

The Barren County Sheriff's Department has created a new position. That position being, Chief Deputy Sheriff, a job description that current Sheriff, Kent Keen, says is much needed.

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/0918keen.mp3{/audio}

County Government unanimously approved the job description for the Chief Sheriff Deputy at last night's Barren County Fiscal Court meeting, which includes the responsibility of managing the office staff when the Sheriff is not present. Sheriff Keen says that this position would actually be a pay cut for a Deputy Sheriff because it would still be an hourly wage. Those hours would be cut from a normal deputy's work load of around 60 hours per week to approximately 50 hours per week for the new position.

Given the history of Barren County and the appointment of vacant elected offices being appointed to eventual election winners, WCLU News asked County Judge-Executive Davie Greer her thoughts on the political ramifications of having a Chief Deputy being appointed by the Sheriff and the likelihood of a Sheriff being able to appoint his or her own successor. Greer says, it's still the people's choice.

{audio}http://wcluradio.com/newscuts/0918greer.mp3{/audio}

In other county business, the tax rates for real property were set for the new fiscal year. That rate was set at .136%. Magistrates Carl Dickerson and Dr. Chris Steward voted “No” on the rate.