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Fiscal court sets special meetings

By KAREN JOY JONES A special meeting of the Knott Fiscal Court was set for Tuesday morning June 13, but the meeting could not be held

due to lack of a quorum. Judge-Executive Randy Thompson and District One Magistrate Walter "Peg" Combs waited in the court's meeting room, hoping that other magistrates would arrive. Also in attendance were County Attorney Randy Slone, Deputy Clerk Carolyn Gayheart, Ecology Officer Roger Hicks and Financial Advisor Darrell Madden.

Judge Thompson said he thought District Two Magistrate Ronnie Adams may be on vacation, since no one had been able to contact him. District Four

Magistrate James Huff had told the judge earlier that he planned to attend, but Thompson learned that he had been asked to work a double shift the night before. "He's either still at work, or so sound asleep he can't answer his phone," Thompson remarked.

The meeting was rather important, Thompson said, because it dealt with applications for grant funds. "We're looking at applying for several grants, and all are

due by the end of the month," Judge Thompson explained. "We can still get approval at next week's regular meeting. but that doesn't leave much time to complete the applications."

Grant funding to be sought by the county if the court approves: Recreational Trails Program grant - this would provide

funding to construct the re-

cently proposed ATV motorized

recreational trails system

120's Methadone waters with a

· Illegal dump cleanup grant - funding would allow the county to clean up illegal dumps at Ball Branch Mountain, Wiley Fork Gas Well Road, Big Doubles Road and Mallie road. SAFER grant — funding from the Department of Homeland Security would be used to allow fire departments to hire firefighters, enhancing their ability to have 24-hour staffing

and assure communities' pro-

tection from fire and related

· Coal severance grants -The court will have the opportunity to approve filing an application with the Governor's Office of Local Development authorizing projects for local administration; the list of projects is basically the same as presented originally in the budget by Sen. Turner and Rep. C Smith.

Other items on the agenda were creation of a junk car disposal program which would also help non-profit groups, hiring of more part-time seasonal employees, and payment of a portion of the state auditor's

The court has scheduled another special meeting on Friday, June 16, at 8 a.m. to deal with these issues

hazards.