

TERM OF COMMISSION: July Session of the July Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center
Room 338

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Edward H. Robb
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin
Senior Environmental Health Specialist Kala Gunier
Boone County Clerk Wendy Noren
Boone County Treasurer Nicole Galloway
Design and Construction Manager Derin Campbell
Buyer Tyson Boldan
Marcia Hazelhorst of the Juvenile Justice Center
Captain Chad Martin
Kent Sapp of "Signs by Woody"
Deputy County Clerk Cameron Clarke

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

Health Department

1. Abatement of property located at 167 E Cedar Court, parcel # 11-619-24-01-258.00 01 (first and second reading)

Senior Environment Health Specialist Kala Gunier was present on behalf of this item. Ms. Gunier stated this is a rental property that has been abated before, located in the Clearview subdivision. Ms. Gunier stated the morning of July 12, 2011 the property had been partially mowed, but still looked bad. Ms. Gunier stated the backyard had still not been cut. Ms. Gunier stated the bid for mowing is \$120. Ms. Gunier stated the owner lives in St. Louis and does not respond when the Health Department tries to contact her.

Commissioner Miller stated the County has discussed ways to deal with habitual nuisances. Commissioner Miller stated the County would like to look into adding penalties.

Ms. Gunier stated she believed penalties are warranted in similar situations. Ms. Gunier stated abatements take a lot of time for the Health Department to do.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the attached Finding of Public Nuisance and Order for Abatement of a public nuisance located at 167 E Cedar Court (parcel # 11-619-24-01-258.00 01).

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 257-2011**

County Clerk

2. Bid award for bank depository (second reading, first read 6/21/2011)

County Clerk Wendy Noren and County Treasurer Nicole Galloway were present on behalf of this item. Ms. Noren stated the County has been going through a very long process to award the bid for depository services. Ms. Noren stated she wished to thank all of the banks for their hard work. Ms. Noren stated all of the banks provided great input to discussions, and that she learned a great deal about banking throughout this process. Ms. Noren stated she wanted to go over several things that she didn't go over when the bid was opened.

Ms. Noren stated one of the most interesting things she learned is that while the FDIC must insure accounts up to \$250,000, the banks have to insure everything within the account. Ms. Noren stated she did a lot of research work with the banks, and she will be doing a lot of work trying to restructure the County's accounts to hopefully relieve the banks of having to insure everything. Ms. Noren stated one of her top priorities, along with former treasurer Jan Fugit and Nicole Galloway is to institute the concept of positive pay. Ms. Noren stated positive pay is when the County issues a check, we give a file to the bank, and they don't pay the check unless it's on the file we gave to them. Ms. Noren stated this is a standard fraud prevention procedure. Ms. Noren stated it is not good that we don't already have this.

Ms. Noren stated the Collector has had a difficult time with the acceptance of debit transactions because debit cards have had to be run as credit cards. Because of this, there is an extra charge of 5%. Ms. Noren stated this is aggravating to people who have been standing in line, only to find out there is an extra fee to pay with a debit card. Ms. Noren stated the Collector, the banks, and she have been working to find a solution to this.

The Collector has also been interested in instituting remote deposit services. Ms. Noren stated a lot of research has been done on how to do this, and precautions that should be taken. To do this, the Collector has investigated the possibility of keeping a separate account for her office.

Ms. Noren stated there were five bids opened on 6/21/2011. Ms. Noren stated the banks were requested to quote an interest rate so many points above or below the Treasury bill rate. Ms. Noren stated Bank of America and US Bank bid what is called a compensating balance, in other words, they calculate all these fees, and if you keep your balance high enough, they subtract the fees. Ms. Noren stated to not be charged any fees; a balance of at least \$12 million would need to be kept in the bank at all times. Ms. Noren stated if additional money was in the bank (for example \$15 million), the County would not earn any additional interest on the extra \$3 million. Ms. Noren stated unless there are a lot of

people capable of a lot of cash flow and can consistently hit the number right all the time, this is a bad option. Ms. Noren stated this is not how the County operates, and this is why these are not good options for Boone County.

Ms. Noren stated the other three banks bids were based on the Treasury bill. Ms. Noren stated most banks bid an interchange fee for debit card transactions. Ms. Noren stated this is a very complicated fee structure. Ms. Noren stated she has calculated the fees for all seventeen accounts using the criteria sent back by the three banks. Ms. Noren presented a spreadsheet of this to the Commissioners. Ms. Noren stated at the bottom of the spreadsheet was a total of the costs for each bank. Ms. Noren stated she calculated this based on the various fees banks charge, and the quoted interest rate. Ms. Noren stated Commerce Bank had some additional fees. Ms. Noren stated she noticed similarities between Boone County National Bank and Landmark Bank. Ms. Noren stated Landmark bank had no price difference between depositing with a teller or doing a remote deposit, whereas Boone County National Bank had a one cent difference. Ms. Noren stated this is why she has a quote for Boone County National Bank on the spreadsheet twice; one quote is if the County uses remote deposit, and one is without it. Ms. Noren stated Boone County National Bank bid a floor of 19 basis points above the Treasury bill rate. This is the lowest standard rate bid. Ms. Noren stated Commerce did 20 points above the Treasury bill rate, and Landmark did 50 points. However, Boone County National Bank's bid is 19 basis points above the Treasury bill rate, but no less than .56%. Ms. Noren stated most people think the interest rates will not go up for quite awhile. Ms. Noren stated she calculated what would happen if the interest rates went up or down, and if that would affect which bank bid is best for the County. Ms. Noren stated based on these types of calculations the best financial option for the County is Boone County National Bank.

Ms. Noren stated another key point is what kind of services the banks provide. Ms. Noren stated it is very important for a bank to meet the County's needs. Ms. Noren stated all three banks provide excellent services. Ms. Noren stated all three banks have their own personal strengths. Ms. Noren stated a good service Boone County National Bank provides is the ability to automatically transmit our data files. Currently they must be downloaded and then uploaded. Ms. Noren stated this is a more secure option. Ms. Noren stated Boone County National Bank has longer image retention. Ms. Noren stated Landmark Bank has same day credit until 7 which is great when we need it.

Ms. Noren stated Landmark bank has been a wonderful, steady provider of services to Boone County; however, Ms. Noren stated financially the best option is to award the bid to Boone County National Bank.

Commissioner Miller stated this was a very thorough analysis of the bids.

Ms. Noren stated she had a lot of help from the banks. Ms. Noren stated the banks gave a lot of their time checking her calculations. Ms. Noren stated the people working at the banks are incredible people, and everyone is disappointed because they like the people,

and wish the County could do business with all of them. Ms. Noren stated there are some costs involved with switching banks, probably less than \$500.

The Commissioners agreed they were ok with this.

Ms. Noren stated the woman she worked with at US Bank put together a beautiful proposal with timelines. Ms. Noren stated it just wasn't the best proposal for Boone County.

Commissioner Elkin asked Ms. Noren if she was ready for a motion.

Ms. Noren stated it would be ok to offer a motion to proceed to create a contract with Boone County National Bank.

Commissioner Miller stated the bids were opened in Commission, so that serves as a first reading.

Commissioner Elkin stated this is how construction contracts are handled.

Ms. Noren stated she would like to return the collateral checks to the banks.

Commissioner Elkin asked Ms. Noren what a ZBA fee is.

Ms. Noren replied it is a Zero Balance Account fee.

Ms. Galloway stated this is when money is transferred to a zero balance account to cover checks that are written.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby accept the bid from Boone County National Bank for depository services.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 258-2011**

3. Authorize grant application for County Clerk (first and second reading)

County Clerk Wendy Noren was present on behalf of this item. Ms. Noren stated she is in the process of finishing up an application for a fairly major grant. Ms. Noren stated the grant is only open to state and local election officials. Ms. Noren stated it is a research grant to produce programs. Ms. Noren stated the work will be contracted to the University of Missouri. Ms. Noren stated the dollar amount has been going back and forth, but she should know within a month how much the grant is for. Ms. Noren stated she has wanted to do this for awhile. Ms. Noren stated this grant is focused on military and overseas voters.

Commissioner Miller asked if this grant has any effect on the County's IT department.

Ms. Noren stated it does not. Ms. Noren stated they have \$16 million to give out, and are getting ready to open up an additional grant.

Commissioner Miller asked Ms. Noren if she needed an order passed today. Commissioner Miller stated Ms. Noren has the authority to do this anyway and an order just clarifies there is no cost to the County.

Ms. Noren stated that was fine.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the County Clerk to proceed with an application for a grant with the Department of Defense for research and development of voting services to military and overseas voters. There is no cost sharing on behalf of the County, no long term cost obligation to the County, and costs associated with administration of the grant have been included in the application.

Services provided under the grant will be provided through intergovernmental agreements with the Secretary of State, the University of Missouri, and potentially some other consultants. The DUNS number has been approved by the County Treasurer.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 259-2011**

Resource Management

4. Approval of Proposal for Consultant Services with Terracon (first reading)

Design and Construction Manager Derin Campbell was present on behalf of this item. Mr. Campbell stated this is a proposal for consultant services to do some testing on their overlay projects. Mr. Campbell stated they would be doing some field sampling. Mr. Campbell stated Resource Management does not anticipate using the entire amount, but this gives them a ceiling to do some asphalt testing.

Commissioner Miller asked if this was for projects being done now.

Mr. Campbell stated this is correct. Mr. Campbell said samples were being taken to insure the County is getting what it is paying for.

Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

5. Co-operative agreement with City of Sturgeon (first reading)

Design and Construction Manager Derin Campbell was present on behalf of this item. Mr. Campbell stated this is an application for Sturgeon to do chip seal operations. Mr. Campbell stated this is just approving Sturgeon's application.

Commissioner Miller stated this is an application based submittal.

Commissioner Robb stated this is the first one under the new County Revenue Sharing Program.

Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

Purchasing

6. Bid award to J. Louis Crum Corp for bid 29-22JUN11 – Boone County Jail Furnishing and Installation of Walk-in Freezer Remote Condensing Unit and inside Evaporator Coil Unit (first reading)

Buyer Tyson Boldan was present on behalf of this item. Mr. Boldan read the following memo:

The Bid for Boone County Jail Furnishing and Installation of Walk-in Freezer Remote Condensing Unit and inside Evaporator Coil Unit closed June 22, 2011. One bid was received. Purchasing and the Facilities Maintenance department recommend award to J. Louis Crum Corp for offering the lowest and best price for the County. The Bid Amount for this project was \$8,302.00. Invoices from this contract will be paid from department 6100 – Facilities and Grounds Maintenance, account 60200 – Equipment Repairs and Maintenance.

Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

7. Bid award to Midway Freightliner Inc. for bid 20-19MAY11 – Tandem Axle Dump Trucks (second reading, first read 5/19/2011)

Buyer Tyson Boldan was present on behalf of this item.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby award bid 20-19MAY11 – Tandem Axle Dump Trucks to Midway Freightliner Inc. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said contract.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Commissioner Elkin stated Purchasing and Public works put in a lot of work on this. Commissioner Elkin stated it is a substantial task to order new dump trucks, and he thinks the County got a good product. Commissioner Elkin stated the County is switching to Freightliner, but they come recommended from several people.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 260-2011**

8. Bid award to Independent Salt for bid MM59 – Sodium Chloride Term & Supply (second reading, first read 7/7/2011)

Buyer Tyson Boldan was present on behalf of this item.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby award bid MM59 – Sodium Chloride Term & Supply to Independent Salt. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said contract.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Miller stated Mr. Boldan sent the Commissioners a note on why the quote was twice the budgeted amount. Commissioner Miller stated this was because it is a Mid-Missouri cooperative purchase.

Mr. Boldan stated the \$400,000 quote is the grand total of the cooperative costs, including the city and other entities.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 261-2011**

9. Bid award to TAPCO Inc. for bid 15-10MAY11 – Sign Making Equipment for In-House Production of Street Signs and Vehicle Markings (second reading, first read 7/7/2011)

Buyer Tyson Boldan was present on behalf of this item.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby award bid 15-10MAY11 – Sign Making Equipment for In-House Production of Street Signs and Vehicle Markings to TAPCO Inc. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said contract.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Commissioner Miller stated she thinks the \$12,000 the County is paying for this for a five year on-site program will more than pay for itself, especially with the price of

signage, and the length of time it takes to get it.

Commissioner Elkin stated there were times the County had to wait six months for signs, which is unacceptable.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 262-2011**

Juvenile Justice Center

10. Budget amendment to establish a budget for a one time grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation (first reading)

Marcia Hazelhorst was present on behalf of this item. Ms. Hazelhorst stated the Juvenile Justice Center recently received a \$500 award from the Wal-Mart foundation. Ms. Hazelhorst stated this will be used to update the fitness course, and enhance programming opportunities.

Commissioner Miller asked if this grant had to be applied for.

Ms. Hazelhorst stated it is a fairly short application in which you can request up to \$1,500. Ms. Hazelhorst stated they requested this amount, but were given \$500.

Commissioner Robb stated that this was a first reading and instructed the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading after the 10 day waiting period required for budget amendments with an appropriate order for approval.

Circuit Clerk

11. Budget revision to transfer funds for purchase of a replacement printer (first reading)

Commissioner Elkin stated it looks like the Circuit Clerk had a printer that died and they want a new one.

Commissioner Miller stated if their printer is dead they need a new one because they run a lot of things through that office.

Commissioner Robb stated printers die on a regular basis. Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

Sheriff's Department

12. Budget amendment to increase expenditure budget for expenses related to the

Annex building (first reading)

Captain Chad Martin was present on behalf of this item. Captain Martin stated the Sheriff's Department is requesting this budget amendment to cover additional expenses that have been incurred after moving into the annex, and making additional improvements. Captain Martin stated projectors have been added to the training room, the conference room has been set up, and there have been other unexpected expenses such as surge protectors. Captain Martin stated they also plan to put a picnic table outside.

Commissioner Miller stated this is the Sheriff's fund and he can use it for whatever he wants.

Commissioner Robb stated that this was a first reading and instructed the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading after the 10 day waiting period required for budget amendments with an appropriate order for approval.

13. Approve intergovernmental agreement with City of Columbia for allocation of JAG funds (first reading)

Captain Chad Martin was present on behalf of this item. Captain Martin stated this is a standard agreement between the City of Columbia and Boone County concerning the allocation of JAG funds. Captain Martin stated this is an agreement CJ has drafted, and is largely unchanged from the previous year. Captain Martin stated this has already gone through City Council.

Commissioner Miller asked if this requires a committee to meet to determine how the funds are split.

Captain Martin stated Columbia gets 60% and the County gets 40%, and no meeting is required. Captain Martin stated this is a figure the Police Chief and Sheriff have agreed on. Captain Martin stated the people who give the JAG grant will not release the funds until there is an agreement about its disbursement. Captain Martin stated the crime rates in Columbia are higher than the County, and this is why the City gets 60%.

Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

14. Public Notice of FY 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application (first reading)

Captain Martin was present on behalf of this item. Captain Martin stated this is the same grant previously discussed, but it requires public notice of the County's application. Captain Martin stated he had to advertise this in advance of the meeting.

15. Approval of FY 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application (first reading)

Captain Martin was present on behalf of this item. Captain Martin stated this grant is applied for electronically, so all he needs is an approved Commission order.

Commissioner Robb stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

Prosecuting Attorney

16. Restructuring of two employee positions in the Child Support unit (second reading, first read 7/7/2011)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the request by Stephen Gunn, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney to deactivate full-time employee position #683 (Receptionist) and increase employee position #432 (Child Support Enforcement Technician) from part-time to full-time.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 263-2011**

Commission

17. Agreement for Architectural Services with Peckham & Wright Architects Inc. (second reading, first read 7/7/2011)

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the contract between Peckham & Wright Architects, Inc. and Boone County, Missouri for Architectural Services. The terms of this agreement are stipulated in the attached contract. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said contract.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order # 264-2011**

18. Budget amendment for Alternative Sentencing Center Phase II project (first reading)

Commissioner Miller stated the architectural fees are \$21,675 with reimbursables up to \$1,000. Commissioner Miller stated the balance would be put into contingency until the

County is able to get the bid estimate and owner's cost. Commissioner Miller stated it could then hopefully be a budget revision so we wouldn't have to wait ten days.

Commissioner Robb stated that this was a first reading and instructed the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading after the 10 day waiting period required for budget amendments with an appropriate order for approval.

19. Public Comment

Kent Sapp of "Signs by Woody" was present to speak to Commission. Mr. Sapp stated as a concerned, tax paying citizen of Boone County, he had a few items he wanted to address. Mr. Sapp stated the Boone County Fairgrounds has been a sore subject with him. Mr. Sapp stated he has been present in several meetings paid for by the County that discuss the economic impact of the fairgrounds. Mr. Sapp stated he thinks everything in the community is tied together. Mr. Sapp stated the hotels in Columbia are not sustained by six home football games, and three weekends of the Show-Me-State games. Mr. Sapp stated the owner of the Super 8 hotels in Columbia says the reason his hotels fill up every week are due to events at the fairgrounds. Mr. Sapp stated there is a need in central Missouri for the fairgrounds. Mr. Sapp stated in this day and age, we cannot afford to lose additional tax dollars. Mr. Sapp stated his fear is politicians are too busy throwing mud at each other to figure out a solution. Mr. Sapp stated he understands the County is under budget constraints, but wants the County to look outside the box for solutions. Mr. Sapp stated the County should go to the University of Missouri Extension service for help writing grants. Mr. Sapp stated there is a ground source heat problem that needs to be revamped, and he personally knows over a dozen companies. Mr. Sapp stated the County should hire someone to write to these companies and ask them to repair the system in exchange for using the fairgrounds as a showcase and putting their name on something. Mr. Sapp stated this would only take due diligence, not money. Mr. Sapp stated he was aware of management problems. Mr. Sapp stated if the fairgrounds close, he stands to lose a lot of money because he does two events there every year. Mr. Sapp stated his events are very important to him.

Commissioner Elkin asked Mr. Sapp what events he does.

Mr. Sapp replied he does automotive swap meets. Mr. Sapp stated his is the second largest in the country. Mr. Sapp stated his events can sell out every hotel room in the County for three days. Mr. Sapp stated less than 5% of people who come to his events are from Boone County. Mr. Sapp stated the majority of people drive over 60 miles in. Mr. Sapp stated when you look at it; these people buy food, fuel, and stay in hotels. Mr. Sapp stated this brings a lot of money to the County. Mr. Sapp stated he knows there are issues between the County Commission and the Fair Board, but he doesn't want to discuss that. Mr. Sapp stated he just wants to make sure the fairgrounds don't go away, and he knows a lot of other people who share his opinion. Mr. Sapp stated he heard there was a \$10,000- \$20,000 insurance premium that needs to be paid. Mr. Sapp stated the community will lose more than just a fair. Mr. Sapp stated if the fairgrounds close, the

businesses near highway 63 and interstate 70 will not be open much longer. Mr. Sapp stated this will lead to a domino effect, and lost tax dollars from hotels and restaurants. Mr. Sapp stated he understands the County does not want to run the fairgrounds, but a solution needs to be found other than closing the fairgrounds. Mr. Sapp stated he is doing whatever he can to ensure the fairgrounds stay open. Mr. Sapp stated he will do anything to help anybody figure this out. Mr. Sapp stated the Boone County Fair Board has no desire to run the fairgrounds year round, because they are only concerned with the fair. Mr. Sapp stated why not lease it to whomever and let them run it. Mr. Sapp stated it sounds like maintenance is the biggest cost. Mr. Sapp suggested getting in contact with companies to have them update the fairgrounds, and then let them put their name out there. Mr. Sapp stated he doesn't know what to do. Mr. Sapp stated as a tax payer of Boone County Missouri he pays everyone's salary, and he has a right to come vent his frustrations.

The Commissioners agreed.

Mr. Sapp stated if you want to get to a business man, you get in his pocket, but if you want to get to a politician you get to the voters. Mr. Sapp stated promises were made in the campaign that have not come to fruition. Mr. Sapp stated he understands the Fair Board is not paying rent, and therefore the County has no incentive to keep funding it. Mr. Sapp stated he used to go to plants that were closing as part of his old job. Mr. Sapp stated if you go back a year later, you see the effect it has on the community. Mr. Sapp stated the plant shutdown leads to other businesses shutting down, and the need for tax dollars. Mr. Sapp stated Cedar Rapids, Iowa has experienced a mass exodus after a plant shut down. Mr. Sapp stated they went from a population of about 205,000 to a little over 100,000. Mr. Sapp stated Anderson, Indiana is a ghost town, and has less than 50 people. Mr. Sapp stated ten years ago, Anderson, Indiana had over 10,000 people. Mr. Sapp stated the fairgrounds are one of only three similar ones in the State. Mr. Sapp stated the others are Sedalia and Springfield. Mr. Sapp stated he didn't care if a private organization runs the fairgrounds as long as it stays open.

Commissioner Robb stated he agrees the fairground has a tremendous economic impact on the County and on the Community. Commissioner Robb stated there a huge amount of deferred maintenance than needs to take place. Commissioner Robb stated whether or not sinking funds should have been established a long time ago is water under the bridge. Commissioner Robb stated making the fairgrounds a long term viable entity will require several million dollars of investment, and the County does not have that at this time. Commissioner Robb stated the County Commission needs to look at all of the options, and unfortunately the one the got the most prominence was the one that said we may have to shut the fairgrounds down for awhile. Commissioner Robb stated this might happen, but it is nobody's objective. Commissioner Robb stated the objective is to come up with a new management plan that makes sense, is viable, and meets the needs of the Boone County Fair and other parties that utilize the facility. Commissioner Robb stated at this time the Commission is unaware of what that alternative looks like. Commissioner Robb stated the Commission is in the process of determining all of the

options. Commissioner Robb stated if the County cannot afford to operate it, they don't want to close it but may need to.

Commissioner Elkin stated no one would say the fairground doesn't help our community from a financial standpoint. Commissioner Elkin stated he is out there every week and sees the events. Commissioner Elkin stated there are many huge events and many of the people are not from Boone County. Commissioner Elkin said everyone's goal is to find the best way to keep the fairgrounds going. Commissioner Elkin stated we're not taking care of what we have there, so the County needs to determine the day to day costs and calculate a maintenance funds. Commissioner Elkin stated with this data the Commission can begin to discuss management structures. Commissioner Elkin stated this has gotten a lot of press because the fair board presented the Commission with a proposal, but he is not in support of status quo management.

Mr. Sapp stated it speaks volumes that Boone Electric built a building there, when they don't have their yearly meeting there.

Commissioner Elkin stated it's because of the maintenance. Commissioner Elkin stated they have to do things every year to get the building in a safe condition for their thousands of members. Commissioner Elkin stated this is the problem; things are rundown and wore out.

Mr. Sapp stated he heard the Commission would be meeting with the fair board to decide all of this.

Commissioner Robb stated they would just talk and see if they even want to stay involved. Commissioner Robb stated they are on a month to month contract with the fair board and either party can negate the agreement given a 30 day notice. Commissioner Robb stated running a business like the fairgrounds is a lot different than putting on a County Fair once a year, and he imagines many of the fair board members are tired of the agreement they made 12 years ago.

Mr. Sapp asked the Commissioners if they had ten options, with one option being closing the fairgrounds, where that option would lie on the scale of one to ten.

Commissioner Robb stated it would be at the bottom of the list. Commissioner Robb stated they want to come up with a model that allows them to continue to operate the fairgrounds. Commissioner Robb stated he does not know how to do this. Commissioner Robb stated they have had conversations with the City, and they are not in the financial position to help the County. Commissioner Robb stated he does not believe the University is in the position to help us. Commissioner Robb stated a long term solution needs to be found, but the short term cash flow needs also need to be met. Commissioner Robb stated this could probably be solved long term, but he does not think we have that luxury. Commissioner Robb stated he and the rest of the Commission would love to see this work because it is important for Boone County, the City of Columbia, hotel

operators, restaurant owners, and all the other businesses in town. Commissioner Robb stated a plan needs to be created to generate something in excess of \$2 million in the short term.

Mr. Sapp asked what the \$2 million encompasses.

Commissioner Robb stated the roof needs to be replaced.

Mr. Sapp stated it needs to be patched.

Commissioner Elkin stated it has been patched multiple times, and is still leaking.

Mr. Sapp stated the building was built incorrectly. Mr. Sapp stated when the wind blows hard the building twists. Mr. Sapp stated the building can be fixed for a lot less than \$2 million.

Commissioner Elkin stated \$2 million is a round number. Commissioner Elkin stated everything from the roofs, to the snack shop is dirty, dingy, and needs to be painted. Commissioner Elkin stated there are some drainage issues, the RV hookups are hanging on one hinge, and when you add everything up, it is a lot of money. Commissioner Elkin stated the structures are sound, but he doesn't think the sliding doors on the horse barns work. Commissioner Elkin stated things have gotten damaged, and they haven't been fixed. Commissioner Elkin stated there needs to be a mechanism to fix things when they break. Commissioner Elkin stated he thinks closing the fairgrounds is at the last resort. Commissioner Elkin stated he doesn't think it will get to that point. Commissioner Elkin stated the fair board doesn't want to run the fairgrounds year round, so that needs to be considered. Commissioner Elkin stated the electric bill is around \$5,000-\$7,000 per month, and a lot of that is the sprinkler system. Commissioner Elkin stated an option is a dry system so the building doesn't need to be heated Monday through Thursday.

Mr. Sapp stated a friend did an analysis, and there are 104 light fixtures in the building. Mr. Sapp stated to replace the fixtures it would only cost \$24,000 installed. Commissioner Elkin stated all options are being looked at.

Commissioner Miller stated she appreciates that Mr. Sapp came with interests to help the Commission find solutions.

Mr. Sapp stated he would be back.

Commissioner Miller stated she appreciated that. Commissioner Miller stated they are taking input from all citizens.

Commissioner Elkin stated the Commission has been receiving a lot of calls and emails about this.

Mr. Sapp stated if there is anything he can do, he will do it. Mr. Sapp stated if he doesn't work, his kids don't eat. Mr. Sapp stated if the fairgrounds shut down, it's taking food out of his kids' mouths. Mr. Sapp stated he will never allow that happen. Mr. Sapp stated he appreciates the Commission letting him come and vent, and he knows there is no easy deal. Mr. Sapp stated he has been trying to get Mossy Oak, the largest camouflage business in the country to sponsor or advertise at the fairgrounds. Mr. Sapp stated he is not shy, he will ask anyone anything because the worst thing someone can say is no. Mr. Sapp stated he appreciates the Commission's time.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Sapp for his comments.

20. Commissioner Reports

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Attest:

Edward H. Robb
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner