

TERM OF COMMISSION: February Session of the February Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Boone County Government Center Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt
Deputy County Clerk Melanie Stapleton

The meeting was called to order by Acting-Presiding Commissioner Karen Miller at 1:30p.m.

Subject: Fixed Assets Disposals-Sheriff's Department and June Pitchford

June Pitchford stated that assets were removed from the ledger with the approval of the Commission to dispose of the items. She stated that in the course of conducting annual inventories, they came across items that had been previously disposed of by a department and were no longer in the County's possession. She stated that many times the Auditor's office did not receive word that items had been disposed of, and therefore these items had not been taken off of the ledger.

June Pitchford stated that the Sheriff's Department had assigned an individual to work with Sue Lake (of the Auditor's Office) in order to clean up the ledger. She stated that the second listing detailed assets purchased through the DARE program that had been donated to the school districts. She stated that the County had been carrying the (DARE program) items on its inventory, but that was incorrect. She stated that most of the items on the list were very old (old radios, computers, etc). She stated that she was requesting that the Commission accept the list of assets for disposal and authorize their removal from the County ledger.

June Pitchford stated that she had come to request this formally before the Commission because the disposal of assets was a very important control that the County had in place (for the inventory of its assets). She stated that if Commission approval were not necessary for the removal of assets from the County ledger, then she would have the ability to conceal the theft of those assets.

Commissioner Vogt asked about the items that listed public schools out to the side. She asked if those items were given to the schools at the end of the program.

Sheriff Boehm clarified that this property was purchased with forfeiture (drug fund) money, then the schools were asked what they needed to assist in drug education and each school was given a certain amount of dollars and allowed to choose the piece of equipment that they would need for that.

Commissioner Miller stated that some of the forfeiture dollars really had gone back to the schools.

Commissioner Vogt asked how the 2731 items (guns) were disposed of.

Sheriff Boehm stated that the 38 Smith & Wesson handguns were traded in for new 357 stainless steel guns. He stated that all of the handguns were traded in.

Commissioner Vogt moved to accept the report submitted by the County Auditor and authorize the removal of the fixed assets from the County's Fixed Assets Ledger.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 56-99**

Subject: Budget Revision for snowplow

Commissioner Vogt asked if it was a budget amendment or revision that needed a ten-day waiting period.

Commissioner Miller stated that the budget amendment required a ten-day waiting period.

Commissioner Vogt asked if emergency money was being used to do make for replacements.

Commissioner Miller stated that it appeared that there was an accident and a piece of equipment needed to be replaced.

Commissioner Vogt moved to authorize a Budget revision as follows:

AMOUNT	ACCOUNT FROM	ACCOUNT TO
\$3,240.00	2040-86800 Emergency	2040-92300 Replacement Equipment

This revision is in regards to a snowplow that was damaged beyond repair in an automobile accident and the projected total reimbursement from outside insurance or legal case pending.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Miller stated that the insurance money was pending, but the snowplow needed to be ordered in case it was needed.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 57-99**

Commissioner Miller stated that the snowplow must have been ordered because there was a payment requisition attached.

Subject: Budget Revision for Treasurer’s Office

Commissioner Vogt moved to authorize a Budget revision as follows:

AMOUNT	ACCOUNT FROM	ACCOUNT TO
\$3900	1140-10100 Salaries & Wages	
\$1574	1190-86900 Miscellaneous	
\$5474		1140-7110 Bank/Credit Card charges

Said revision is to increase the budget for Bank/Credit card fees to cover final bills for 1998.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Miller asked Kay Murray to tell the Commission about the fees.

Kay Murray stated that these were bank fees. She stated that there had been a higher volume of checks (and the County was charged a fee per check). She stated that more items were deposited with the tax collection. She stated some of this had to do with growth.

Commissioner Miller asked if the County had to pay for its deposits.

Kay Murray stated that the County had to pay for each item. She stated that the County paid all of its fees, but gained interest rates in return for those payments. She stated that there would be savings in that account from the checks that would not be printed. She stated that she would like to see this savings carried over to the Circuit Clerk’s Office since this was the office that printed the highest volume of checks.

Commissioner Vogt asked how the Circuit Clerk's Office would do their business without using checks.

Kay Murray stated that checks would still be used, but they would be printed on blank stock and signed on the printer rather than on the check-signer.

Commissioner Miller asked what account 1190 was.

Kay Murray stated that 1190 was the Non-departmental Miscellaneous account.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 58-99**

Subject: Transfer from ProfitShare to complete lighting and Blocks of Time expenses for the Courthouse Square

Kay Murray stated that this revision was part of the work that was done in putting up the holiday lights and the courthouse square project. She stated that she had also had paneling put in on the third floor of the courthouse because no one could do electrical work up there without it.

Kay Murray stated that she had spoken with an independent contractor and an electrical engineer. She stated that everyone agreed that they wanted to use a contractor experienced in putting up holiday lights.

Kay Murray stated that she still had to put the Blocks of Time up. She stated that it should not cost more than \$2,000 or 3,000 dollars to put the blocks up. She stated that the total project should not come to more than \$15,000.

Kay Murray stated that she still needed to find some way or put something in the grates to keep them clean. She stated that the guy that had built the grates offered to build something to go down in them (to vacuum it out). Kay Murray stated that the city of Columbia had received a grant to keep their jamboree (artwork) clean. She stated that she would find out more about the grant information.

Commissioner Miller stated that a \$15,000 budget revision from the ProfitShare to the Courthouse Square Project was needed.

Kay Murray stated that the audit work had been done on the main project.

Commissioner Vogt asked if there was any money left in the Capital Improvement (JJC and Government Bldg) Projects fund.

June Pitchford stated that they needed to check to see if there were any open purchase orders that would have a claim against that money.

Commissioner Vogt asked what the balance would be if this \$15,000 were to be taken out of the ProfitShare.

June Pitchford stated that she was projecting that at the end of 1999 that it would be about \$2 million dollars (she stated that she could not project what would come in).

Commissioner Vogt stated that at the Hospital Board meeting, it was suggested that about \$600,000 would come in this year.

June Pitchford stated that the (\$600,000) amount was impacted by hospital's decision to reinvest its capital. She stated that she had told Kay Murray that they could proceed with an up to amount, however if there were residual assets in the Courthouse Square fund when the project ended, those assets would be transferred back to the Hospital ProfitShare fund.

Commissioner Miller moved to authorize that up to \$15,000 be moved from the Hospital ProfitShare Account to the Courthouse Square Account to finalize the lighting and Blocks of Time expenses.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 59-99**

Subject: Roadway Easement Acquisition

Commissioner Miller stated that she had an action item. She stated that the Public Works department needed to move on this item.

Commissioner Miller moved to authorize the Acting Presiding Commissioner to enter into a Public Roadway Easement Acquisition Agreement with Gary R. Evans and Virginia G. Evans for the right of way purchase for the St Charles Rd project. And authorize the acting Presiding Commissioner to sign the contracts.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 60-99**

Subject: Sheriff Boehm to serve on Regional Justice Committee

Sheriff Boehm stated that last Friday he was asked by the Office of the Court Administrator in Jefferson City to serve on a committee to study the Regional Justice concept. He stated that the overall goal of the Regional Justice Center project was to determine if, how and at what cost justice services, now funded by state and local government, could be combined in a single state-of-the-art justice center to serve two or more counties. He stated that if the concept appeared viable, efforts would be made to obtain funding to establish one such center in Missouri. He stated that the justice center would include a jail, primary court facilities with courtrooms, offices for judges, court personnel, public defender, probation and parole, juvenile justice staff, and detention centers.

Sheriff Boehm stated that he was excited to be considered to be on this committee. He stated that the first meeting would be held on this coming Tuesday. He stated that he would be checking with the Auditor to determine the costs of management and upkeep of the various justice centers in Boone County (Jail, JJC, etc).

Sheriff Boehm stated that a lot of this discussion stemmed from some of the counties' inability to upgrade their courthouse, jail, juvenile justice centers, etc.

Commissioner Miller stated that this concept was working in other parts of the country. She stated that she thought that the State was on the right track.

Commissioner Vogt asked if there was a time frame on this project/concept.

Sheriff Boehm stated that he would check on this on Tuesday. He stated that he thought the first things that they would cover in the meeting would be to find out what the goals of the committee would be and what would be expected of the committee members. He stated that another thing that they would try to find out is what the cost of the current system is and what the new system would cost.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Vogt stated that the County Commission received a letter on February 2, 1999. She stated that the letter talked about the CMAAA contract for \$15,000 (for calendar year 1999) for the provision of congregate and home-delivered meals in the County. She stated that the letter was thanking the Commission for past support and asked why they were rejecting the recommendation from the Advisory Commission regarding funding for CMAAA for the current year. She further stated that the letter stated that CMAAA had residents that were dependent on the services that they provided, and that its ability to serve Boone County (residents) was dependent on the amount of funding that was available. The letter stated that it was imperative that CMAAA be notified if the \$15,000 contract would be issued for 1999 services.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she wanted to bring this letter to the public record for discussion. She stated that she had been researching this issue for weeks. She stated that she had reviewed CMAAA's (audit) files. She stated that she was attempting to answer the following questions: how much of CMAAA's money is being spent in Boone County and where exactly Boone County's money is being spent. She stated that CMAAA's total budget was about \$5 million for the 19-county region. She stated that CMAAA spends about ½ million in administrative costs. She stated that other than that, it was impossible to tell where the money was coming from (other than from the federal and state government and the MO State Transportation Department).

Commissioner Vogt stated that she had worked to have CMAAA prove two things to her. One, that Boone County's money was spent in Boone County and two, that other counties were participating by contributing funds. She stated that every county that she had spoken to did not contribute funds to CMAAA.

Commissioner Miller asked if these counties were still being served by CMAAA.

Commissioner Vogt stated that they were. She stated that this letter (and a letter that was put in all the lunches yesterday) implied that without Boone County's contribution, CMAAA could not finalize their mission when in fact they had \$5 million dollars from the federal government to accomplish their goal. She stated that she would not be comfortable contributing the \$15,000 to CMAAA until it could be proven that the money would be spent in Boone County.

Commissioner Miller asked Commissioner Vogt to elaborate on the funding that CMAAA would have had an opportunity to have by staying at the Senior Center.

Commissioner Vogt stated that CMAAA had received about \$30,000 from the seniors who built the Senior Center and were providing a kitchen/dining area (and utilities) for. She stated that the seniors also gave CMAAA about \$30,000 for home-delivered meals. She stated that CMAAA had moved away from the Senior Center and would no longer get that money.

Commissioner Miller asked about the raw foods that the seniors paid for.

Commissioner Vogt stated that this money was budgeted for the paper products for the home-delivered meals. She stated that CMAAA had run out of money and had asked the seniors to support the program by buying raw foods.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she had also had a meeting with Peggy Kirkpatrick, Director of the Central MO Food Bank, who had given her a list of all of the agencies that CMFB worked with. She stated that CMAAA had received food from the Central MO Food Bank. She also stated that other counties had an opportunity to use the Central MO Food Bank through CMAAA to provide meals. She stated that therefore, if CMAAA ran out of money, they could use the CMFB to provide meals.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she was not convinced that CMAAA was utilizing all the avenues for making the program work. Commissioner Vogt stated that she had been working with the Division of Aging to try to get to the bottom of the whole matter.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she had spoken to Rep. Graham about having the State do an audit to find out where the money has been going (as a last resort).

Commissioner Miller stated that she thought this was a good idea. She also stated that a response should be given to the letter in as timely a fashion as possible.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she would respond to the letter.

Commissioner Miller stated she thought that the Commission had already agreed that it would not contribute the \$15,000 to CMAAA.

Commissioner Vogt also stated that the State of MO was giving money to the Community Partnership money to try to figure out ways not to duplicate services and it really would bother her if the requested money (\$15,000 to CMAAA) was a duplication of a service. She stated that she also had a problem with drawing funds from the Centralia Center without knowing how much money (in services) they were receiving.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she had lunch with George Parker and he believed that she might be able to get a breakdown (from the Division of Aging) of how Boone County's money (\$15,000) was being spent.

Commissioner Miller stated that she still believed that the \$15,000 should be spent on the program at the Senior Center in order to help support those seniors who had helped build up the program (and to help those that would not be able to afford to eat at the Senior Center otherwise). She stated that with the means test, those that could afford it would not get a voucher and those that could not afford it would get a voucher and be able to continue eating with their friends in the Senior Center while maintaining their dignity.

Commissioner Vogt also stated that she had spoken with individuals in other areas (that had senior centers) that were surprised that seniors at a senior center were expected to raise funds to support their meal programs.

Commissioner Vogt stated that the Farm Bureau people were also asked to give a report on CMAAA. She stated that they seemed to favor finding out the answers to all of the questions that she had.

Commissioner Vogt stated that Farm Bureau also supported Boone Hospital, however they wanted the residents of Boone County to reap the benefits as well.

Commissioner Vogt also stated that they were in favor of purchasing the perimeter property around the Fairgrounds.

Commissioner Vogt asked Llona Weiss, who was at the Missouri Association of Counties meeting with the Director of Natural Resources, to see if there was a possibility of receiving any grant funding for the purchase of the Fairgrounds property.

Commissioner Miller

Commissioner Miller reported, as Interim Director of Information Technology, that the department was having difficulty getting people to apply for the Programmer 1 position. She stated that it was suggested to her that a person be hired for a Programmer 2 position (that required more experience and a paid a higher salary).

Commissioner Miller stated that she asked the department and human resources to put together all the documentation of how many postings Boone County had done, the number applicants, etc. She stated that she wanted to bring the issue of hiring a programmer up for the following Thursday's County Commission meeting.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she was concerned about the number of salary adjustments the County had done in the last year to accommodate the new staff in the Information Technology department.

Commissioner Miller stated that individuals in the computer science field were able to set their own salaries or at least highly competitive wages due to the increasing needs for their services and the decreasing number of individuals in the field. She stated that this was not just a situation created by the Y2K problem, but rather would be ongoing as the needs increased and the individuals in the field decreased.

Commissioner Vogt asked if the County would decrease the number of programmers that it had total.

Commissioner Miller stated that the County had three programmer slots with only two programmers. She stated that the hiring of a programmer 2 would fill the third slot.

Commissioner Vogt asked if the department felt that all these slots needed to be filled.

Commissioner Miller stated that the County could use a lot more than three programmers. She stated that she would have June Pitchford speak with Commissioner Vogt concerning the hiring for this position.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25p.m.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner