

Hello Owsley Countians!

I'm Craig Bowman, and I'm thrilled to announce my candidacy for Owsley County Jailer!

With previous years of experience in the role in the early '90s, I'm confident in my ability to keep our community safe and secure. My wife Stephanie and I are proud to call Owsley County home, and we're committed to working tirelessly on behalf of our friends and neighbors.

I have deep roots in Owsley County and will be committed to serving our community efficiently and effectively. Stephanie and I will be honored to have your support.

- Craig Bowman

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October Owsley County Fiscal Court Notes

The Owsley County Fiscal Court met in regular session on Monday, October 13, 2025. County Judge Executive Zeke Little called the meeting to order. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. An Opening Invocation was offered. A motion was made and carried to suspend the reading of the prior minutes.

Linda Thomas, Secretary, gave the Treasurer's Report. The General Fund has a cash balance of \$255,178.87, the Road Fund has a cash balance of \$1,601,077.51, the Jail Fund has a cash balance of \$9,479.34 and the LGEA Fund has a cash balance of \$10,147.99. The Solid Waste Fund has a cash balance of \$41,397.03, the Parks & Rec Fund has a cash balance of \$967.08, the LGEDF Fund has a cash balance of \$16,494.06 and the Clerk Storage Fund has a cash balance of \$8,224.77. The Opioid Fund has a cash balance of \$133,117.39, the Land Acquisition Fund has a cash balance of \$6,126.99 and the EKYSAFE Fund has a cash balance of \$496,527.08. A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

"Next, we are going to open the bids on the demolition of the two buildings. Do Right Trucking has the lowest bid for the little building by the Long Service Center (the Spencer Building)," said Judge Little. A motion was made and carried to accept the lowest bid by Do Right Trucking. A motion was made and carried to accept the R & M Construction bid on the removal of the Callahan Building and Car Wash because they had the lowest bid.

A motion was made and

carried to appoint Kendall Robinson to serve on the board for the fiscal court at the Health Department for another term. "We have the car wash cleaned up and ready to start going back. I talked to a guy from Louisville that fixed the car wash in Beattyville after the flood. I showed him what we wanted and we put it out to bid. Hopefully, no more than two months, we should have it ready with all new equipment in it. We are trying to get the car wash done first and then we will move on over to the other building and start on it. I was just wanting to update everyone on that," said Judge Little. He continued, "What are your thoughts on moving the Pioneer Village up to the big field up by Arnold Wilson's where we are going to put the RV park and camper spots?" "I think it would be a great attraction," said Magistrate Jason Reed. Magistrate Alan Taylor agreed. "I would like to get some feedback from the people in the county. It does belong to the county. This could be in with the tourism where people could go in and see them. Where they are now, people won't go to them and they have torn some of them up. I would just like to know what everybody thinks. We would use grant money to move them, not county money," said Judge Little.

The Road Foreman's Report was in the packets that the magistrates had. Solid Waste is doing good. You can still get a new garbage can. Pay for it in the judge's office and pick it up at the county garage. We are still getting a lot of the garbage bills back in the mail because the post office is saying they can not deliver them - not the right address. We need your correct address.

A motion was made and carried to do Transfers as needed. A motion was made and carried to pay all legally incurred bills providing funding is available.

Eric Hubbard from Backroads of Appalachia was present to talk to the fiscal court about what is going on down on the farm. "A lot of updates - we had Donut Media (the second largest YouTube channel in the world). They were in Owsley County and stopped at the Bus Stop for lunch. We have three cars

sitting in the barn now that in California, they were allowed to spend \$3,000 a piece on. They drove them from California, doing multiple different motorsport challenges throughout the country. They ended up in Owsley County on our property where the American Rally Association's Training Center is located. We were able to have them modify their cars even more and make them rally cars in a mock video for them to film. We were lucky enough to have the Owsley County Volunteer Fire Department and they received a donation just to be there just in case something happened. This film will come out in the next month or so but they had nothing but wonderful things to say. Whenever I have people like that I start selling. You are in California. What if you have a Kentucky based LLC somewhere in Owsley County. Then you have a property that you can build and do whatever you want on (a win-win for everybody). We are waiting for a response on the environment. We are not allowed to move forward on anything besides me bush-hogging. We have the property looking well and we can maintain it ourselves. Our community believes in community first racing second. We want to open up the first Owsley County Farmers to come get the fence and posts out of the property. We should start construction sometime next month (finally). We will start our first brand new campsites as soon as we are allowed to start. This weekend we are not charging because we can't yet. We will start that up as primitive camping and the reason I say that is the transient tax. I am going to be screaming let's pass a transient tax so that I can legally give the county money for tourism. Because without the transient tax and a full time tourism director, I can't help you get state funds from the state tourism cabinet. This is a step in the process that is required but at the same time we have got to be sustainable. Transient tax - oh NO! Another tax! The court can pass it so that if an Owsley County resident wants to stay in an Owsley County facility - they don't have to pay the transient tax. Anybody outside of Owsley County



Congratulations to Allie Smith and Kaitlynn Caudell on being named 56th District All Tournament Volleyball Team.



Booneville Owsley Co Fire Department with students for Fire Safety Day

would have to pay the transient tax. That tax money goes to tourism and tourism can leverage state funds to market Owsley County. I am wanting to pay you tax so I call it a win. Next weekend (the same as the Woolly Worm Weekend) we are going to have the 24 Hours of Appalachia in downtown Booneville, Kentucky. We have 141 people registered (cars, motorcycles and side by sides). Anyone entering our events has to have insurance, be street legal and have all the safety requirements. We will do a tech inspection and make sure they are safe. The 24 Hours of Appalachia will start at 7 am. Friday night we will be downtown doing tech inspections. We can not donate every year to the same cause. That is not how this is supposed to operate. So this year the Daniel Boone BackCountry Byway

is something that is going to be coming that I am trying to go ahead and get ahead of, is all the extra traffic that we are bringing to run, let's start building up the Daniel Boone BackCountry Byway so they have the funds to maintain the unimproved roads versus coming to the county to get them to fix them. I plan on asking for state funds for that and we can have a committee where we can look at all unimproved roads and have a decision on what roads need to be fixed now and what can wait til next year. That way we will not be dependent on the county to pay for that out of their road funds (to maintain an old gravel or rocky hollow road). That is my plan. We had 71 people from across the country come on our property. The Gambler 500, you are allowed to spend \$500 on a car or truck (you can put more in it but

only spend \$500). It is not a race. These people come to our communities and pick up trash. It is a competition to see who picks up the most trash. It is good but it is also shameful. We had an 86 year old man from Texas come with his son who had never been to Kentucky to come and pick up our trash. They stayed on our property. It cost us hotdogs and hamburgers, a mow job around the pond and all these people had a good time. They picked up over 2,800 pounds of trash in Owsley and Jackson Counties along with 137 tires in a one day event. They are gonna come back next year. We are now registered as a business in Owsley County. We moved our headquarters here about three weeks ago."

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting.

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

@ BOONEVILLE METHODIST LIFE CENTER

TIME: 4:00-6:00PM

FREE SCREENINGS AND GIVEAWAYS

- *Carotid & Thyroid Ultrasounds
- *KardiaMobile EKG's
- *A1C Checks
- *Dental Screenings
- *Blood Pressure Checks
- *Cancer Screenings
- *Medication Assistance
- *Health Insurance information
-and much more!!!

COMPLETELY FREE!!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

606-726-8185

mlmills@mercy.com

