Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

July 28, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 28th day of July 2021 at 8:15 a.m. Jim Ruse, Presiding Commissioner, called the meeting to order. David Cox, 1st District Commissioner, and Wayne Uthe, 2nd District Commissioner, were present.

James Lewis, Road and Bridge Supervisor, met with the Commission to update them on ongoing work.

His crew has been mowing in Marion Township this week. They are making bridge repairs and hauling rip rap in Marion Township this week, weather permitting.

RaCail King, County Health Director, spoke by phone to the Commission to advise them of current Coronavirus cases in Daviess County. RaCail advised as of Wednesday morning the county numbers were 14 actives, 780 total, ? hospitalized, 740 out of isolation, and 16 deaths. Daviess County’s vaccination rate is currently 22.5%.

Clint Vanetta, BTC Bank, met with the Commission to present lease documents for a replacement sheriff’s vehicle. Discussion was held. David Cox made a motion to accept the lease agreement with BTC Bank for a replacement sheriff vehicle, Wayne Uthe seconded. 3-Aye, 0-No. Motion passed. The Commission also discussed with Mr. Vanetta updating the signing information on the County's Certificate of Deposits. A letter from the Commission was presented and accepted by Mr. Vanetta to document the change.

Roger Barker, PWSD#3, met with the Commission to discuss possible funding opportunities from the ARPA funds for their proposed water treatment facility. No program guidelines are available yet.

The Commission has now received one half of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. Discussion was held as to how the application process should be set up since there are sixty-six (66) different application categories in seven (7) program groups. More guideline information is expected from the US Treasury in the next few weeks. Issue continued.

Wayne Uthe made a motion to appoint Marty Gray, Board Member, and Brent Burke, Trustee, for Jefferson Township due to two resignations, David Cox seconded. 3-Aye, 0-No. Motion passed. Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, swore the new appointees in.

The Commission contacted Gallatin Publishing Company to set up an appointment to discuss their lease on August 4th at 10:00 am. Issue continued.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, brought Wayne Uthe up to date on the new MO DOT CART mapping project.

The Commission received confirmation from MO DOT that the transfer of Soft Match for BRO funds has been completed with Harrison County.

The Commission discussed BRO 38 maps and drawings received this week from McClure Engineering.

Jennifer Pankau, Daviess Co Nursing & Rehab, spoke to the Commission by phone to advise them she could not meet with them this week due to a COVID-19 outbreak and the nursing home being in quarantine. Jennifer will advise the Commission as soon as she can reschedule. She advised the Commission she still was not able to get a plumber to address the drain issues they have. Discussion was held regarding possible plumbers to call. David Cox made a motion to pay for the repair of the walk-in freezer as an emergency repair from the Mays / Young Trust funds. Discussion was held about how much of the nursing home lawn to mow. A decision to have someone hay the north portion of the grounds instead of mowing was made. The Commission will find someone to put up the hay.

David Cox made a motion to accept the 2021 Code of Ethics policy presented by County Clerk, Ronetta Burton, Wayne Uthe seconded. 3-Aye, 0-No. Motion passed. No changes were made to the existing policy; however, the Missouri Ethics Commission asks that it be updated by Sept 1st in each odd year.

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Discussion was held regarding a change in statute which raises the limit from $6,000 to $12,000 for items that must be bid by a township county. Daviess County’s current policy was set at $10,000 by the state statute limit. Wayne Uthe made a motion to accept the 2021 Procurement Policy, effective September 1, 2021, David Cox seconded. 3-Aye. 0-No. Motion passed.

Discussion was held regarding HB 271 that Governor Parson signed into law June 15, 2021, effective August 28, 2021, that has several provisions that affect operations in county government. County governments will soon have to upload all of their financial transactions to the MO Office of Administration to be displayed on a state database website; some changes to who controls common area operations in courthouses that house court facilities; changes to the filing period for filing a declaration of candidacy in April and August elections; the competitive bid process dollar limits; limitations on how long public health orders can be in place and processes for issuing them; prohibits the contribution or expenditure of public funds by any school district for the support or opposition of any candidate, ballot measure or committee; to name a few.

The Workforce Development Board at Trenton, MO, sent a letter to the Commission to ask to be considered in the process of distributing the ARPA funds received by the county. Information will be made available to the public as soon as this process is established.

Elder Macdonald, Salt Lake City, UT, sent a letter to the Commission asking if there was some document that he could get to correct a typo on a deed he just recently transferred. The Commission replied to him suggesting he go back to his attorney and/or title office that handled the original deed transfer to ask for a Scrivener's Affidavit.

The Commission received a letter from Richard King, Colfax Township landowner, discussing his brush removal issue. Mr. King stated he would get his small amount of brush cut as soon as he could.

David Cox left the meeting at 1:00 pm.

In the afternoon, the Commission looked at roads, bridges, culverts, and brush in Jefferson and Marion Townships.

When the Commission returned to their chambers, Lacey Corwin advised them she had sold four more lake lots and put them back on the tax rolls.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Approved:

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 Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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