Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

September 1, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 1st day of Sept 1, 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.

The Commission approved last week’s minutes and this week’s disbursements.

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

His crew will be delivering tubes this week as the Freightliner is in the shop for repairs. They will be mowing in Marion Township this week, weather permitting. The crew will also be removing dead bushes from around the courthouse. David Cox advised he had received a call from a Salem Township resident concerning a road issue and a vandalism issue. A Road and Bridge crew member has submitted his resignation, therefor the county will be accepting applications for a full-time mower operator/part-time crew member until the position is filled. Applications and job duties can be picked up at the Security Desk at the East door of the courthouse during business hours. See ad in the Tri-County Weekly or go to the county website at [www.daviesscountymo.gov](http://www.daviesscountymo.gov) for more information.

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 30 actives, 902 total, 6 hospitalized, 855 out of isolation, and 17 deaths.

CLOSED SESSION 8:30 am – 8:40 am Real Estate

David Cox made a motion to go into closed session at 8:30 am pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (2) real estate issues, Wayne Uthe seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, David Cox – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye. Motion passed

David Cox made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:40 am, Wayne Uthe seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, David Cox – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye. Motion passed. No decisions were made.

The Commission approved the first of seven American Rescue Plan Act applications and agreements for Summary Category 5 – Water, Sewer & Broadband. They advised Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, to forward the documents to the county attorney for final approval. The remaining six applications are nearing completion as well. Funds are available for sixty-six different expense categories in seven summary categories. The public will be notified with ads in the Tri-County Weekly and on the county website at [www.daviesscountymo.gov](http://www.daviesscountymo.gov) as soon as they are available to pick up.

Rachel Taylor, Downtown Improvement Committee, met with the Commission to ask permission to use the courthouse square to hold the 35th annual Chautauqua on Friday, Sept 17th and Saturday, Sept 18th.Rachel also asked that the public restrooms remain open on Friday night and all day on Saturday. Permission granted. Dig Rite will be notified.

David Cox left the meeting at 9:24 am to attend to a personal emergency.

There are no updates on the Trager/Dowell agreement, issue tabled at this time.

Jim Ruse advised the Commission he had a contractor that will be here next week to look at the roof leak and give their opinion of how to solve the problem.

Wes Bridgeman, Custodian, has completed the trimming of the courthouse bushes.

Discussion was held regarding the 2021-2022 health Insurance options. More information will be available next week. Issue continued.

The Commission is continuing to send out and follow up on brush letters to several of the township landowners. If you know of brush on a gravel county road that needs to be cut, please notify one of the Commissioners.

Part 2 of 2

Discussion was held regarding a resident complaint about personal speed limit signs being installed on county right-a-way without permission. The Commission will investigate.

Tim Carder, Daviess DeKalb Regional Jail (DDRJ), and Larry Adams, Jr., Sheriff, met with the Commission to discuss possible ARPA funding for equipment to protect jail employees from coming in contact with Covid-19 positive inmates.They also discussed the possibility of an application for Hazard Pay. The Commission advised those applications and agreements are in the final stages of approval and should be available for submission soon.

Larry Adams, Jr., Sheriff, remained to advise the Commission on the timeline for completing the phone system transition to the new county call tree. Residents can now reach the Sheriff’s office by calling the main number at 660-663-3300 and pressing 9. Larry Adams, Jr. also discussed progress on getting the new truck titled. The personal speed limit signs were also discussed.

David Cox returned to the meeting at 10:56 am.

The county was notified by MO DOT that programming for BRO 031(39) is contingent on at least one of the Commissioners completing required Local Public Administrator (LPA) training. All three of the Commissioners are working on completing this bi-annual requirement.

David Cox approved a Notice to Proceed for Grand River township so they can receive their CART rock allotment. CART rock needs to be spread by October 1st by state law.

Daviess County with the cooperation of Green Hills Regional Planning Commission will be conducting Traffic Counts on Hwy K and Hwy BB in the next few weeks.

The Commission will be attending the Local Elected Officials Workforce Development advisory committee meeting Sept 7th in Trenton, MO; and will also be attending the Northwest MO Commissioner meeting on Sept 14th in Tarkio, MO.

Aaron Piburn, Assessor, met with the Commission to introduce himself. The Commission is looking forward to working with Aaron. He was sworn in on Tuesday, August 31st by Judge Daren Adkins.

CLOSED SESSION 11:55 am – 12:15 pm Personnel

Wayne Uthe made a motion to go into closed session at 11:55 am pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (3) personnel issues, David Cox seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, David Cox – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye. Motion passed

Wayne Uthe made a motion to come out of closed session at 12:15 pm, David Cox seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, David Cox – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye. Motion passed. No decisions were made.

In the afternoon, the Commission looked at roads, bridges, culverts, and brush in Sheridan Township.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Approved:

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 Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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