



Photos by Grant Gerstner

Thirty citizens spoke during the near two-hour public comment portion of the meeting, mainly voicing the concerns about the proposed “OC Data Center.” Three attendees, pictured in the top three photos of the far-right column, also spoke in opposition to the 287(g) agreement with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

DATA

FROM **PAGE A1**

effective date of this ordinance.”

The moratorium will not affect any applications already filed before it is adopted, including — as of April 18 — the proposed “OC Data Center” planned to be built north of Highway 53, since applications have already been filed for the Technical Review Committee on May 21 at 1 p.m. and the Board of Adjustments and Appeals meeting in June — exact date to be determined due to holiday conflict.

County Attorney D. Berry Baxter emphasized that the ordinance had not yet been adopted and said that “This is a proposed ordinance that is being sent to the Planning Commission for review ... it’s going to come back to you just like any other ordinance ... [but] it will have to have two readings and there will have to be a public hearing [by the Planning Commission]”

When Magistrate Kevin Woosley asked “What protections do we have between now and when this is actually in effect to make sure nobody else files?” Baxter replied that there are none because “it doesn’t become the force of law until the ordinance is adopted.”

When Magistrate Stephanie Hawkins asked if the process could be sped up “on an emergency basis,” Baxter replied, “No, because you have to have all the criteria of [Kentucky Revised Statutes] Chapter 100 met



The April 15 Oldham County Fiscal Court meeting had one of the largest turnouts in years.

[which] requires the Planning Commission to conduct a hearing.”

Baxter also emphasized that the moratorium would only affect the land directly under the authority of the county government. “If you’re covering the incorporated areas of the county — La Grange, Crestwood, Pewee Valley, et cetera — it has to go to them to be approved, they [would] have to have public hearings [and] it could delay getting this done.”

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2025, at 9 a.m.

In other news, the court also:

- Had a bid opening for the Rollington Road roadway and drainage improvements construction project which had a \$1.2 million bid from Louisville Paving Company, a \$1.1 million bid from Libs Paving Company and a \$1 million bid from Triumph Landscape Construction.
- Approved a service agreement extension between Oldham County Dispatch and AT&T for switched ethernet used to connect to Louisville MetroSafe. The extension will last for another three years at the same monthly cost.

- Approved the Commonwealth Signs Proposal for a new digital sign outside of the South Oldham Government Center, which is at no cost to the county via donations and has a five-year warranty — Hawkins opposed.
- Approved the Parks Committee recommendation to hire trio del sol aerial productions LLC, as hired for the past three years, for the Independence Day fireworks show at Wendell Moore Park in Buckner, costing \$21,000 — Magistrate Michael Logsdon opposed.

- Approved the Road Committee recommendation to accept the Heather Green subdivision roads into the county road maintenance system, which had not been officially in the county system despite having been maintained.
- Approved the Oldham County Aquatic Center seasonal hires, effective May 5, 2025, making the center fully-staffed.
- Heard from Oldham County Dispatch Director Bo Glass that it is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

The next Oldham County Fiscal Court meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2025, at 2 p.m.



Photo by Grant Gerstner

Attendees to the OC Data Center’s open house are pictured entering City Place in La Grange, where they had the opportunity to ask questions to OC Data Center representatives.



Abie Kasson, Meridian Investment sales managing director and OC Data Center representative is pictured speaking with attendees.



Dinsmore Partner Clifford Ashburner and another OC Data Center representative, pictured at the far-right, speak with attendees regarding the economic impact of the proposed data center.



Jim Urban, former planning and development director and OC Data Center consultant, speaks with attendees regarding ecological impact.



Maxwell Kepes, Meridian Capital Group associate, speaks with WLKY Reporter Jamie Mayes.

PMG

PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Corydon

Instant Print

PRINT SHOP & DESIGN STUDIO

•BROCHURES

•DECALS

•POSTCARDS

• FLYERS

• FORMS

•INVOICES

•LETTERHEAD

•ENVELOPES

•YARD SIGNS

•VINYL BANNERS

•BUSINESS CARDS

•GRAPHIC DESIGN

•LOGO DESIGN

• STAMPS

•LABELS

•POSTERS

Let us save you money on all your printing and design needs!

Corydon Instant Print is an affiliate with Paxton Media Group. We specialize in marketing tools to help sky rocket your business! Offering many different services from printing to graphic design. We are devoted to providing quality service for all of your printing needs.

812-738-2035

cip@corydondemocrat.com

SCAN FOR PRICING!

LAUREATE

FROM **PAGE A2**

“It’s about me basically telling my 13-year-old daughter of whom I wouldn’t let do something she wanted to do and she stormed upstairs and slammed the door — just about being afraid of what the world would do to her.

“I have a long poem called ‘The Deer’ that’s about driving around in Pewee Valley late at night — looking for a party with friends in the car — and being stopped in the road because there was a big owl in the middle of the road that refused to move and how amazing that was to see that in the middle of the night ...

“Most of my poems [now] are about where I live right now, in an old country church that was built before the American Civil War, [which is] next to a graveyard and on Pope Lick Road that has the goat-man on it, which figures into my new book deal ...

“But it’s been easy to be here in this little rural area of Louisville ... and it reminds me of Oldham County and I can link those things back and forth.”

Praised by Gov. Andy Beshear for her passion for teaching, Driskell told the Era that teaching means everything to her. “I don’t know if I would be driven to publish if I weren’t teaching at a university and needed to publish ...

“I didn’t set out to be a teacher, I kind of fell into it accidentally. My MFA director ... needed someone to take a job — he called me on a Sunday night and I said, ‘well, when does it start?’ and he said, ‘tomorrow ... at seven o’clock before the high school starts’ ...

“I did it as a favor to him, and the first day I walked out of that classroom,

I thought ‘how did I not know I was supposed to do this?’”

Driskell said that her advice to aspiring writers is to remember that “it’s so important to connect with other writers just to begin to figure out what’s possible and for support. It’s not easy to be an artist in this culture, especially now, and we need to support each other ...”

To read her work, Driskell recommends buying from independent booksellers or ordering from bookshop.org. She also mentioned that she and her fellow Spalding University staff will host readings at the end of May. For more information on Driskell and her upcoming readings, visit kathleendriskell.com.

The Kentucky Poet Laureate induction ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on April 24 in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort as part of the Kentucky Arts Council’s annual Kentucky Writers’ Day event — held in honor of first US Poet Laureate and Kentuckian Robert Penn Warren.

This year’s Writers’ Day ceremony will include readings by Driskell, 2023-2024 Poet Laureate Silas House, other former poets laureate and the 2024 Kentucky Youth Poet Laureate, Maira Faisal, a junior at Northern Kentucky University.

Following the Writers’ Day event, the Paul Sawyer Public Library is hosting a Kentucky Poet Laureate reading at 2:30 p.m. featuring readings by Driskell, House and former Poets Laureate Crystal Wilkinson, Jeff Worley, George Ella Lyon, Frank X Walker, Maureen Morehead, Sena Jeter Naslund, Joe Survant and Richard Taylor. Both events are free and open to the public.

For more information on Kentucky Writers’ Day, visit artsCouncil.ky.gov.