

SEBREE BANNER



VOLUME NINETY

SEBREE, WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

NUMBER THIRTY-FOUR

Webster Fiscal Court Approves Resolutions

Webster County Fiscal Court met in regular session Monday morning approving three resolutions, conference attendance for three employees and holding first reading of an ordinance amendment related to fee pooling.

Following the approval of minutes for two previous court meetings, magistrates heard an activity update from Ryan Hammack, deputy judge/executive. Hammack told the court that he attended the August Chamber of Commerce meeting, adding that the founding board has been set up and the group is moving forward with establishing by-laws.

Hammack said he has also been on site as more clearing is taking place at the Sebree Springs residential development property. The county is working to ready that area

for surveying and lot sites. The deputy judge/executive also noted that the Providence/Webster County Water District is also moving forward with those projects. He has also attended GRADD and Kenergy meetings and has submitted a grant application for digitizing county clerk records.

Magistrates also approved the hiring of employees for several departments. Those hirings include Joseph Wood as a part time solid waste employee; Stacy Godwin and Kenny Moore as part-time jail employees and Kelly Ray as a fulltime office employee in the sheriff's office. Other employee activity in the sheriff's department includes a rate change for Megan Clark and the hiring of Jacqueline Nance and Amanda Stotts as part-time employees.

In other business, the court accepted the Webster County Public Schools tax rate of 56.6 for both real and tangible property, down from 57 in 2025. In other tax related matters, the Pittman Creek rate of 1.028 was also accepted by the court. That rate was .98 last year.

Three resolutions were approved by the court. The first resolution related to \$188,826 in funding for Phase 3 of Canaan Ridge Park development. The funding comes through coal severance funds at the Department of Local Government.

A second resolution for the repair of a drainage structure on Lyce Duncan Road was also approved on Monday. The cost of that project in an agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is \$12,550.

Magistrates also approved a resolution related to the Rural Secondary Road program accepting all roads and streets listed in the agreement as part of the county road system.

Other business to come before the court included first reading of an ordinance amendment related to the county's fee pooling and PO system. According to both Sheriff William Braden and County Attorney Clint Prow, auditors have asked for a change in language that will clarify the payment for jury related expenses. Second reading is expected to be held at the court's September 28, meeting.

Magistrates also gave approval for Aaron Richmond, Tonia Duncan and Randy Norman to attend conferences. Richmond will attend

the Kentucky Animal Care and Control Conference September 30 to October 2 while Norman and Duncan were approved to attend the Kentucky Association of Counties Conference November 18-20.

Before the meeting adjourned, the court approved an agreement with GRADD to partially fund an AmeriCorps position at the senior center. The county will provide \$6250 for the position with AmeriCorps paying the balance. The individual serving in that role will help with meal delivery and other senior center activities. The position requires 1700 hours of work.

The court adjourned after voting for the county clerk to move forward with the printing of county tax bills. Bills \$5.00 or less will be exempted from the printing process.

Distinguished Young Women Program Scheduled September 26

Webster County will host its 43rd Distinguished Young Women program on Saturday, September 26th. This program has a rich history in Webster County, having 474 ladies participate over the past 4 decades. The goal of the program is to provide scholarship dollars to young women in Webster County who are seeking to further their education. This year, 4 participants from the class of 2027 will grace the stage to compete for scholarships in Scholastics (25%), Interview (25%), Talent (20%), Fitness (15%), and Self-Expression (15%) The winner will go on to represent Webster County at the state competition in Lexington in early 2027 and have the opportunity to earn more scholarships.

The class of 2027 participants include Madelyn Shelton, Alyssa Cartwright, Bella Orcutt, and Arely Martinez. Madelyn Shelton is the daughter of Shane and Jessica Mitchell and Mike Shelton. She will be performing a glow in the dark dance for her talent. Alyssa Cartwright is the daughter of David and Sheena Cartwright. She will be performing sign language for her talent. Bella Orcutt is the daughter of Mike and Nikki Stone. Her talent is a monologue. Arely Martinez is the daughter of Leroy and Amy Martinez. Her talent is a gymnastics routine.

Each lady has selected a Little Sister to participate in a mentorship program alongside the Class of 2027 participants. The Little Sisters are Caroline Mitchell, Lillian Wright, Claire Whitsell, and Finnley Woodring.

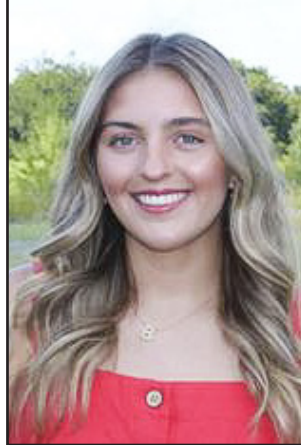
The event will be held at 2:00 at the Webster County High School Annex. Doors open at 1:30. The public is encouraged to attend and support these remarkable young ladies. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. The program is still accepting donations to help provide the highest number of scholarships to local women as possible. Contact Lily Martin at webster@distinguishedyw.org with any questions or to inquire about sponsorships.



Alyssa Cartwright



Arely Martinez



Bella Orcutt



Madelyn Shelton

WC Water District Board Approves Purchases

The Webster County Water District board met in regular session Thursday morning with members approving the purchase of a new truck and a pump for the water plant. They also heard the monthly operations report and approved payment vouchers.

Water superintendent Trevor Baldwin provided the board with the August operations report noting that production for the month was 30, 765,559 gallons with 25,157,040 gallons of that sold. The report shows that water sales

are lagging behind where they were a year ago at this time, but Baldwin told the board that the plant is running extremely well. He added that due to the extreme heat the plant has run longer hours on some days.

Baldwin also reported that only one bid was received for a high service pump for the plant. Chase Pump bid \$45,968.75 to replace a pump that was over 20 years old. According to information provided to Baldwin, repairing the older pump would have cost about \$70,000 due

to its age and the parts needed for the repair. The board approved the purchase.

The superintendent also asked the board to approve the purchase of a new truck for distribution. Baldwin has priced a 2026 Chevrolet Colorado. The amounts quoted are under the required bidding price. When they approved their budget earlier this year, the district budgeted for a truck purchase. The board approved the purchase of the truck that will replace a 2004 model. The district has two

other trucks that have high mileage. Board members briefly discussed trying to replace trucks more often.

In other reports to the board, Baldwin provided an update on a pre-construction meeting he attended regarding the westside interconnect with Providence. He said he anticipates construction on that project to begin in two to three weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 with the next water district board meeting scheduled for October 8, at 10:00 a.m.

Dixon City Commission Meets, Approves Tax Rate

The Dixon City Commission met in regular session on Monday, September 14 with Mayor Terry Webb presiding and all commissioners in attendance.

The meeting was opened with a public hearing for comments from the public concerning the 2026 property tax rates. The commission proposed adopting the compensating rate plus four percent, necessitating the need for the public hearing. There were no residents present to comment, and the hearing was closed.

Commissioners approved the minutes from the August meeting, and a called meeting held in August and approved payment of bills.

Mayor Webb reported members of the Dixon Volunteer Fire De-

partment responded to 12 incidents in August.

Commissioner Randy Norman presented the water report for August. The city purchased 2,581,600 gallons of water for the month. Of that amount, 1,716,610 gallons were sold. The city flushed 350,000 gallons during the month. A major water leak on Lakeview Drive resulted in the loss of over 519,000 gallons of water, and the monthly water loss was reported at 19 percent. That leak has been repaired.

In his report to the members, Commissioner Robert Brown expressed concern about a culvert on Stegal Street, noting it needs to be inspected. He also noted that a city resident had fallen on an uneven sidewalk near the downtown area.

Mayor Webb told the group the city has a company contracted to do grinding work on uneven sidewalk areas. He also said a meeting is scheduled with a representative from the Kentucky League of Cities to discuss possible funding sources for the construction of sidewalks in the city. That meeting took place on Tuesday.

Commissioner Mande O'Leary said members of the parks, playground, and tourism board expressed concern at their most recent meeting because the splash pad at Baker Park was closed before Labor Day. Mayor Webb responded with documentation that the splash pad has cost the city over \$20,000 in operational costs in the past four years. Ms. O'Leary sug-

gested meeting with board members to try and develop a plan for fund-raisers that could help with some of those costs.

She also reported that the Fun Family Night, which was canceled earlier this summer, will be held Saturday, September 19 beginning at 6:00 P.M.

Code Enforcement Officer Kim Turner told commissioners that five notices of violation have been issued in September, one citation has been written, and two cases have been closed.

Commissioners approved the 2026 property tax rates on a 4-0 vote. The rate for real estate is set at 0.130 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. The rate for personal property is 0.2618 per \$100.00 of assessed valuation.

Mayor Webb told the commission the property located at 118 North Stegal Street is now owned by the city. The city will advertise that property for sale by sealed bid. A minimum bid of \$10,000 was approved, and bids will be accepted at the municipal office until 4:00 P.M. on Monday, October 12. The bids will be opened and read at the commission meeting that night.

The appointment of a member to the code enforcement board was tabled.

No further business came before the commission, and the meeting adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

The next meeting of Dixon City Commission will be Monday, October 12, 6:00 P.M.

Miss Kentucky To Visit Webster County

Ariana Rodriguez who won the title of Miss Ky in 2025 will be the guest speaker at a fundraiser dinner for the Sunrise Children's Services on September 25, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hidden Hills Wedding and Event venue located at 3095 state route 132E Dixon.

Ariana will speak about her personal journey as a foster care child.

A donation for the Still Waters Campus for foster care homes in rural Dixon will cover the cost of the meal.

The Christian magician Clay Howerton will also be entertaining that evening. Reservations must be made by Monday September 21.

Call 859-979-1726 to reserve your seat.