Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

September 29, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 29th day of September 2021 at 8:10 am. 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 repairing a tube in Jefferson Township. The road and bridge crew will continue the mowing operation at least one day a week until they are able to hire an additional crew member. They are continuing to accept applications. Discussion was held regarding a road issue in Sheridan Township. Wayne Uthe will speak to Carl Russel on the Township board.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission she and David Roll, Emergency Medical Director, had met with representatives of Colfax, Jefferson, and Washington townships on Monday, Sept 27th to complete FEMA RPA documents for Disaster 4612 declared Sep 1, 2021 for the period of June 24th – July 1st, 2021. Ronetta also spoke by phone with Harrison township advising them the deadline to submit these documents in Sept 30th and they will forfeit their disaster claim if the documents are not submitted timely.

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 11 actives, 972 total, 1 hospitalized, and 17 deaths.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission on ARPA applications received this week. The Commission hopes to begin processing applications in October. An informational Zoom meeting will be held on Oct 21st with other counties to see how they are expecting to disburse their funds.

The Commission spoke by phone with Aaron McVicker, McClure Engineering, to discuss next steps with MO DOT’s refusal to approve the engineering contracts as amended for BRO 031(38). Aaron will get back to the Commission after he speaks with David Earls, MO DOT. Issue continued.

David Cox advised the Commission of his attendance of the Transportation Action Committee (TAC) meeting recently in Trenton, MO. David stated they discussed LPA training, CART mileage updates, and BRO fund updates.

Aaron Piburn, Assessor, presented his training certificate for 33.5 hours of training to the Commission.

Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, advised the Commission that Pam Howard, Circuit Clerk, has called a meeting of the Salary Commission as required by statute for Oct 27th at 1:00 pm.

Hattie Rains, City of Gallatin, left word for the Commission regarding a business in Gallatin that was not collecting sales tax. Courtesy notification.

The County Clerk’s office notified the Commission that they have destroyed an employee file that was past the retention period.

Jim Ruse advised the Commission that Daviess DeKalb Regional Jail (DDRJ) will be coming to Daviess County for money to offset operational shortfalls in the 2022 budget. Three factors have led the jail to ask for funds from both Daviess and DeKalb counties. The profitable average population for the jail is 140 inmates per day, however the jail is currently operating between 80-130 inmates per day. Several factors have led to this situation such as Covid-19 and the courts desire to not put people in a congregate setting; as well as the 2021 court directive to release as many offenders as possible without bail requirements.

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Elizabeth Plottner, Daviess County Library, met with the Commission to ask them to think about a climate-controlled space for the storage of the old newspapers from the Gallatin Publishing Company. All the old issues have been microfilmed and are available for viewing at the library, however, the library is looking for options to either dispose of the old issues or find a climate-controlled space to store them in. The Commission suggested she contact the genealogy library at Pattonsburg.

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

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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