

Henderson County ordinances may be posted online

By Frank Boyett

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Henderson Fiscal Court is considering putting county ordinances online so they are searchable and more accessible to the public.

The county's ordinances are periodically re-codified, County Attorney Steve Gold explained, and it was last done in 1992. In the past the process has been done on paper, but Gold advocates making them digital, so they can be easily searched and accessed.

"It's a good goal," he said, because it will make it easier for law enforcement officers to check on the legality of anything. "Very few counties have actually gone to this.

"That's something we probably need to look at a contractor for," Gold said. "It would probably be a third-party provider."

Fiscal court approved Gold looking further into the process. "Before we do anything we would definitely bring it back to you," Judge-executive Hugh McCormick said.

Other matters before fiscal court on Tuesday included:

Boat ramp: County Engineer Bill Hubiak reported that work has begun clearing land for a new boat ramp at the 90-degree turn in Green River Road No. 1. "I'm hoping to have the boat ramp done this fall." A parking lot would also serve a proposed walking trail onto nearby state-owned land. Hubiak was also instructed to look into the costs of putting a hard surface on the road, which used to be paved but is now gravel. "One of the reasons the original road failed is it was not constructed properly at the base of it," Hubiak said, noting that work has now been completed.

New lake: Hubiak said a contractors' meeting will take place at 10 a.m. Monday at the courthouse for building a new lake in the Sandy Watkins Park near Hebbardsville. "Everybody needs to understand we're dealing with reclaimed surface mine area," he said.

Brush pile: The court authorized spending up to \$15,000 to hire someone to grind up the brush pile the county maintains at the Road Department. The county plans to compost the material into mulch.

Fireworks ban: McCormick once again noted that a ban on private fireworks has been instituted because of the extreme drought. "Any violation of that is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$500 fine," the county attorney said.

Coal money: The court prioritized spending more than \$1 million of coal severance tax funds over the fiscal year that began Sunday. Topping the list is \$100,000 to help build a theater for the Audubon State Park museum, followed by \$86,500 for mining certification classes at Henderson Community College; \$100,000 for the Colonels 2 College scholarship funding program; and \$550,000 for various unnamed county projects, although among them are improvements at the Sandy Watkins Park.

Personnel policy: The court approved changes to the county's personnel policy, the most significant of which involves setting guidelines for employees who want to return to work early after an injury. Light or modified duty would be limited to 90 days and will be allowed based on the employee's medical condition, availability of such positions and the employee's skills.

Health department: Deborah Fillman, public health director of the Green River District Health Department, gave the court an update on her agency's activities. Beginning Oct. 1, she said, all establishments serving food that are inspected by the department will be required to display placards showing their sanitation rating.

Appointments: The court approved appointing Cathleen Townsend and Patricia Coomes to the Henderson City-County Human Rights Commission.



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