

The Beattyville Enterprise

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The late Joanne Dunaway honored at the May Beattyville City Council Meeting

The Beattyville City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 12, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Scott Jackson. Sally Gilbert did a roll call. All members were present except for Savannah Mays. Councilman Sam Cockerham gave the opening Invocation. Then all present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Jackson welcomed all visitors.

The first thing on the agenda was Resolution 51225 in honor of the late Joanne Dunaway (pictured) for being a former City Council member and her community service.

The Mayor read the Resolution aloud and then asked for a motion to pass it. A motion was made and carried to approve the Resolution. All council members in attendance signed a Resolution honoring Joan Dunaway for her years of hard work, compassion, service and dedication to the City of Beattyville.

Mayor Jackson said that Paul Nesbitt from Nesbitt Engineering was here earlier today. He brought a structural engineer and they checked the WPA Building. They took out a bearing wall to see what needs to be done. The load bearing wall that was removed is causing the truss to sag. They will get back with us no later than Thursday. "He is going to see if Bob Perkins' crew or whoever done that will do it, if not we will put it out and get somebody to do it," said the mayor.

Mike Smith from KRADD gave his report. "I don't have anything major, just a few quick things. We have most of the AMLER applications wrapped up today. Over the last couple of weeks we have gotten a few of those submitted for you all. We submitted an AMLER for \$2 million for the Mercantile Hub. The update on the Waste Water Treatment Plant Rehab - on the application for the CDBG that was submitted back in January-the Department for Local Government came back with some questions, so that is a pretty good indication that they will fund it. We also submitted an AMLER for the Crystal Creek Trailhead. We submitted a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for the Beattyville Outlook. On the Water Treatment Plant Phase 2, I am working on the environmental review for that - the state preservation office is being a little slow with me on that one. As soon as that is out of the way, the environment can be wrapped on that," said Mike.

"There was no one at the meeting from the Small Business Disaster Relief. There is supposed to be someone here tomorrow and they will be all around town. They don't want anyone around. They will be going to the City Park by themselves. From there, they are going to the WPA Building with Bob Perkins. Then they are going to the Farmers Market with Teresa Mays. From there, they are going to the Ambulance Garage with Blake and then to the Town Square. They will then be at the Mayor's office last," informed the mayor.

The Resurrection Home presented to the council their reasons for asking for some of the Opioid Settlement Funds. "You all don't know me. My name is Charlene Dunaway. I



have a brochure of our program. It is called Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers. We submitted a proposal to Scott (mayor) last year around March about what we would like to do with some of these funds. We worked up a little budget and the amount that Scott gave me on the phone was \$15,000.00 and that is what we based our budget on. This will help supplement some of the things that we are already doing plus it will give us funding to start some new things. Right now in this program, we have around 30 grandmothers enrolled. This is where we try to keep our enrollment. This is what we have doing our budget with. We would like to use this money to increase our enrollment number by 20, so that would bring us up to 50 grandmothers. The 30 that we have right now are raising 46 grandkids. The number of kids will fluctuate because they may bring the child today and then come back and get them next week. We are asking for \$5,500.00 to use to help with our operation costs — supplies, utilities, maintenance costs, etc. (this does not include any kind of salary or anything), \$250 for advertising and \$2,000.00 for our monthly meeting costs, create and coordinate additional age appropriate activities for the grandchildren - with the emphasis on preschool and elementary groups. We like taking them and do, when we have the funding, on field trips. We have been to Berea (cultural center). Some of the kids like going to camp in the summertime. We do provide assistance to them to help pay for their costs for that. Same with the youth sports program— if we have a granny that has her grandchild and they are struggling to pay the cost for uniforms or whatever else, we can help them out with that. We want to participate this year in the Trick or Treat on Main, Ready Fest and different things like that. We want to purchase some promotional materials with our name. That will help us all over and all around with everything that we do. We have a yoga instructor that comes from Hazard and when we have the money, we will do that with her with the grannies - we can do chair yoga and we want to get that started for the grandkids. Yoga has been proven as a mental health healing and we think that is really important. We would also like to purchase some yoga mats, enough to get us started. We want to initiate a Telehealth program for mental health sessions. If you have ever been to Resurrection Home, it is a private place that you can not see from the road. A lot of these kids are dealing with a lot of mental health issues and they will pretty much refuse to go to KRCC or go see the counselor at school because of the embarrassment (they don't

want their friends to know what situation they are in). We applied through Marcum and Wallace about two years ago and they donated us two brand new chrome books and an iPad for us to have the kids in a private location and they can do the Telehealth Mental Health appointments. We want to expand financial assistance to the grandmothers to help with holiday, bereavement costs and other emergencies. These grandmothers, the majority of them, get nothing - no extra funding whatsoever to help with these kids. We like to help them out with Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving. That is an extra cost on any of us. There may be emergencies that come up throughout the year that we would like to try to come up with the funds. As far as that goes, that is the breakdown of the \$15,000.00 that we are requesting. We do have a regular meeting once a month just for the grannies and if there is something going on, we will try to get them in for another time during the month." The Mayor said "I told them that we would give them \$15,000.00. At the end of the year, just bring us something that shows where you spent the money." Mitch Cornelius made a motion to be a little more generous than the mayor. He made the motion to increase the donation of Opioid Settlement Funds to \$20,000.00 and it was seconded. Glenna Cummins said that she would like to see an application and more people to apply for this. "The money trickled in and we did not have guidelines," said Mayor Jackson. "When we get the legal stuff ready and let you know when to come back."

"I talked to Paul about the parking situation at the courthouse and he was sick. We will just table it again to get a general idea of how we can park the cars," stated Mayor Jackson. Next up was the Vendors setting up in the city. They tabled this discussion until next month. The first reading of the 2025/2026 Budget was presented. A motion was made and carried to approve the first reading of the 2025/2026 Budget. The first reading of the 2024/2025 Budget Amendment & Ordinance - ARC Grant Funds are being added. A motion was made and carried to approve the first reading of this Amendment to the Budget. A motion was made and carried to approve the Ordinance that goes with the Amendment. HOSA asked for a donation. A motion was made and carried to approve giving HOSA \$50.00 (this is what they asked for). A motion was made and carried to approve the prior meeting minutes.

Teresa Mays was not present for the Main Street & Economic Development Report but she had a flyer for the council members to look at. Police Chief Cody Sparks gave his monthly report. He said, "for the month of April, we answered 112 calls, issued 36 citations, made 14 arrests and we didn't have any collisions. Also, we got our other cruiser back and now we have both of our new cruisers that we ordered." Ferrell Wise was out sick so there was no Public Works Report.

The Financial Report was presented. "There were a couple of high water bills that our system did not flag," said Sally. The Treasurer's Report was included with the Financial Report. A motion was made and carried to approve the Financial Report. A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting.

By:
Lisa Robinson - Editor

Lee County Coroner and the Hub Talks to the Fiscal Court about Looking for Solutions to County Overdose Deaths

On May 13th, 2025 the LC Fiscal Court held its regular monthly meeting with all magistrates in attendance.

Solid waste receipts for April 2025 totaled approximately \$53k (+). 435 vehicle or trailer loads of unwanted scrap, debris, garbage or appliances were dropped off during the county Spring clean up held last month at the landfill. This amount equals close to 80 tons excluding metals and filled over 20 roll-offs. Solid Waste Director Mitch Cornelius gives thanks to the Solid Waste employees, county road department, Three Forks Regional Jail workers and work release inmates and LC Conservation for their assistance with this yearly service to the community.

County road department is currently and will be in upcoming weeks, performing maintenance on the county cemetery roads in preparation for the upcoming Memorial Day holiday.

LC Ambulance had 111 billable runs for the month of April 2025. Total runs for April were 143.

LC Coroner Kenneth Lewis stated they had an eventful past week, in regards to the drowning accident on Southfork over the weekend and also with the recent report of Lee County currently being #1 in the state of KY for overdose fatalities. In a previous statement to LEX18, Lewis said the two most common drugs related to the deaths they are seeing is Methamphetamine and Fentanyl according to toxicology reports. Lewis is currently partnering with the LC Hub in order to combat or reduce this issue. Lewis also stated they were at the time of meeting,



waiting for autopsy reports of 3 unexplained/ sudden deaths last week.

Noted for record that Magistrates and County Judge have received bank balances/financial reports as of April 30, 2025 and a copy of claims adjustments from the April 2025 meeting, list of claims for May 2025.

Noted for record that staff will begin the bidding process FY 25-26 for supplies, to include limestone rock & gravel, Asphalt, diesel fuel, culverts & steel drilling! Notices will go out May 15th and are due back June 12th by noon. Bids will be opened in a regular court meeting @ 5pm.

The Fiscal court approved payoff of current Mack Truck loan in the amount of \$406,658.00. The fiscal court approved to re-send motion to borrow money in the amount of \$475,000 from Kaco.

The Fiscal Court approved the purchase of 2 Solid Waste Trucks from Municipal Equipment in the amount of \$200,176.00 to be paid from EKSAFE Project.

The Fiscal Court approved AOC FY 25-26 reimbursement to Lee County Fiscal Court \$112,209.00.

The Fiscal Court approved resolution for transference of maintenance and ownership of Old Ky 11 Road segments in Lee County.

The Fiscal Court approved contract payment of \$400.00 each to 4 employees (Kevin McIntosh,

Jordan Horn, Caught (Jr.) Brandenburg, and Bobby Fox to transport Mack Trucks to Alabama for auction. (May 28)

The court approved Judge Executive Mays to appoint Renita Fox to the Library Board. Term to expire 9/1/2026.

The Fiscal Court approved \$2.00 wage increase for Deputy Brooke Moore effective April 24, 2025 to be in consecutive with payroll. Making his hourly wage \$20.00 + Klefpf @ \$2.13.

The Fiscal Court approved a grant application with Kradd for Lee County Search and Rescue/ Fiscal Court to obtain funds for a side by side for emergency use and a Fiscal Court match of \$14,307.75.

Then, the Lee County Fiscal Court was adjourned for the May Fiscal Court meeting.

By:
Kara Thorpe - Editor

Louisville Orchestra to Perform Free Community Concert in Beattyville

Beattyville, KY — Music is rolling into Lee County—literally. The Louisville Orchestra will present a free outdoor community concert on Saturday, May 17 at 1:00 PM at the Happy Top Park Amphitheater, featuring Grammy Award-winning Music Director Teddy Abrams and acclaimed vocalist La'Shelle Allen.

This special stop on the orchestra's statewide "In Harmony" tour includes something extra unique: the debut test of their brand-new automated roll-out mobile stage. As the orchestra travels

through the area, they've chosen Lee County as one of the first locations to showcase and test this state-of-the-art touring setup—bringing even more excitement to an already outstanding event.

May Concert Details:
Happy Top Park Amphitheater, Beattyville, KY
Saturday, May 17
1:00 PM

Featuring Teddy Abrams & La'Shelle Allen
Admission: FREE & Family-Friendly

And the best is yet to come: The full Louisville Orchestra ensemble will return

to Beattyville on Thursday, September 12, 2025, for a large-scale follow-up performance.

The In Harmony tour, made possible by the Kentucky General Assembly in partnership with the Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet, is designed to bring high-quality musical experiences directly to Kentucky towns and cities.

Be sure to mark your calendars for both May 17 and September 12.

For more info: www.LouisvilleOrchestra.org/InHarmonyTour

Woman Drowns in the South Fork of the Kentucky River

On Saturday, May 3, 2025, a drowning was reported to authorities in Lee County.

Kathy Peters, 70, fell into the South Fork of the Kentucky River near Beattyville, according to authorities.

Lee County 911 received a report of the incident at approximately 12:15 a.m. on May 3, 2025.

Despite resuscitation efforts at the scene, the individual was pronounced dead by the Lee County Coroner's Office.

She is the widow of the late Charlie Peters, and she is survived by one son and two daughters, along with grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She was a homemaker, and in her free-time she enjoyed fishing, camping, being outdoors, and spending time with her family.

No foul play is suspected, but the investigation is ongoing under the direction of the Lee County Coroner Joshua Hagan, Deputy Coroner Kenneth Lewis, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

They were assisted by Lee County EMS, and Beattyville Police Department assisted at the scene.

Our sincere condolences to the Peters family.

The Riverside 5K Run & Walk happened on Saturday, May 10, 2025 to benefit the Love Local Fund and LCMHS Track Team



Beattyville Main Street Director Teresa Coomer Mays (right) was the guest speaker at Lee Co RTA April Meeting. Also pictured is Lee Co. RTA President Darlene Jewell (left).

She shared a plethora of information to us. Due to the recent flooding in downtown, discussions of how to address these issues are being generated from local & state officials, FEMA, and other organizations. Teresa expressed that Beattyville is such a beautiful place with so much history. Those attending were hopeful that solutions can be found that can reserve downtown Beattyville.

New Hope Services of Indiana officially broke ground in Beattyville on May 7, 2025 with Mayor Scott Jackson. They will also be doing the property management. Beattyville Manor Apartments will offer safe, modern homes for local families while preserving the character of this beautiful community, according to New Hope Services.

