

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE County Legislative Body
for the County of Lauderdale and State of Tennessee was held at the Courthouse in the town of
Ripley, on the 2nd Monday in September, on the 9th day of said month, and year
OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FOUR, present and presiding
Maurice Gaines, County Mayor, Linda Summar, County Clerk,
Xavier L. Andrews, Mark Ballard, Joe Carmack, Don Connell, Gene Edwards, Rob Harris,
Danny Hartsfield, Jeff Henson, Ronnie Jackson, Kaye Jordon, Brian Maclin, Dale McCaslin,
Terry Mills, Mary Moore, Eugene Pugh, Joe Pursell, Todd Rankin, Tommy Sanders, Erin Smith,
Lowell Tillman Jr, Dan Ungerecht Jr, and Susan Worlds.

CALL TO ORDER

Brian Kelley, Lauderdale County Sheriff, called the September 9, 2024 Lauderdale County
Commission Meeting to Order.

REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Maurice Gaines, County Mayor, asked to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of
September 11, 2001.

OPENING PRAYER

Joe Pursell, County Commissioner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner T. Sanders to approve the minutes of the
August 12, 2024 Commission Meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner E. Pugh
and approved.



Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

LAUDERDALE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Committed to Excellence
675 Highway 51 South Ripley, TN 38063
Phone: (731) 221-3400 Fax: (731) 221-3448

Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office Annual Review 2023 - 2024

Greetings,

As I enter my second year, I would like to take this opportunity to present the Lauderdale County Commission with a high-level overview of the dedicated work of the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office members over the past couple of years.

I want to recognize the tireless efforts of all office members and their compassion, dedication, and sacrifices every day.

I would also like to thank the commission for supporting my office and your dedication to Lauderdale County. The overall good for our county is not based on individual efforts but on the culmination of our collective efforts.

Vision

The Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office strives to ensure public safety by building trust and creating partnerships with the diverse communities we serve. We will promote the dignity of all people supported by our words and actions through open communication while fostering an environment of professionalism, integrity, and mutual respect.

Mission

The Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to preserving a safe and secure community through professionalism, respect, integrity, and the highest commitment to equality.

Statistics

Call Volume

Between 2020 and 2024, requests for service in Lauderdale County increased by 39%. In 2024, the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office received approximately 7,634 calls of service, ranging



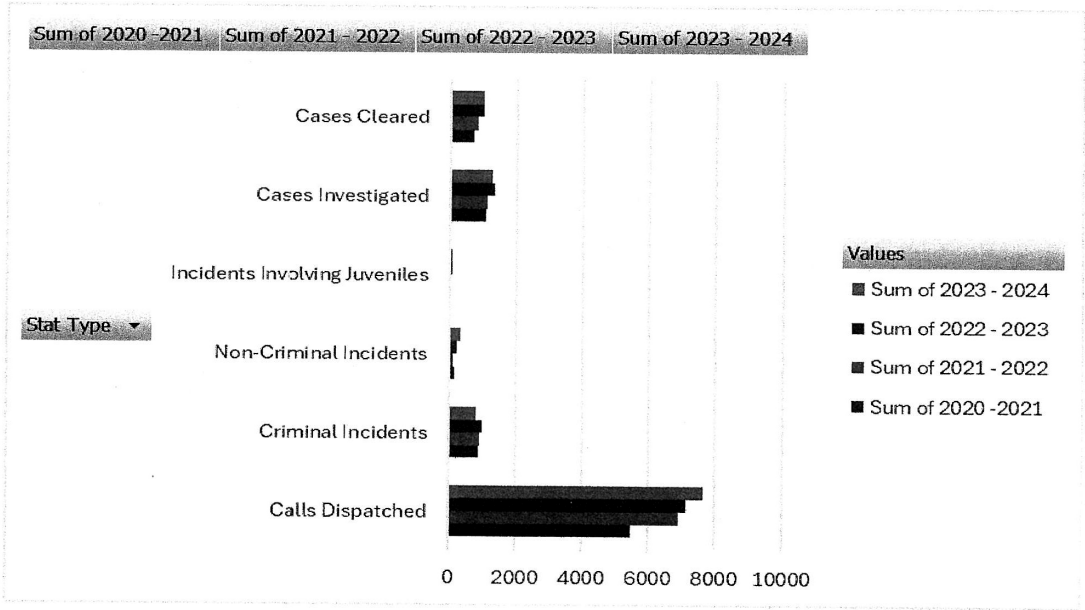
Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

from alarm calls to civil complaints and various criminal activities. However, these calls do not always result in a report being written or an arrest made; officers still need to respond to the caller's needs.

Of these calls, approximately 1,258 resulted in some form of investigation, report, and/or arrest due to the nature of the complaint, representing a 17% increase over the past four years.

Additionally, within the past four years, the number of cases cleared has increased by approximately 39%, with a yearly average of about 74% of cases closed. This success is nothing more than the hard work and dedication of the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office staff.



Proactive Enforcement Statistics

As demonstrated by the call volume, responding to calls to service is an essential part of any law enforcement agency. As the Sheriff, I understand that being a reactive department does not fix the underlying issue: crime cannot be deterred unless proactive policing is done.

Because of this, the LCSO focuses on extensive patrols of Lauderdale County, long-term investigations of violent offenders, and periodic enforcement activities in high-crime areas.

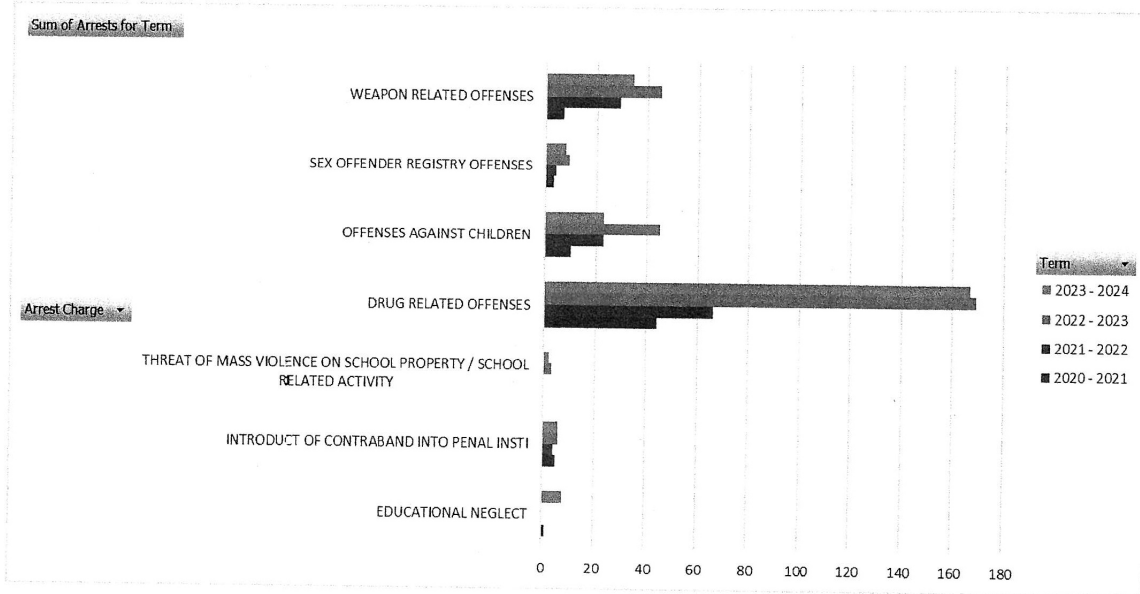


Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

These proactive techniques have proven to be successful in that there has been a 205% increase in drug and drug-related arrests as well as a 119% increase in weapons-related charges over the past four years.

This will remain a focus for the future as we continue to send our law enforcement officers to extensive training and provide them with the tools and resources needed to create a safe and peaceful community.



Juvenile Justice

Juvenile justice is a delicate but essential aspect of the job. Juvenile justice can be valued based on three factors: creating a stable environment for youth, holding youth accountable for their actions, and advocating for children victimized by criminal activity.

Environmental Stability

As a Sheriff, I believe that not all children deserve to be placed in a judicial system based on their mistakes. If a young person makes a mistake, this becomes a crossroad of choices that could lead to long-term criminal activities or learning from those mistakes and moving forward. Law



Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

Enforcement does not always have to be that hard hand of justice, and we can provide some stability through positive reinforcement.

To accomplish this, we must adequately secure and staff our schools with caring School Resource Officers. We currently have that in our school systems, and I appreciate all our officers who dedicate their time to mentoring and attending after-school events.

Juvenile Accountability

Though the most promising outcome is one that changes a negative path, it is not always possible to accomplish. Thus, we must also seek alternative means through Juvenile Courts for those who commit violent crimes and are repeat violent offenders. Evidence of this exists in the 30% increase in juvenile arrests through increased investigation efforts.

Often, these investigations result in juvenile offenders' arrest and mandated detention, which places additional burdens on law enforcement. With the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office being the premier law enforcement agency in the county, the burden of finding alternate placements for these offenders has fallen on us. Because of the limited facilities and resources the State provides for juvenile detention, this most often causes extensive work hours and financial resources.

Juvenile Victimization

Lastly, the most critical part of juvenile justice is advocating for youth affected by criminal activity. Through dedicated resources, advanced expertise, and extensive investigations, there has been a 106% increase in arrests of those who have perpetrated crimes against children.

Because of the vile and heinous actions of some against children, I, as Sheriff, will continue to pour unlimited resources into ensuring that if a crime is committed against a child, retribution will come.

Growth Initiatives

Creation of SWAT

The LCSO has created a Special Weapons and Tactics Unit to handle high-level enforcement activities that could result in violence. These activities range from search warrant execution, barricaded subjects, and mass casualty incident preparedness.



Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

As several SWAT Units have come through the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office and the Ripley Police Department, we are creating a team where training is paramount. Currently, most of our SWAT officers have or will attend high-level training in SWAT tactics, breaching, weapons tactics, tactical gas, and flash-bang, as well as receiving certification for each specialty. Further training is anticipated in explosive breaching, sniper certification, hostage negotiation, and other tactical response techniques.

Furthermore, each SWAT officer must undergo an extensive onboarding process, including physical and firearms testing and intense monthly training.

As we live in a time of high aggression, this team will ensure that any high-level threat within the county can be handled proficiently.

As of recently, the SWAT Unit mitigated a barricaded subject incident in less than an hour without incident. Traditionally, an incident like this would require the LCSO to seek assistance from outside resources such as Tipton County. Utilizing local units such as this ensures that workforce resources are appropriately used and increases the safety of all personnel.

Creation of the FTO Program

The LCSO has created the first-ever Field Training Officer Program, which consists of four certified FTOs and one FTO supervisor.

The FTO Program consists of senior officers whose duties include training and evaluating new officers, explaining policy and procedures, promoting proper behavior and practices, and testing the trainee using verbal and written examinations. FTOs undergo extensive training to train new officers, ultimately improving the department and staff and providing a better service to the community.

License Plate Reader

The LCSO currently possesses six license plate readers in the county. The license plate reader, or LPR, is a system containing computer software that scans the license plates of every car that passes. This system is not monitored 24/7 but does provide departments with the ability to investigate criminal activity through the movement of those committing the acts.

Since implementing the LPRs, the LCSO has successfully solved several crimes based on information received from the readers. These cameras are often the equivalent of having extra patrol units on the roadways at a fraction of the cost.



Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

Xray Machine

Since the implementation of the X-ray machine in the jail, staff have successfully mitigated the introduction of illegal narcotics into the facility approximately six times. Though it may not seem like an excessive number, it is six instances that potentially diverted an overdose or other criminal activity within the jail.

BWC Implementation

The LCSO has used grant funding to implement the first-ever mandated body-worn camera program. Historically, BWCs were only worn by personnel who purchased the devices out of pocket. Based on grant funding, the LCSO was able to equip each patrol officer with essential technology that will improve the prosecution of illegal acts, protect against unfounded complaints, and protect the public from inappropriate actions by law enforcement officers.

The LCSO intends to grow the program with future funding to provide additional technology to School Resource Officers through current grant funding.

Budget

I understand that balancing operations and being fiscally responsible with taxpayer funding is essential in my position. Because of this, my administration consistently works to find alternative funding and minimize and manage costs where possible.

Through this, I am proud to report that our overall budget for the 2023 – 2024 year remained accurate within a 0.3% margin. This was made possible based on the ability to supplant county finances with various grant funding totaling \$769,751.62.

- School Resource - \$439,751.62
- Training - \$9,600.00
- Jail - \$228,696.33
- Ballistic Vests - \$12,399.97
- Court Security - \$24,411.03
- Violent Crime Funding - \$55,596.75

Additionally, through a digital time management system called Connecteam and proper protocols, we have seen a 23% decrease in overtime from 2022 – 2023 to 2023 – 2024.



Brian Kelley
Sheriff

Garrison Taylor
Chief Deputy

As Sheriff, I will continue to evaluate what is necessary to keep the citizens of Lauderdale County safe while understanding the importance of a balanced budget.

In closing, though I am grateful for what we have accomplished, I know there is still more to do. I look forward to what is to come in ensuring that Lauderdale County is a safe place to live and raise children.

Brian L. Kelley, Sheriff
Lauderdale County, TN

7

Brian Kelley, Sheriff, updated the Commission with the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Sheriff's Report.

The Lauderdale County Sheriff Department has created Special Weapons and Tactics Unit (SWAT). The department has created Field Training Officer Program to extensively train new officers and improve the department and staff to provide better service to the community. Patrol officers are now equipped with mandated body worn cameras.

Lauderdale County Audit Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2024 – 10:00 am
Courthouse/Mayor's Office

Purpose:

The Lauderdale County Audit Committee to review audit findings for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Committee members: Present: John Helton, Don Connell, and Phillip Jackson
Absent: Eugene Pugh

County Officials: County Mayor Maurice Gaines, Jr., Administrative Assistant Donna Smith

The Audit meeting was called to order. Minutes of the prior audit meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Don Connell, seconded by John Helton, all voted aye.

Audit finding were reviewed as follows:

Office of County Mayor

- ❖ Finding: Expenditures exceeded appropriations in the Ambulance Service Fund.
Management Response: The budget will be monitored closely to prevent expenditures from exceeding appropriations.

Office of Director of Schools

- ❖ Finding: The School Federal Projects Fund required material audit adjustments for proper financial statements presentation.
Management Response: At year-end, accruals will be reviewed for accuracy to ensure that the financial statements are materially correct.
- ❖ Finding: Accounting records were not closed and available for audit by August 31, 2023.
Management Response: All accounting records will be closed for audit by August 31 following the end of the fiscal year.
- ❖ Finding: Some general ledger payroll deduction accounts were not reconciled with payroll reports and payments in the General Purpose School and Central Cafeteria funds.
Management Response: We will begin making the necessary procedural changes to begin reconciling these accounts monthly to identify any errors and make the necessary corrections.
- ❖ Finding: Purchase orders were not always used.
Management Response: We will remind staff of the importance of obtaining purchase orders for applicable purchases, including vendors who do not accept purchase orders.

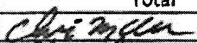
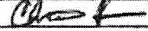
Mayor Gaines assured the committee that all findings had been addressed. It was stated that a report of the audit committee review of the findings would be presented to the Lauderdale County Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

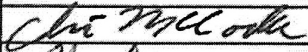

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Maurice Gaines, County Mayor, updated the commission on the Audit Findings for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

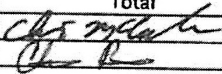
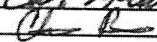
REQUEST TO APPLY/EXPEND TN HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

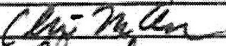

Motion was made by Commissioner J. Pursell to approve the request to apply and expend the Tennessee Homeland Grant for \$17,326. Motion was seconded by Commissioner M. Moore and upon roll call vote was unanimously approved.

GP 1 7/19/24	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS				
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025				
	SY 2024-2025				
This is a transfer amendment to allocate an additional 2% increase in pay to classified staff					
Account Number	Description	INCREASE	DECREASE		
141					
72120-131	Medical Personnel	\$5,150.00			
72130-189	Other Salaries and Wages	2,060.00			
72220-161	Secretary(s)	721.00			
72250-138	Instructional Computer Personnel	2,352.00			
72320-162	Clerical Personnel	1,005.00			
72410-161	Secretary(s)	11,227.00			
72410-162	Clerical Personnel	988.00			
72510-119	Accountants/Bookkeepers	1,583.00			
72520-162	Clerical Personnel	905.00			
72610-166	Custodial Personnel	3,914.00			
72620-167	Maintenance Personnel	5,665.00			
72710-142	Mechanic(s)	2,391.00			
72710-146	Bus Drivers	14,193.00			
72710-189	Other Salaries & Wages	2,391.00			
71100-163	Regular Instruction/EA		\$54,545.00		
	Total	\$54,545.00	\$54,545.00		
Prepared By:					
Board of ED Approval:					
County Commissions Approval:					
Accounting Entry:					
Reviewed By:					

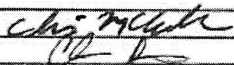
GP 2 8/1/2024	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS			
	SY 2024-2025			
	07/01/24-06/30/25			
This amendment records a contribution to the Family Resource Center from New Hope Baptist Church				
	(Ck 2131) (Ck 2195)			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	REVENUE	EXPENDITURE	
141				
44570	Contributions & Gifts	\$80.00		
72130-499	Other Supplies & Materials		\$80.00	
	TOTAL	\$80.00	\$80.00	
Prepared By:				
Board of Ed Approval:				
County Commission Approval				
Accounting Entry:				
Reviewed By:				

GP 3 8/5/2024	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS		
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025		
	SY 2024-2025		
This is a transfer amendment within the general purpose budget to allocate money to the Family Resource Center			
Account Number	Description	INCREASE	DECREASE
141			
72130-189--FRC	Other Salary & Wages	\$29,611.00	
72130-189	Other Salary & Wages		\$29,611.00
72130-201--FRC	Social Security	1836	
72130-201	Social Security		1836
72130-204--FRC	Pensions	1333	
72130-204	Pensions		1333
72130-207--FRC	Medical Insurance	4500	
72130-207	Medical Insurance		4500
72130-212-FRC	Employee Medicare	430	
72130-212	Employee Medicare		430
	Total:	\$37,710.00	\$37,710.00
Prepared By: <i>C. J. McDowell</i>			
Board of ED Approval: <i>Chris R...</i>			
Commissions Approval:			
Accounting Entry:			
Reviewed By:			

GP 4 8/8/2024	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS			
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025			
	SY 2024-2025			
To assign call center codes from the general purpose budget for Coordinated School Health (CSH)				
Account Number	Description	INCREASE	DECREASE	
141				
72120-105--CSH	Supervisor/Director	\$68,250.00		
72120-105	Supervisor/Director		\$66,950.00	
72120-131	Medical Personal		1,300.00	
72120-201--CSH	Social Security	4,025.00		
72120-201	Social Security		4,025.00	
72120-204--CSH	Pensions	3,072.00		
72120-204	Pensions		3,072.00	
72120-207--CSH	Medical Insurance	6,320.00		
72120-207	Medical Insurance		6,320.00	
72120-212--CSH	Employee Medicare	942.00		
72120-212	Employee Medicare		942.00	
72120-307--CSH	Communication	500.00		
72120-307	Communication		500.00	
72120-355--CSH	Travel	1,000.00		
72120-355	Travel		1,000.00	
72120-499--CSH	Other Supplies & Materials	15,891.00		
72120-499	Other Supplies & Materials		15,891.00	
	Total	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	
Prepared By:				
Board of ED Approval:				
County Commissions Approval:				
Accounting Entry:				
Reviewed By:				

GP 5 7/19/24	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS				
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025				
	SY 2024-2025				
This is a transfer amendment within the transportation budget to allocate money to the sped transportation budget					
Account Number	Description	INCREASE	DECREASE		
141					
72710-425--SPED	Gasoline	\$5,000.00			
72710-425	Gasoline		\$5,000.00		
72710-450--SPED	Tires & Tubes	5,000.00			
72710-450	Tires & Tubes		5,000.00		
	Total	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		
Prepared By:					
Board of ED Approval:					
County Commissions Approval:					
Accounting Entry:					
Reviewed By:					

GP 6 8/13/2024	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS				
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025				
	SY 2024-2025				
This amendment budgets the funding for the Transition to Work Grant for the period					
7/1/2024 through 9/30/204					
Account Number	Description	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES		
141					
46590--TSWX	Other State Grants	\$64,616.31			
71200-189--TSWX	Other Salaries & Wages		\$48,233.40		
71200-201--TSWX	Social Security		2300.00		
71200-204--TSWX	Pensions		2200.00		
71200-207--TSWX	Medical Insurance		11182.91		
71200-212--TSWX	Employer Medicare		700.00		
	TOTAL	\$64,616.31	\$64,616.31		
Prepared By:	<i>Chris Miller</i>				
Board of ED Approval:	<i>Chris Miller</i>				
County Commissions Approval:					
Accounting Entry:					
Reviewed By:					

GP 7 8/30/24	GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUNDS			
	7/1/2024-6/30/2025			
	SY 2024-2025			
This amendment budgets the funding for the Transition to Work Grant for Oct. 2024-Sept 2025				
Account Number	Description	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	
141				
46590--TSW	Other State Grants	\$138,000.00		
71200-189--TSW	Other Salaries & Wages		\$93,000.00	
71200-201--TSW	Social Security		5,794.00	
71200-204--TSW	Pensions		4,185.00	
71200-207--TSW	Medical Insurance		33,672.00	
71200-212--TSW	Employer Medicare		1,349.00	
	TOTAL	\$138,000.00	\$138,000.00	
Prepared By:				
Board of ED Approval:				
County Commissions Approval:				
Accounting Entry:				
Reviewed By:				

Motion was made by Commissioner D. Connell to approve the School Budget Amendments.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner T. Sanders and upon roll call vote was approved with a
vote of 21 Ayes, and 1 Abstain.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION
BUDGET AMENDMENTS
September 9, 2024

FUND 101-County General				
No.	Function	Object Description	(-) Debit	(+) Credit
1	53400 -312	Chancery Court-Contracts w/Private Agencies		1,200
	39000	Reserves	1,200	
2	55160 -162	State Health Dept-Clerical Personnel		1,902
	55160 -163	State Health Dept-Educational Assistants		51,898
	55160 -201	State Health Dept-Social Security		3,335
	55160 -204	State Health Dept-Retirement		3,263
	55160 -205	State Health Dept-Employee/Dep Insurance		16,322
	55160 -212	State Health Dept-Medicare		780
	46310	Health Department Programs	77,500	
3	54410 -790	Civil Defense-Other Equipment(HS Grant)		17,326
	47235	Homeland Security Grants	17,326	
4	54110 -140	Sheriff-Salary Supplement		20,000
	46210	Law Enforcement Training Program	20,000	
Grand Total Fund 101			116,026	116,026

Motion was made by Commissioner E. Smith to approve the Budget Amendments for Fund 101.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner D. Ungerecht and upon roll call vote was unanimously
approved.

Permit Report August 2024

Total: \$766.00

New Homes – 2, Mobile Homes – 1, Porch – 1, Storage/Shop – 3

**Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Hankins
Lauderdale County Building Permits**

Motion was made by Commissioner D. Ungerecht to approve the Building Permits Report.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner J. Henson and was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Derek Kissell, Lauderdale County Highway Dept, updated the commission on the
Highway Dept.

Adam Haynes, Lauderdale County Ambulance Authority, updated the commission on the
Ambulance Authority.

With no further business to discuss, Motion was made by Commissioner J. Pursell to adjourn
until the next scheduled meeting.