



Livingston resident Bobby Wilson leads the pack on Main Street in Mt. Vernon near the end of the second annual Hunger Awareness March on Wednesday. The march is held annually to combat world hunger and it is held in conjunction with Hunger Action month in September.

“Court”

(Cont. from front)

funds were available for road repairs if needed.

Reynolds told the group, “I don’t see any way the fiscal court can fix these roads with this ordinance.”

The problem might arise in this particular subdivision that a single property owner owns, two, three or even four lots thereby causing the requirement for 50% occupancy of the lots to come into play since each of the lots are counted individually under the 50% requirement.

Several options were discussed including rescinding at least a part of the existing ordinance and levying a special assessment on abutting property owners for a proportional share of the cost of blacktopping. Even if the last option were considered, the roads would still have to meet requirements established to be included in the county road system.

It was decided the first step needed was to ascertain the occupancy level of the streets in the subdivision.

In other action, the court accepted the bid of Humana

for the county employees’ health insurance coverage. Humana’s bid came in \$2,485.45 per month cheaper than the current premium with Anthem. However, according to Patricia Martin, secretary to Carloftis, this savings will be more than nullified if the eight employees, who currently do not have insurance, decide to join the plan to keep from being penalized under Obamacare. Martin said the additional cost to the county will be about \$5,000 per employee per year.

The court also voted to keep providing the \$500 flex cards, which each employee enrolled in the insurance program receives to help defray the cost of their deductible. Carloftis told the court that the total cost to the county per year for these cards could run as high as \$27,000 but, in the first year, the costs accumulated by employees was only around \$18,000. Figures from the second year were not available.

The court also voted to bundle their vision, dental and life insurance plans, along with their health insurance, under Humana which will result in an additional

2% savings on premium costs.

The contribution by employees to their health care plan was left the same. “In past years when our premiums have increased a lot, we’ve not increased the employees contribution so we need to leave it where it is now,” Magistrate Bill McKinney told the court.

Wage increases for employees was also discussed. The magistrates were given the current wages of employees and told that a \$1 an hour increase would amount to an additional cost of \$127,500, including benefits, per year to the county. After studying the wage information, Magistrate Ralph Allen told the court, “We pay some employees more than they’re worth and some not enough but they all have the same expenses,” and he made a motion to give the \$1 per hour increase. His motion was seconded by Lee Earl Adams and, in a voice vote, the motion ended in a tie with Carloftis siding with Allen and Adams and Magistrates Bill McKinney, William Denny and Gary Burdette all voting no.

Adams then made a mo-

tion to make the increase 50c an hour saying, “Nobody gives a \$1 an hour raise these days.” And, Denny noted that “state workers haven’t had a raise in seven years.” McKinney seconded Adams’ motion and all voted yes, except for Allen who wouldn’t record a vote.

The 50c an hour increase will add an additional \$63,000 to the county’s annual payroll costs.

Following McKinney’s opinion that the \$1 an hour increase was too high, Carloftis remarked that the county “could afford it” to which Denny retorted that “we won’t be if we keep doing this.”

As one of the last items of business, the court voted to transfer \$300,000 from the occupational tax fund to the general fund. \$75,000 of that amount will be transferred to the jail fund.

The county also approved the board of education’s tax rate for the coming year. The board took the compensating rate of 40.4c per \$100 assessed value. The county also took the compensating rate of 7.8c per \$100 assessed value which will garner them \$295,000 in revenue.

Live Music Friday, Sept. 13th behind Dari Delite in the Hog Pen

*featuring
Ethan Eversole,
Tracy Valentine,
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Starts at 7 p.m.
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Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital is pleased to welcome Dennis J. Joseph, M.D., to its active medical staff and to the community.

Dr. Joseph is board-certified in Internal Medicine and in Geriatric Medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

After earning his medical degree at Medical College in Thiruvananthapuram, India, Dr. Joseph completed his Residency in Internal Medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana. He subsequently continued his education in his specialty areas by completing a Fellowship in Geriatrics and a Fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Joseph will offer a broad range of care for adults with diabetes, as well as thyroid, multi-gland, bone and mineral metabolism conditions, and other conditions related to glands, metabolism, and hormones.

Dr. Joseph is now accepting new patients.

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