and Carlan McGlone. Parcel May Hollow Spur Rd. \$5,000.

Timber Creek Corporation to Philip B. Pluister and Rebecca J. Pluister. Parcels Quicks Run. No monetary consideration.

Ohio Valley Veneer Inc., An Ohio Corporation to Universal Guaranty Life Insurance Company. Parcels Lewis County. \$15,436,800.

Marshall T. Reynolds to Shawn W. Ferrell and Pamela Ferrell. Lot #5 Bourbon Estates Subdivision. \$17,900.

Bradner Farms Inc. to Landyield U.S. III LLC. Timber Deed. \$10.00.

Elvie Joe Stamper and Darlene Stamper to Keisha Dawn Teeters and Jeremy Scott Teeters. Two parcels Garrison. \$100,000.

Caleb Nathaniel Moore to Donavin Hendricks. Parcel KY 8 near Black Oak. \$114,000.

Jackie Mason to Andrew Jefferson and Isabella Gilvin. Parcel East Fork of Cabin Creek. \$189,000.

Ernie T. Kelsey to Destry Lane Kelsey. Five acres Lewis County. Love and affection.

Destry Lane Kelsey to Destry Lane Kelsey and Shirley Ann Blair. Five acres Lewis County. Love and affection.

Penny Nolen and John Wesley Nolen to Rick Butler & Sons Logging LLC. 41 acres near Kinniconick Creek. \$65,000.

Robin M. Barnes to Dylan Ray Dunigan and Sarah Lynn Hardin. 2.54 acres KY 59. \$190,000.

Tommy Von Lührte to Haley Bealert. 2 acres KY Hwy. 8. No monetary consideration.

Sharon Bealert to Haley Bealert. Parcel near Bel Air Subdivision. No monetary consideration.

Virgil Thomas Sullivan and Jackie Dale Sullivan to Timothy Wayne Stamper. Parcels Garrison. \$80,000.

Bruner Land Company Inc. to Joshua Harter and Marina Harter. Parcel near Pine Grove Spur Rd. \$264,900.

Donna Ison, Donna Kilgore, and Nathaniel Ison to Garrett Parker and Kesia Parker. 1 3/10 acre Grassy Fork. \$5,000.

Patricia Lynn Jenkins, Flonnie Barrett, Larry Joe Erskine, Pam Erskine, Michael Anthony Erskine, Philip Gale Erskine, Marty West Jenkins, Monda Erskine, Kenneth E. Erskine, Barbara Erskine, Ramona Humphrey, Chester Humphrey, David Allen Erskine, Frank Humphrey Jr., Earl Wayne Erskine, and Ronald Erskine to Melody Evans and Christopher Michael Evans. Parcel KY Hwy. 989. \$5,000.

Joseph L. LeMaster and Mella E. LeMaster to Landyield U.S. III LLC. Turkey Pen Farms. \$10.00.

Loretta Howell to Joann Elaine Sparks and Timmy Sparks. Two tracts along Kinniconick Creek. Love and affection.

Damon R. Graf and Abril Graf to Casey R. Price and Rita M. Price. 221.980 acres Big Br., Ulett Br., Bucklick. \$281,420.

Sonya A. Sprouse and Christopher Sprouse to Heather Edington and Nathan Edington. Two parcels Holly Branch. \$11,666.

Chester H. Hamm and Teresa Ratekin Hamm to William Jack Rayburn and Megan Larae Rayburn. 10 acres Grassy. \$16,500.

Brent T. Steele and Tabor S. Steele to Michael Mustard. KY 10 Salt Lick Creek. \$250,500.

Robert Hord and Jaden Hord to Michael Mustard. Tracts KY 10 Salt Lick Creek. \$1.00.

Tera Waters and George Christopher Waters to Maksym Balenko. Tract #12 South Ribolt Farms (5.706 acres). \$347,900.

Kenneth G. Breeze and Nancy Breeze to Steven Breeze and Veronica Breeze. 39 acres North Fork Licking River. \$40,000.

Nathan Brady to Bryan Damron and Jessica Damron. Parcel along Kinniconick Creek Garrison. \$35,000.

District Court



**Hon. Paul E. Craft
Hon. Benjamin L. Harrison
County Attorney
August 11, 2026**

Charles O. Burriss. Other hearing. Amount due: \$298. Serve out.

Ricky D. Flinders. Other hearing. (1)Criminal trespassing-3rd degree. (2)TBUT or DISP all others \$500 < \$1,000. 8/18.

Kodi Hackworth. Arraignment. TBUT or DISP all others. Appoint PD. Pled Not Guilty (PNG). 8/25.

Adam Crit Hall. Other hearing. Amount due: \$173. OR. 90 day rehab.

Heather Lee Phillips. Other hearing. (1A)OPER MV U/INFL ALC .08-1st. (2)Operating vehicle with expired operators license. Show cause on 9/8.

Thomas Stanton. Other hearing. Money due: \$778. Appoint PD. 8/18.

Jessie P. Super. Arraignment. Alcohol intoxication in a public place-1st. Pled Guilty (PG). \$100.

Robin Wright. Arraignment. Alcohol intoxication in a public place-1st & 2nd. PG. \$100.

Kyler Baxter. Arraignment. Speeding 26 MPH over/greater. \$100.

Hayden Wayne Gibson. Arraignment. (1)Speeding 5 MPH over limit. Drive Safe. (2)Failure to produce insurance card. Showed proof. Dismiss.

Kelly W. Lewis. Other hearing. Amount due: \$273. FTA. BW. Bond \$273.

Hope M. Mond. Diversion completion. Dismiss.

Arnold Ray Ross. Other hearing. Amount due: \$808. FTA. BW. \$2,000 cash bond.

Arnold Ray Ross. Other hearing. Amount due: \$393. FTA. BW. \$2,000 cash bond.

Arnold Ray Ross. Other hearing. Amount due: \$723.

FTA. BW. \$2,000 cash bond. Rebecca Lynn Smith. Arraignment. Harassment - no physical contact. 24 month diversion. No contact. Stay 1,500 ft. away.

Jentry Thompson. Other hearing. FTA. BW.

Jentry T. Thompson-Zornes. Other hearing. FTA. BW.

Johnathan Toller. Diversion completion. Dismiss.

Anthony James Burton. Pretrial conference. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security 1st. FTA. WF.

Christopher L. Campbell. Pretrial conference. Criminal trespass-2nd degree. SB90 assessment. 8/18.

Christopher L. Campbell. Pretrial conference. Unauthorized use of motor vehicle, 1st offense. SB90. 8/18.

Kenneth Crandell. Status hearing. Amount due: \$153.44. 11/24.

Anthony Wayne Davis. Pretrial conference. (1)Failure to illuminate head lamps. (2)No tail lamps. (3)Rear license not illuminated. (4)No rear view mirror. (5)Reckless driving. (6)Failure to or improper signal. (7)OPER MV U/INFL ALC - 3rd. Amend to DUI-2nd. 2/16. 2/18 trial.

Jamie Austin Dyer. Preliminary hearing. (1)Failure to or improper signal. (2)TRAFF in controlled substance 1st offense (Heroin). (3)Drug paraphernalia - buy/possess. (4)Tampering with physical evidence. Waived PH.

Dustin Kyle Highfield. Pretrial conference. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security 1st. PG. 12 months. C/D 2 yrs. \$2,500.

Destiny Hill. Pretrial conference. TBUT or DISP all others. 8/18.

Ylisha Abyl Jordan. Pretrial conference. (1)OPER

MV U/INFL ALC .08 1st. (2)Failure to wear seatbelts. Merge. PG. 30 days. C/D 2 years. No violations of law.

James A. Keller. Pretrial conference. Criminal mischief-2nd degree. 12 months. C/D 2 yrs. Restitution \$350. No violations of the law. D/A free.

Danial Lager. Pretrial conference. (1)OPER MV U/INFL SUBST-2nd. PG. (2)Operating on suspended/revoked operators license. Merge. (3)Failure to produce insurance card. Merge. Brianna M. Luther. Motion hour. OPER MV U/INFL ALC/SUBS - 1st. 8/25.

Jennifer Schumate. Pretrial conference. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security 1st. FTA. NF.

Gregory D. Stanley. Preliminary hearing. (1)TRAFF in controlled substance 1st offense (Heroin). (2)Drug paraphernalia - buy/possess. (3)Tampering with physical evidence. Waived PH.

Billy Thurman. Pretrial conference. Theft by fail to make req disp of property. FTA. BW.

Herman E. Tidwell. Pretrial conference. Assault, 4th degree dating violence (minor injury). No testing. No unlawful contact. 8/18.

Timothy Tumlin. Pretrial conference. (1)Menacing. (2)Terroristic threatening, 3rd degree. Contact with minor children as allowed by family court or cabinet. 9/1.

James T. Wheaton. Pretrial conference. Violation of Kentucky E.P.O./D.V.O. 9/8.

James Tyler Wheaton. Pretrial conference. Terroristic threatening, 3rd degree. 9/8.

All information contained in the " Court News" is directly taken from the dockets of the Lewis County Circuit and District Court.