

**JOINT CITY COMMISSION  
BOURBON COUNTY FISCAL COURT  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2025  
4:00 pm**

**HONORABLE: JUDGE MICHAEL R. WILLIAMS**

**CITY MANAGER: MATT BELCHER**

**PARIS MAYOR: JOHN PLUMMER**

**MAGISTRATES: BART HORNE, LOUIE STUBBLEFIELD, TODD EARLYWINE**

**COMMISSIONERS: WALLIS BROOKS, TIM GRAY, SHARON FIELDS, STAN GALBRAITH**

**Others in Attendance:** Kathleen Stone (Court Clerk), G. Davis Wilson (Attorney), Dana Mingua (Deputy Judge), Tony Asbury (Bourbon Co. Sheriff), Judy Hutson (Park Director), Mike Withrow (City), Brad Oberlander (CPA), Stephanie Settles (City Clerk), Warren (Citizen)

Judge Williams sounded the agenda @ 4pm

Welcome message and introductions – This meeting was a workshop between the Bourbon County Fiscal Court and Paris City Commission to discuss adding the Millersburg Road property venues to the joint Parks and Recreation Board's responsibilities. Judge Williams presented information about the property development, including the court sports venue (completed) and the multi-purpose fields (nearing completion). The discussion focused on the potential costs of adding these venues to the joint Parks and Rec Board, including one-time equipment purchases (\$78,300) and recurring annual personnel and maintenance costs (approximately \$64,500 each annually). The primary immediate decision needed is where youth baseball will be played in 2026. Judge Williams also raised concerns about a previous commitment from the city regarding sanitary sewer installation at the park property by the end of 2026.

1. **Meeting Workshop Future of Millersburg Rd. Property** – Judge Williams provided an overview of the 2018 inter local agreement that established the Joint Parks and Recreation Board, noting that this has been in place for approximately seven years. He explained that adding or removing properties from the board's jurisdiction requires a simple vote by both governing bodies. The agreement list all the properties, the request was to see some real numbers. The court is finishing the all-purpose fields by December 2025. The final asphalt application will come soon. This property will accommodate field sports including soccer, baseball, football, etc. The Master plan shows where the fields are on the land.

This property is 329 acres, much of the land has not been developed still. This agreement is just for the venues that are already developed. The joint parks and rec board have not voted as of yet to use these new fields. The board has a meeting scheduled this week.

Judge Williams presented the current master plan for the Millersburg Road property, explaining that it has evolved significantly since the project began in June 2015. He clarified that the proposal would only add the developed venues to the Joint Parks and Rec Board's jurisdiction, not the entire 329-acre property.

The court sports venue, opened in October of the previous year, includes six tennis courts, six pickle ball courts, and 3 basketball courts. The venue has been used for various events, including the regional high school tennis tournament. The lighting system is programmable and designed to minimize impact on neighboring properties.

The second phase of development includes multi-purpose fields with artificial turf that can accommodate baseball, soccer, football, and other field sports. This venue is near completion with an investment of \$6,845,000, funded through ARPA funds and a \$3 million allocation from the state budget. There's no cost to the local tax payers.

Our meeting has centered on the current investment. We need to discuss adding this property to the Parks and Rec board budget. Mowing and park maintenance is ongoing as weather permits. The lights are programmable, come on at dusk and go off at midnight.

Mike Withrow – Is regular maintenance required on these courts? Do they need to be cleared of rain water?

Judge – The courts drain automatically and little maintenance is required on these courts. Just regular trash pickup.

Phase II Multi-Purpose Fields will be ready by December 2025. The parking area is not totally paved yet, it's gravel. Frederick & May has done a great job. The excavation was the largest cost of this venue. The road way you see on power point is original farm road. The building you see beyond the parking area is a stall barn. It includes bathrooms and a kitchen.

The property has been used by Bourbon County Schools for agriculture and athletic events, through a land use agreement. We also have a land use agreement with the YMCA. The bases on the field have brown artificial grass.

Q: Commissioner Fields raised concerns about having enough personnel to manage both existing parks and the new property. Also, is there routine maintenance that has to be done on the courts?

A: Judge Williams responded that nothing has been required so far other than keeping the courts clean of debris, and the courts drain automatically after rain.

Q: Commissioner Fields asked about personnel requirements.

A: Judge Williams explained that the projected costs include 1-2 additional staff dedicated to the new property, not reassigning current staff.

Q: A participant asked if the \$35,000 figure was for each employee.

A: Judge Williams confirmed it was per employee, noting that current full-time employees make around \$37,000.

Q: A participant asked if the one-time costs were broken out between baseball and soccer programs.

A: Judge Williams explained that some costs apply to both sports while others are sport-specific.

## 2. Projected costs

### **Temporary Fence:**

(4-fields) 225' HR distance 375 linear feet

150' = \$2,250 2/field ;100' = \$1,700 1/field: \$6,200/field x 4 = **\$24,800**

### **Pitching Mounds**

(4) 6" one piece game mound @ \$1,900 = **\$7,600**

### **Batting Mats**

(4) 6x12 @ \$300 **\$1,200**

### **Dugout Benches (16) – Baseball & Soccer**

Portable 7.5 @ \$800 = **\$12,800**

Portable 15.0' @ \$1,000 = **\$8,000**

### **Gator/4-wheeler – Baseball & Soccer**

Required turf tires **\$12,500**

### **Bleachers – Baseball & Soccer**

(8) Tip & roll 3-row,15' - 2 or 3 @ \$2,500

(+ Garrad Park Possibility) **\$7,500**

### **Spray Chalk Temporary**

20 Cases (Various Colors) @ \$64.95/case = **\$1,299**

### **Soccer Goals**

Brand: Quickplay U6 & U8 (6'x4' – 12'x6.5') **\$250**  
U10 (12'x6.5') **\$250**  
U12 (18.5'x6.5') **\$2,100 each/wheels** Epic Sports  
OLDER (24'x8') **\$2,400 each/wheels** Epic Sports - APPROXIMATE TOTAL **\$10,000**

### **Corner Flags/Cones**

(8) Weighted Corner Flags @ \$145 **\$1,160**

### **Projected Start Up Cost**

Baseball - **\$33,500**

Soccer - **\$12,500**

Baseball/Soccer Joint Cost **\$32,800**

**Total Sports Start up - \$78,300**

Total Sports Start Up Cost - \$78,300, this is an estimated cost.

Matt Belcher – some of these costs are a onetime cost, or a shared cost.

Judge – the majority of these costs are a onetime expense.

Tony S. –

We are discussing all courts and fields.

We have invested 1 million dollars in field on Bourbon County. Vescio Company installed our artificial turf and it does require maintenance.

### **3. Annual Costs – include:**

Employees (Director plus 1-Full time employee)

Scheduling games, maintenance process, work with Martin Sanitation for facilities, including handicapped facility. Scheduling mowing. Etc.

Bourbon County Fiscal Court Investment total is \$12,557,000.00.

Judge Williams - One of the turn lanes that we put in has to be redone due to not passing state inspection.

Q: Commissioner Sharon Fields - will that be enough to take care of all bourbon county parks

A: Judge – We will hire additional staff to take care of Millersburg Road Park.

Q: Sharon – can we use current staff to work this new park?

A: Judge – because we are currently understaffed, my opinion is no.

**Summary of what we're spending today:**

Current Total Budget is \$387,850.08

New Budget \$452,350.08

Additional Cost projected - \$64,500.00, \$64,500 is a recurring cost, with personnel included.

**Financial Projections**

One-Time Startup Costs

Total estimated cost to make fields ready for baseball and soccer: \$78,300

- Temporary fencing for baseball fields
- Portable pitching mounds (4 required)
- Batting mats and dugout benches
- Maintenance equipment including a utility vehicle for artificial turf care
- Temporary bleachers and soccer equipment
- Field marking supplies

**Annual Operating Costs**

- Current Joint Parks Budget: \$387,850 (split equally between city and county at \$193,925 each)
- Projected Budget with New Property: \$516,850 (split equally at \$258,425 each)
- Additional Annual Cost: \$64,500 per year (\$32,250 per government)

**Personnel Requirements**

- One director position and 1-2 maintenance staff dedicated to the Millersburg Road property
- Estimated salary costs of \$35,000 per full-time employee (excluding benefits and retirement)
- Staff would handle scheduling, maintenance coordination, and facility oversight

Q: Judge Williams - Will the board agree to add the property?

Q: Stan Galbraith – Do those numbers for personnel include retirement?

A: Judge – It does not include retirement because we are not sure what the cost will be. There's been an increase in our insurance, when we get closer to that time we can have a better idea of that cost.

Q: Sharon – When do you need an answer?

A: Judge – I went to a board meeting and asked where are you going to play youth baseball? That decision has not been made yet. If the Joint Park and Recreation Board decides Wednesday to play sports at the new park, I would like to take a vote to the December 17 Fiscal Court meeting.

The joint Parks and rec board needs to decide at their next meeting.

Judge - My proposal is to add this property to the board's budget.

Dec 9 is the next called meeting for the Joint Parks and Rec Board. We need to notify whoever is handling youth baseball needs to know ASAP.

Q: Matt Belcher – Thank you for the numbers and presentation. The new director, will they be over the joint parks.

A: Judge - They will be over the new park, but it's up to the park board

Mike Withrow – It was to be an executive director but that was never done.

Q: Brad Oberlander – Is that \$35,000 for each full-time employee

A: Judge – yes, each employee.

Drew P – there is a lot of up keep out there, trash, mowing

Q: Brad Oberlander – Maybe we should hire a management company to oversee the park?

A: Judge – that's up to the board

Tony Sosby – were talking about start up, 2026, getting this park started. Play could start in March because of turf, weather doesn't matter. This is for our kids.

Q: Brad – How much did KHSA pay for use of courts last year

A: Judge – They didn't pay

Q: Judge Williams – Where do we stand on the sewer project. The Fiscal Court chose to share that money with the Paris combined utilities. Nothing has been done. Where are those funds? The agreement was that sewer system would be on the new park property by 2026.

A: Mike Withrow - We need a design for bathrooms

Judge – the money must be spent by the end of 2026, and do you have plans in place to put bathrooms on the property.

Matt Belcher – We have a plan to spend some on the Fords Mill Rd project.

Judge Williams reminded the city commission of their commitment to provide sanitary sewer to the property by December 31, 2026, in exchange for the fiscal court agreeing to redirect over \$2 million in funding to the Ford's Mill Road project. The current status of the sewer project timeline remains unclear.

Matt B – I will look at the emails

Judge – we do work so well together on so many projects, we are so blessed and fortunate.

We stand adjourned at 5:36pm