

## Auditor of Public Accounts Allison Ball

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joy Pidgorodetska Markland

Joy.Markland@ky.gov

502.352.5216 502.209.2867

## **Ball Releases Audit of Anderson County Fiscal Court**

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** – State Auditor Allison Ball has released the audit of the financial statements of the Anderson County Fiscal Court for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. State law requires annual audits of county fiscal courts.

Auditing standards require the auditor's letter to communicate whether the financial statements present fairly the receipts, disbursements, and changes in fund balances of the Anderson County Fiscal Court in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The fiscal court's financial statement did not follow this format. However, the fiscal court's financial statement is fairly presented in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting, which is an acceptable reporting methodology. This reporting methodology is followed for 116 of 120 fiscal court audits in Kentucky.

The audit contains the following finding:

The Anderson County Fiscal Court did not have internal controls over budget procedures: The fiscal court overspent the budget in three funds by \$274,807, made transfers without timely approval of \$1,065,431, and had negative cash balances in four funds. In addition, prior period adjustment to beginning cash balances were not made. The following discrepancies were noted:

- The county did not make prior period adjustments to correct their beginning balance in two funds due to the timing of the completion of the audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.
- The county did not properly budget for new debt incurred during FY 2023 of \$353,782 on their fourth quarter report per Department of Local Government guidelines.

We recommend the fiscal court and the county treasurer monitor the budget more closely and amend the county's budget or transfer necessary appropriations to prevent the county from exceeding the budget. The county should ensure these amendments are approved before the expenditures are made. We recommend the county make prior period adjustments to correct their beginning balances for the Capital Outlay Fund and AEMS Fund. Furthermore, we recommend the county properly present and budget new debt per Department for Local Government guidelines.

County Judge/Executive's Response: The county judge/executive did not provide a response.

The audit report can be found on the auditor's website.

###

The Auditor of Public Accounts ensures that public resources are protected, accurately valued, properly accounted for, and effectively employed to raise the quality of life of Kentuckians.

Call 1-800-KY-ALERT or visit our website to report suspected waste and abuse.









