

1 AN ACT relating to county payments.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 → Section 1. KRS 68.020 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) The county treasurer shall receive and receipt for all money due the county from its
5 collecting officers or from any other person whose duty it is to pay money into the
6 county treasury, and shall disburse such money in such manner and for such
7 purpose as may be authorized by appropriate authority of the fiscal court. ***The***
8 ***treasurer***~~[He]~~ shall not disburse any money received~~[by him]~~ for any purpose other
9 than that for which it was collected and paid over~~[to him]~~, and when~~[he pays out]~~
10 money ***is paid out, the treasurer***~~[he]~~ shall take a receipt therefor. All warrants for
11 the payment of funds from the county treasury shall be co-signed by the county
12 treasurer and the county judge/executive, ***unless subject to a standing order as set***
13 ***out in subsection (3) of Section 2 of this Act.***
- 14 (2) ***The county treasurer***~~[He]~~ may, and when directed by the fiscal court shall, invest
15 the funds of the county pursuant to KRS 66.480.
- 16 (3) ***The county treasurer***~~[He]~~ may, and when directed by the fiscal court shall, institute
17 actions in the name of the county against all delinquent sheriffs or collectors of the
18 county, and against anyone having money belonging to the county who fails or
19 refuses to pay it over on demand when due. ***The treasurer***~~[He]~~ shall keep a record
20 of all actions he ***or she*** is directed to institute on behalf of the county, showing their
21 condition and the money collected thereunder.
- 22 (4) ***The county treasurer***~~[He]~~ shall keep an accurate detailed account of all money
23 received and disbursed by him ***or her*** for the county, and shall keep books of
24 accounts of the financial transactions of the county in the manner required by the
25 uniform system of accounting prescribed by the state local finance officer.
- 26 (5) The county treasurer shall, when required by the fiscal court, settle his ***or her***
27 accounts as county treasurer, and within thirty (30) days after the close of each

1 fiscal year, he or she shall, unless his immediate predecessor has done so, make a
 2 full and complete settlement for the preceding fiscal year with the fiscal court or
 3 with a person or persons whom the fiscal court, by order of record, appoints to
 4 make settlement with the treasurer~~[him]~~. In case of a vacancy, the county
 5 judge/executive shall call a special meeting which shall proceed in the manner it
 6 deems proper to settle the accounts of the county treasurer.

7 **(6) Payment of approved expenses may be made by means of electronic funds**
 8 **transfers from an authorized account of the county. The signature requirement in**
 9 **subsection (1) of this section may be met via electronic signature.**

10 → Section 2. KRS 68.275 is amended to read as follows:

- 11 (1) Claims against the county that are within the amount of line items of the county
 12 budget and arise pursuant to contracts duly authorized by the fiscal court shall be
 13 paid by the county judge/executive by a warrant drawn on the county and co-signed
 14 by the county treasurer.
- 15 (2) The county judge/executive shall present all claims to the fiscal court for review
 16 prior to payment and the court, for good cause shown, may order that a claim not be
 17 paid.
- 18 (3) The fiscal court may adopt an order, called a standing order, to preapprove the
 19 payment of recurrent monthly payroll and utility expenses **and payments to vendors**
 20 **that regularly provide services to the county.** No other expenses shall be
 21 preapproved pursuant to this subsection without the written consent of the state
 22 local finance officer. Notwithstanding KRS 68.020(1), payment of preapproved
 23 expenses may be made by means of electronic funds transfers from an authorized
 24 account of the county without the cosignatures of the county judge/executive and
 25 the county treasurer if approved by the fiscal court in a standing order, and if the
 26 fiscal court has received the payee's prior written consent for the payment of funds
 27 by electronic funds transfer due the payee. All standing orders adopted by the fiscal

1 court shall be renewed annually and submitted to the state local finance officer by
2 July 1 of each fiscal year with the submission of the county budget if the fiscal
3 court wishes to continue the standing order. Otherwise, after July 1, the standing
4 order shall expire, and no more payments designated in the standing order shall be
5 preapproved unless a new order is adopted by the fiscal court according to the
6 provisions of this subsection.

7 ➔Section 3. Whereas it is imperative that county governments be able to make
8 timely payments, and use of the postage system often causes delays in making payments
9 that would not occur if county governments were permitted to make payments
10 electronically, an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its
11 passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.