Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

August 25, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 25th day of August 2021 at 8:10 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 will be finishing in Benton Township this week replacing some tubes and placing rip rap. They will be mowing in Marion Township this week, weather permitting. The crew will also be removing dead bushes from around the courthouse.

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 there were 34 actives (20 in the last two days), 877 total, 5 hospitalized, 826 out of isolation, and 17 deaths. Daviess County’s vaccination rate is currently approaching 25%. RaCail stated booster shots are now available for high-risk residents and/or any residents that have been fully vaccinated for 8 months or longer. The Health Department will start giving those booster shots on Thursday, August 26th. Contact the health department for an appointment.

Discussion was held regarding updates for processing the distribution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Commission is continuing to work on the application process for these funds and should have some basic application forms ready soon.

Progress on the Dowell/Trager agreement and three road opening/closing petitions for 215th Street and Unity Avenue in Sheridan Township was discussed by the Commission. A few items need to be completed before the final steps can be taken. Issue continued.

The Commission discussed the 4th floor leak on the outside of the North wall of the courthouse. Jim Ruse is continuing to contact contractors to come and look at the situation and offer suggestions on how to best repair the problem. The Commission viewed the problem inside on the 4th floor while it was raining hard Wednesday morning. Issue continued.

Programming information was received from Jon Dwiggins, Howe & Company, detailing the plans to replace bridge 198001.7 [hereby designated BRO 031(39)] in Sheridan Township. Wayne Uthe made a motion to go forward with programming on BRO 031(39) on 190th Street in Sheridan Township, David Cox seconded. 3-Aye, 0-No. Motion passed.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission that Daviess County had been notified that it would soon receive information on advertising that would need to be made in the newspaper and on the website notifying residents of the Local Use Tax statutes (Wayfair Bill) set to go into effect Jan 1, 2022. Daviess County has had a Local Use Tax ordinance for several years; however, the new statutes will make collecting the tax easier and more streamlined.

The Commission received 2020 census numbers from the US Census Bureau this week. Daviess County lost only 3 residents, going from 8433 to 8430. Our county did better than any surrounding county with those counties loosing from Clinton-441 to DeKalb -1863.

Raymond Heldenbrand, Jefferson Township resident, spoke to the Commission by phone to advise them he had observed some stop signs that had been pulled and thrown in ditches/creeks. The Commission advised him it would be a MO DOT issue and would need to be reported online at [www.modot.org/report-road-concern or by calling 888-275-6636](http://www.modot.org/report-road-concern%20or%20by%20calling%20888-275-6636) toll free.

Dick Carpenter, Harrison Township resident, spoke by phone with the Commission regarding road issues on 320th/323rd St. He was referred to the Lock Springs Special Road District. The Commission will follow-up.

Susan, Linn County Clerk’s office, spoke with the Commission by conference call to answer questions as to their experience with EEEHIC self-insured insurance plans. She stated Linn County had been using this plan for about nine years with no problems. She couldn’t answer detailed questions about how claims were handled by the county. Susan advised she would have an associate call back on Monday, August 30th.

Part 2 of 2

ZOOM – 10:30 am The Commission met by ZOOM session with Howard Danzig, HIC Insurance Group, Nicole Neal, Main Street Pharmacy, Jim Ruse, David Cox, Wayne Uthe and Ronetta Burton in attendance. Mr. Danzig presented information on an EEEHIC self-funded insurance plan that would be brokered by his company directly with providers and drug companies for a price comparable with current rates. The Commission tabled the discussion pending more research and talking with other entities that are using this broker for this EEEHIC plan. Issue continued.

Roger Barker, PWSD #3, met with the Commission to check on the progress of the ARPA funds application process. Mr. Barker advised them the water district was coming up to some deadlines soon, so he was needing an update for his board. The Commission advised they were working on the applications and would let him know as soon as they are available.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission that the county had received a notice that MO Unemployment would be paid for a former employee.

David Cox advised Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, to send a Notice to Proceed for Jackson Township as their roads have been determined ready for CART rock.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:

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Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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