



Lawrence County

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2026 | **Time:** 4:30 – 5:15 p.m.

Present: County Executive David Morgan. **Commissioners** Chris Sutherland, Steve Hagan, Tim Clifton, Delano Benefield, Angie Jacobs, J.D. Bosheers, Scott Franks, Travis Cauwels, Rick Skillington, Sandy Newton, Bubba Benefield, Ray and Roberta Brazier, Ben Barnett and Ryan Egly with the **Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, Register of Deeds** Terra Dickey, **County Attorney** Ryan Durham, **Budget Director** Brandi Williams, two **residents** including John Uzbasic.

ROLL CALL: David Morgan, Chair; Scott Franks; Travis Cauwels; Angie Jacobs.

ABSENT: Barry Luffman

Budget folder distributed by Brandi Williams (in folder)

Executive Morgan called the meeting to order.

Terra Dickey presented a request for permission to collect a \$2 E-file fee when documents are filed electronically. This would be charged to the submitter for the convenience of filing that way, as opposed to mail or in person. E-filed documents require the same amount of work by her staff.

The number of e-filed documents is growing. In 2009, there were 260 e-files; in 2020, there were 1,641; and in 2025, there were 2,469. In fiscal year 2025-26 the fee would have produced \$5,028.

She anticipates spending the new funds on supplies, technology, staffing

Motion to approve \$2 fee on all e-filed documents.

Motion: Franks; **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Williams stated that the resolution needs to include that the funds are restricted for use by the Register of Deeds' office.

Amendment:

Motion to approve \$2 fee on all e-filed documents, with funds restricted for use by the Register of Deeds office.

Motion: Franks; **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Tidwell estate – **Durham** stated that 60% of the estate was left to an entity that does not exist, but the organization most like that mentioned in the will is the Lawrence County – Lawrenceburg Animal Shelter.

The estate includes approximately \$100,000 in cash, and a house with an appraised value of \$183,000. However, due to its condition it would not be listed for more than \$83,000. Because of difficulties in interpreting the will, the proposal is to give the animal shelter \$100,000, free and clear.

Motion to accept the funds.

Motion: Cauwels; **Second:** Franks.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Ryan Egly – PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Tax) resolution concerns Lumber Liquidators and Cabinets to Go, both owned by F9 Brands. Existing 10-year PILOT established in 2018 for Cabinets To Go allows 100% reduction. Lumber Liquidators PILOT would be a 60% PILOT, and when Cabinets To Go current term is up, it will shift to 60% for seven years.

Franks asked that county be allowed to initiate a clawback clause if job estimates are not met. **Durham** stated current agreement provides that city or county can request Industrial Development Board to nullify abatement.

Motion to proceed.

Motion: Cauwels; **Second:** Franks.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Proposal to increase EMS Standby rate to \$150/hour. Existing rate of \$125 was approved by Emergency Services Committee. New 24/72 schedule increases overtime rate, so additional fee is needed.

Discussion about charging for this service at benefits, and who determines if the charge is waived. EMS Director Michelle Ayers joined meeting by phone. **Durham** stated that the charge may be waived only for events that do not charge admission.

Motion to approve \$150 standby rate.

Motion: Cauwels; **Second:** Jacobs.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Budget amendments, included in committee folder.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Jacobs; **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Solid Waste – approval to deem GMC truck surplus.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Franks; **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Highway Department – approval of surplus property

Motion to approve.

Motion: Cauwels; **Second:** Franks.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Franks; **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0).

Minutes Submitted By: *Nancy Brewer*