

Fiscal court meets before members' terms end



Elected and appointed officials, along with staff, posed for a photo at Thursday's fiscal court meeting. This is the first time in recent history that a completely new fiscal court will be taking over January 7. Pictured front row, Rodney Davis, county attorney; Sherry Fox, county clerk, Kim Dawes, deputy judge/executive; Ann Rogers, treasurer; Sheila Dixon; and Christine Brandenburg. Back row, Judge/Executive Kevin Williams; Magistrate Marty Snowden; Magistrate Billy Eldridge; and Magistrate Darrell Johnson.

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County attorney Rodney Davis gave first reading to a distillery ordinance for the Cow Creek precinct. The ordinance will appoint the deputy judge/executive as the alcohol administrator for Estill County.

Davis said the distillery can purchase their alcohol license in Frankfort 60 days after the November election was certified.

First reading was also given to an ordinance which created an advisory committee for the railroad museum.

Williams recommended seven members, but he cannot appoint those members until second reading and publication is given to the ordinance.

Two temporary employees, Robert Barnes and Jeff Jenkins, were named as permanent employees.

The court approved the purchase of a used van for the coroner's office.

Coroner Tony Murphy said the coroner's office has been using a vehicle owned by Toler Funeral Home for many years.

Magistrate Marty Snowden, who was appointed at the resignation of Gerald Rader, commented on his short term as magistrate.

Snowden, a banker, stated it was a pleasure working with the fiscal court. He added, that after June or July, the court saw the budget leveling out.

He stated the jail was the biggest expense the county has, and there is nothing that can be done about it.

Williams said the county had budgeted for 50 inmates per day, but it's been running higher than that.

A former county employee, Elbert "Bud" Freeman, had passed away and a moment of silence was held in his honor. After retiring from Windstream, Freeman had been the grounds-keeper at the courthouse.

Retired KSP officer is named Director of Law Enforcement

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programs that provide safe learning and teaching environments for students and teachers.

He hopes to provide valuable resources to school staff that can foster positive relationships with students. His work will include developing strategies to resolve problems affecting youth and protecting all students, so they can reach their fullest potential.

"We are fortunate to find an individual with the experiences and qualifications that Director Cole possesses. His hiring will not

only fill the void that existed with the recent resignation of our SRO, but will greatly enhance the overall safety of our buildings due to his vast experience gained while working for KSP. Finally, I want to thank our Board of Education for their investment in providing a safe learning and teaching environment for our students and staff," stated Supt. Jeff Saylor.

Director Cole began employment on December 13th, 2018. If you have any questions or concerns he can be reached at (606) 723-2181 or by email at doug.cole@estill.kyschools.us.



County attorney Rodney Davis presented County Clerk Sherry L. Fox with a painting on Thursday. Fox is retiring after 37 years as county clerk and/or deputy county clerk.

School board recognizes Mt. Movers and looks at property for bus garage

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staff Writer

Members of the school board met on December 20th and got down to business by recognizing Mountain Movers for the month.

Hardy Oil was recognized as the Community Mountain Mover of the month. Butch Hardy said that he truly enjoyed the Irvine High celebration that was put on at the high school last week and commended Superintendent Jeff Saylor on organizing the event.

Hardy went on to say they wanted the community to know that the Engineer pump located at his gas station would generate \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year for the athletic department.

Blake Crowe was recognized as the Certified Mountain Mover of the month. Crowe was unable to attend the meeting due to prior family obligations.

Flo Flynn was recognized as the Classified Mountain Mover of the month. Flynn said that she feels blessed to be able to work close to home and with people who are more like family than friends.

Two outgoing school board members were recognized for their service to the school district. Jon Bicknell served for 8 years on the school board and L.W. Beckley served four years on the board.

Jennifer Palmer presented the board with handmade gifts from the preschool students to show their appreciation.

A construction update was given to the board by an architect from Ross Tarrant. Several change orders were approved by the board on both the middle school and Estill Springs including the completion dates on both schools.

The completion date of the middle school roofing project was approved for January 24, 2019 and the completion date of Estill Springs was approved for April 11, 2019. The architect stated that the start date was delayed approximately 120 days because the metal was delayed coming in from the supplier.

Mr. Saylor said the board had been looking at several different places to put the new bus garage since the space located on Coal Wash Road fell through. The site that they are interested in at this time is located directly across from the high school and middle school. There is between 120-160 acres for a purchase price of \$238,000.

Saylor said with the purchase of this particular property it would allow the school district enough acreage to build the bus garage and in the future build a sports complex or a middle school which Saylor said would

have to be built in the next 25 years. Board members voted to move forward with the purchase of the land. Saylor said that by the February meeting they would be able to decide in which area they would place the bus garage.

Board member Donna Isfort said that this was not a situation that had been taken lightly. She said they had spent hours in meetings and driving around the county looking for the right spot to put the bus garage and that even though it's been a battle she is super excited to move forward with the project.

Auditors for the school district were in attendance and reported that there were no significant findings in the yearly audit.

The next school board meeting will be held on January 17, 2019 and at that time two newly elected board members will begin their term of office. Brian Covey and Sheila Samples will replace outgoing board members Jon Bicknell and L.W. Beckley.



Blake Crowe was selected as the Certified Mt. Mover for excellence in the classroom, dedication to students, creativity and strong leadership abilities.



Flo Flynn was chosen as the Classified Mt. Mover for her excellent service, her contributions to schools, and her positive attitude.

Left photo: Hardy Oil Company, owned by Butch Hardy, right, was chosen by the Estill County Board of Education as the community Mountain Mover in December. The business was chosen because of developmental attitudes that have had a lasting effects on the students of Estill County.



Local Police Activity Report

Trooper Derek Lovett arrested **Daniel Townsend**, 24 of Sandhill Road, Irvine on December 17.

The citation states that Townsend was operating a vehicle on Pea Ridge Road, and there was a passenger in the back seat who was not wearing a seat belt.

The trooper said he smelled the odor of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. Townsend reportedly told the trooper that he had smoked marijuana about an hour prior. He gave the trooper a marijuana pipe with burned residue on it.

He also gave the trooper a glass jar which had marijuana inside it, and told the trooper he intended to smoke it.

Townsend failed field sobriety tests according to the citation.

Townsend was charged with failure to wear seat belts, failure to notify address change to Dept. of Transportation, possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence.

Townsend was released from custody on a his own recognizance.

•**Patricia Meacake**, 53, of North Plum Street, Irvine was charged with resisting arrest and second degree disorderly conduct by Officer Colton Lewis on December 23.

The officer said he went to Meacake's residence to serve two Estill County warrants on her, and she told him that she was going to fight him before she went back to jail.

The citation states the female was escorted to the ground and handcuffed. When she arrived at the local jail parking lot, she began kicking the back door and window of the cruiser.

Both bench warrants were issued because Meacake allegedly failed to pay fines.

On April 11, Meacake was found guilty in Estill District Court of public intoxication. District Judge Bo Leach set her bail at \$343.00.

She was given a diverted sentence for theft by deception, including cold checks on April 18. Judge Leach set her bail at \$65.00 in this case.

•**Kristopher O. Estes**, 23, of Blue Run Road, Irvine was charged with trafficking

in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense on December 18 by Sgt. John Sturniolo.

A confidential informant working for the Irvine Police Department went to Estes' residence and purchased \$40 worth of a crystal-like substance, according to the citation.

It adds that the substance tested positive as methamphetamine.

•Sgt. Sturniolo served three out of county arrest warrants on **Donald L. Hagans**, 28.

Bail for Hagans was set at \$5,000 in Boyle County. Hagans allegedly failed to appear for an arraignment on eight traffic charges in Perry County.

He allegedly failed to appear for an arraignment in Floyd County for charges of careless driving, operating on suspended or revoked license, and possession of marijuana.

Floyd District Judge Eric D. Hall set Hagans' bail at \$300.00.

•**Brianna D. McIntosh**, 23, Whitepine Lane, Irvine, was charged with public intoxication on December 20 by Officer Colton Lewis.

According to the citation, McIntosh was knocking on doors on Laurel Street and asking for a ride to McDonald's.

The citation states that McIntosh appeared to be under the influence of methamphetamine.

•Officer Lewis served an Estill District Court bench warrant on **Christopher C. Crowe**, 39, of Noland Hill Road, Irvine for failing to appear on seven charge.

Judge Leach did not set a bail for Crowe.

•An Estill indictment warrant was served on **Cole M. Warren**, 23, of Edgewater Drive on December 21. Charges were listed in last week's issue of The Estill County Tribune.

•A Fayette District Court bench warrant was served December 16 on **Justin Dale Carson**, 33, of Irvine by Officer Lewis.

Judge M. Thornton issued the warrant saying Carson had failed to report, failed to attend counseling, tested positive for drugs/alcohol, and other. It says he last reported on Sept. 2, tested positive for oxycodone on Sept. 4, and failed a drug test on Sept. 15.

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