

TERM OF COMMISSION: September Session of the August Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Boone County Government Center Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt
County Counselor John Patton
Deputy County Clerk Ashley Williams

The regular meeting of the County Commission was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

SUBJECT: Hallsville Fairground Development Association Request for Funding

Commissioner Stamper explained that the Commission was currently looking at projects in the community that promote public health and well-being as well as a sense of community. Those projects approved by the Commission will be funded with health care profit share funds, thereby investing the money in local communities.

Commissioner Vogt said that she lives near Hallsville and felt that the Hallsville Fairground Development Association's request would benefit the community.

Steve Koirtyohann, member of the Association, introduced Mike Teal, Elaine George and Butch Griggs, also members. Mr. Koirtyohann explained that the Association was formed in 1996 and was a combined effort with the Hallsville Lions Club and 4-H Club. Because the current park and community center are too small to accommodate the town's growth, the three organizations saw a need, developed a plan and purchased 25 acres on which to build their fairground project. The project has to date been funded with grants and fund raisers involving the entire community. He said that they broke ground for a pole barn in January and went from having raw land to a functional building within a year. A riding arena, concession stand and restrooms have also been built. The biggest expense, he said, has been the placement of the infrastructure - sewer, water and electricity.

The goal is to build an 8,750 square foot community center that would accommodate full court indoor basketball. Rough estimates, said Mr. Koirtyohann, place the costs for the building package at \$50,000. He said the Association's wish list prioritized the payment of the land purchase note, the building package, concrete for the building, electrical service, heating and air, plumbing, concrete parking lot, gravel and landscaping around arena and pole barn. The total projected expenditures for the project were figured at \$219,000.

Mr. Koirtyohann said the benefits to the community would be numerous. It would be a place for older folks to go to play cards, for kids to play basketball, a space for wedding receptions or community meetings. He said the community center would be large enough to accommodate a substantial group of people and would serve the whole area. Quite a bit had been accomplished in a short period of time, and Mr. Koirtyohann said that it was their hope that the Commission would be able to help them do even more.

Mr. Teal stressed that the whole project had thrown the community together on a number of occasions, but that they had exhausted their financial limitations and are in need of some help.

Ms. George said that the project had been very exciting for the 4-H group because they were involved in so many activities and now had a local arena in which to ride. Children are our future, she said, and they need to be taken care of. Providing them with these types of facilities is one way communities can help.

Mr. Griggs said that the land is owned by the Lions Club because it was purchased before the Association was formed and also to keep the facilities under the Lions Club insurance.

Mr. Koirtyohann said the land would be deeded to the Association, though there had been no discussion where it might go if the Association dissolved.

Commissioner Stamper explained that the Commission was concerned with issues of sustainability and wanted to be sure that investments made in a community would stay there.

Mr. Koirtyohann explained that the fair board established policies and scheduled events and that there were committees formed for the arena, as would be done for the community building. He also said that they had applied for Neighborhood Improvement Assistance Program credits, but had used them in their previous projects.

Commissioner Vogt said that they were considering requesting communities to match County appropriations. She asked what amount the Association would be willing to match.

Commissioner Stamper explained that their current investment in the fairgrounds would be their match. He said that they hoped to have the allocation terms established before Christmas, making the funds available in 1998. He thanked the members of the Hallsville Fairground Development Association for their presentation.

SUBJECT: Burnett School Road Bridge Discussion

Public Works Director Frank Abart said they had contacted a consulting engineer funded through the Bridge Engineering Assistance Program managed by MoDOT. He had received a report that narrowed the County's options into three possibilities: Remove the bridge and close the road; Reopen it to its current five ton limit; Reopen it with a 12 ton load limit or better. Mr. Abart suggested there were also two other options, replace it completely at a cost estimated in 1986 to be over \$500,000 or do nothing and let it fall into the creek at which point it would definitely have to be moved.

Commissioner Miller said that in looking at the three options from the firm, it would cost half as much to remove it and not have a functional road. For double that money, the bridge could be reopened to the level it had been serving.

Commissioner Vogt said she had also been surprised at the cost to remove the bridge.

Commissioner Stamper said the issue had become something of a dilemma. He said there were bridge in Boone County more than 60 years old that were built for horses and wagons that were now traveled by large trucks. He said he had made three site visits and admitted that while it was not the hottest transportation corridor in the County, it is important to the folks who live around it. Commissioner Stamper said it was his hope to restore it to its five ton capacity and keep it open. He said there had been a temptation to look the other way and not do this, but in considering the growth in the southern part of the County decided that more people are using this road.

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone open the bridge to the current five ton load limit and merge the project with other construction activities.

Commissioner Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 391-97.**

Larry Hall, Hartsburg, thanked the Commission for listening to his never ending questions regarding the bridge and asked if there was a signed agreement stating the bridge was Boone County's responsibility and not Callaway County's bridge.

Commissioner Vogt said that state statutes lay the responsibility of a bridge connecting two counties to the county to the west.

SUBJECT: Request by Sheriff's Department to Purchase Vehicles from State Contract

Commissioner Stamper said that Sheriff Ted Boehm could purchase eight cars for a total of \$154,560, leaving a balance in his budget of \$19,360. The contract for pursuit vehicles is currently awarded to the locally owned Joe Machens, but Sheriff Boehm is requesting to forego the bidding process and purchase the vehicles from state contract. Commissioner Stamper said that he usually encourages using local vendors, but Joe Machens has been the only vendor to respond to the bid.

Commissioner Vogt said that a local vendor had told her that pursuit vehicles are built to national standards and not all dealerships have the opportunity to bid.

Commissioner Miller questioned if the Sheriff was looking into diversification of the fleet and Commissioner Stamper replied that he seemed open to utilizing non-pursuit vehicles like a Chevy Lumina or a Dodge Intrepid.

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone authorize the Purchasing Department to purchase eight Crown Victoria pursuit vehicles for the year 1997 through state contract; making this a one-time authorization.

Commissioner Vogt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 392-97.**

SUBJECT: U.S. Circuit Court Decision Regarding Excavation Activities in U.S. Waters

Commissioner Stamper submitted a public notice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the excavation rule.

SUBJECT: MoDOT Thanks for Prathersville Site Use

Commissioner Stamper submitted a letter from the Missouri Department of Transportation to the Commissioners, thanking them for permission to stockpile material at the Boone County Prathersville site.

SUBJECT: Request for Boone County's Support of English as the Official Language of Government

Commissioner Stamper submitted a request for support of English as the official language of government.

SUBJECT: Capital Cable Position Changes

Commissioner Stamper submitted a letter from Capital Cable notifying of channel position changes.

SUBJECT: Letter of Thanks from the Columbia Housing Authority

Commissioner Stamper submitted a letter from the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia thanking the Commission for a letter of support for the Columbia Housing Authority's Public Housing Drug Elimination Program grant application to HUD.

SUBJECT: Reports from Commissioners

Commissioner Miller noted that the letter from the Columbia Housing Authority praised Administrative Assistant Linda Sloan's involvement as the Boone County Community Services Advisory Commission Liaison.

Commissioner Vogt said she had been meaning to report for the past two and a half months that she has swatches for the Commission Chamber curtain in her office that she promised to return to the vendor several weeks ago and asked that the other Commissioners take a look at them. Commissioner Stamper said he had received a letter from Community Partnership requesting a Commission representative for the Board of Directors.

Commissioner Miller moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone appoint District II Commissioner Linda Vogt as the County Commission representative to the Community Partnership Board of Directors.

Commissioner Stamper seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 393-97.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

SUBJECT: Public Hearing for the 1998 Budget

Auditor June Pitchford explained that the public hearing had been scheduled to allow the public an opportunity to participate in the budgetary process. She said that in the past, public hearings were held at the end of the process, once the budgets had been finalized, and didn't allow public comment to be taken into consideration. Ms. Pitchford said she did not have a formal presentation, she just wanted to listen.

Bruce Florea, 4316 S. Coats Lane, approached the Commission with a request to establish funding for maintenance of the MKT Trail. He showed the Commissioners slides of standing water in his farm fields and of a creek filled with debris from trees that had been bulldozed when the trail was established. At the end of his presentation, he asked that the Commission establish and fund a maintenance program and to establish someone to be charge of maintenance.

Commissioner Stamper explained that the trail is currently maintained by the Facilities Maintenance Department.

Ms. Pitchford said that currently the Facilities Maintenance Department budgets for the MKT trail maintenance in a fund created for parklands. The fund covers maintenance, mowing, ditching, trimming and a little bit of rock replacement. She said it is a small budget of \$10,000 to \$15,000 and is used for more than just the limited scope she described. It is used not only for the MKT but for El Chaparral Park and any other park lands that the County has in their inventory.

Commissioner Stamper thanked Mr. Florea for his comments and as there was no further testimony, the hearing adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

(No tape available due to human error.)

Attest:

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner