

TERM OF COMMISSION: February Session of the February 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 adjourned term meeting of the County Commission was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

SUBJECT: Long Distance Carrier Charge Assessment

Purchasing Director Beckie Jackson reported on her memo dated January 10, 1998 regarding long distance and access fees charged to the County by MCI. She said the long distance contract was with the Mid-Missouri Purchasing Cooperative. She said that she had visited the FCC web page because the MCI representative did not give her specific information on how to calculate the assessed charges. Ms. Jackson said the web page contained hours worth of information and she did not feel satisfied that she had found specific information on which the Commission could base a decision.

Ms. Jackson said the MCI representative is responsible for administering a statewide contract and gets a lot of questions from a lot of different people and doesn't always get her information to her customers in a timely way. Again, Ms. Jackson said she could not come up with a logical calculation for the charges. Using her own department as an example, she said their access fees were \$25 while the long distance fee was \$8. Ms. Jackson said the Universal Service is easy to compute because it is a standard 4.4%, making the Purchasing Department's Universal Service fee \$1.05. She explained that the access fee and Universal Service fee became effective December 1, 1997 while the optional charges were to take effect January 1, 1998. The increase, she said, should equate to an annual increase for the administrative offices alone of \$4,839.36.

Ms. Jackson said she felt that she had enough information regarding these changes implemented by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to be dangerous. She said the changes would only impact business and multi-line residential users. She said that Presiding Commissioner Stamper had asked her to report this issue to the Commission and she was doing so today.

Commissioner Miller said there have always been Universal Service fees, but it was not her understanding that the fees would be going up so extremely.

Ms. Jackson said that fees were sometimes masked and built into long distance rates. She said the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was an attempt to break those fees out.

Commissioner Vogt said she knew very little about the issue, but that on her phone bill at home she'd had an added \$18 charge.

Commissioner Stamper said the question was now how to guide Ms. Jackson. He said his perception had been that the County was getting gouged and that he now felt it was an across the board gouging.

Ms. Jackson said it was her impression that some carriers had not begun charging those fees as of yet, but based on her limited information, felt that they will be implementing those fees in the near future. She said she had not yet spoken with the state representative, but wanted to know what course the state would be taking. She suggested that departments encumber the funding for the fees, but to not pay them. She did suggest they pay their long distance fees.

Commissioner Miller agreed it would be a good idea to wait and see what the state would do with the issue.

SUBJECT: Award Bid MM18, Hot Bituminous Asphalt Mix

Ms. Jackson referred to her memo dated January 27, 1998.

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone award bid MM18 for hot bituminous asphalt mix to Richardson and Bass Construction, Columbia, Missouri, and authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the contract.

Commissioner Vogt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 35-98.**

SUBJECT: Contract for Local Directory White Page Listing

Ms. Jackson reported there had been a slight increase from \$68 to \$73.35 and the billing included only a listing of County offices in the white pages.

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone approve the Contract for Local Directory White Page Listing and authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the contract.

Commissioner Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 36-98.**

Ms. Jackson clarified this listing was for the GTE phone book only.

SUBJECT: Program Service Subcontract with Reality House

Sheriff Boehm said that the program service subcontract with Reality House had been examined by legal counsel. This program, he said, is the one they discussed in March or April of last year and is now coming to a closure. He said it was their goal to start the program on February 9, 1998.

Commissioner Vogt moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone approve the agreement between the County of Boone and Reality House for the Boone County Community Shock Program and authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the agreement.

Commissioner Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 37-98.**

SUBJECT: Amendment to Reality House Lease Agreement

Sheriff Boehm said that the amendment to the original lease agreement would now include the entirety of Pod D, instead of just a portion. He said that Reality House would then take over the supervision of the work release program.

Commissioner Miller moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone approve the amendment to the lease agreement with Reality House dated August 21, 1997 (Commission Order 355-97) for the use of the Boone County Jail Pod D.

Commissioner Vogt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 38-98.**

SUBJECT: Condemnation Resolution for Richland Road Project

County Counselor John Patton explained that this resolution was the first step in acquiring the needed easements for two properties whose owners did not want to reach an agreement with the County.

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone adopt the attached Condemnation Resolution for the Richland Road project.

Commissioner Miller seconded.

Commissioner Vogt said the Commission had worked hard to reach agreements with these folks and it had been impossible.

Motion passed unanimously. **Order 39-98.**

SUBJECT: Renewal of Consultant Services Agreements for the Public Works Department

Commissioner Stamper moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone approve the continuation of Consultant Services Agreements between the County of Boone and Harrington & Cortleyou, Inc.; Trabue, Hanson & Hinshaw; MECO Engineering Co., Inc.; Shafer, Kline & Warren, P.A.; Allstates Consultants; Shannon & Wilson, Inc.; and approve a new agreement with Poepping, Stone, Bach & Associates, Inc., and authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the agreements.

Commissioner Vogt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 40-98.**

SUBJECT: Stant Corporation Notice to Terminate Manufacturing in its Columbia Facility

Commissioner Stamper submitted Stant Corporation's notice of their intent to reorganize their Columbia facility. He said he was not convinced this reorganization was widely known and that a significant number of positions would be changing. Commissioner Stamper asked Deputy County Clerk Ashley Williams to post the notice.

SUBJECT: Permits for Use of Courthouse Grounds and Facilities

Commissioner Stamper explained that the city of Columbia Parks and Recreation, the University, Columbia Public schools, and the Boys and Girls Club had requested the use of the atrium in the Government Center for an exhibition on the history of Columbia's black community. He said he had made a voluntary commitment to open the facility for the Sunday event.

Commissioner Miller moved that the County Commission of the County of Boone authorize the use of the Government Center Atrium on February 15, 1998 for a cooperative effort between the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation, Columbia Public Schools, University of Missouri-Columbia and the Boys and Girls Club in their effort to promote the history of Columbia's black community; and authorize use of the Courthouse grounds by the Partners in Education for their kick off celebration scheduled for May 4, 1998 at 6 p.m.

Commissioner Vogt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Order 41-98.**

SUBJECT: Rural Economic Assistance Program

Commissioner Vogt explained that a new program, the Rural Economic Assistance Program (REAP) had been established to provide rural communities with seed capital to encourage job development.

SUBJECT: Reports from Commissioners

Commissioner Stamper reported on the Joint Communications Information Center advisory committee meeting and said they are not making much progress in addressing the center's continued overload. One question raised during the meeting, he said, was the question of the County in cooperation with JCIC, to establish four public towers in Boone County for the purposes of accommodating cellular activities. He said he didn't leap off the floor with enthusiasm, but said they are forcing cellular companies to cluster by the creation of tower parks on public land. He asked the Commission to think about it.

Commissioner Vogt asked if it meant donating land or building a tower.

Commissioner Stamper said JCIC had suggested they actually build the tower.

Commissioner Miller said the issue warranted a work session with experts from the University. She said they needed to understand tower systems before they jumped into something that might not have the desired result.

Commissioner Stamper suggested the Commission form a committee to look at the issue and to bring a recommendation back to the County.

Commissioner Miller said she was not as concerned with the financial feasibility as she was with the technological feasibility of such a project.

Commissioner Vogt reported that the letter regarding the Topeka Shiner was ready to be sent to the United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

Commissioner Stamper reported that he had spoken with a representative from the Department of Natural Resources. he said that a DNR staff architect who deals with historical preservation will come to Columbia to evaluate the columns in front of the courthouse.

Commissioner Stamper also said he had met with civic and community leaders from southern Boone County who were interested in working with Senator Kit Bond to see if seed money is available for a regional sewer treatment facility.

Commissioner Miller said she had an appointment to meet with Senator Bond to discuss that issue.

Commissioner Stamper noted the only public present was Jennifer Odom from the Columbia Daily Tribune.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.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