

TERM OF COMMISSION: October 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
Deputy County Clerk Melanie Stapleton

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Commissioner at 9:30am.

Subject: Designation of the Boone County Courthouse Square as a Historical Site

Commissioner Stamper stated that the County received the stainless steel placard designating the Boone County Courthouse as a historical site. He requested that the comments of the featured speaker, William H. Taft, be inserted in the minutes as part of the public record. His comments were as follows:

Courthouse Historical Comments

Originally I thought about a solemn, historical approach to this topic, an academic, scholarly discourse. Then I saw the program and what else could I add to your knowledge of why we are present in this lovely courthouse square. Columbia, often called the “Athens of the West” in early years, is known for its educational products and thus I can assume that the majority of those here now can read this information with ease and with leisure.

So-another approach was necessary. Of course, since lawyers are so closely allied with courthouses, I might quote many lawyer jokes (and there are millions of them) but then I might get sued. Now—

What is a courthouse?

That’s a typical approach—go to a dictionary and seek what that massive, 2000+ pages answers:

A building in which courts of law are held. Or

In the U. S. A county seat

Now, you feel better educated—you have consulted that Book!!

And another approach we could have if time permitted—what was it like when these three courthouses were constructed in Columbia? But when we go back like that, someone will always say some unkind remarks about that “old fogie” and his return to his past—who cares?

Still, we can not think of a time without cars, paved street, electric lights, radio, television, and obviously, even without computers. No doubt some of today’s students consider the Vietnam Ware or even World War II as “ancient history.”

We can pause and look around at this—our 3rd courthouse—and see how it has provided a historical highway on which our county history has moved ahead, a step at a time, some forward and some backward, yet ever looking down to the end of the road, to today’s scene, from the horse-drawn wagons to cyberspace. At least we could understand the horse-drawn wagons.

To some a courthouse appears to rank right up there with McDonalds as the Nation’s Number One Restroom.

I recall (here we go again, an 80-pluser going backward) my early days in nearby Mexico where then, and today, the courthouse was the center of the city, the center of communication between county residents and their officials, the gathering place. It was where all of those Saturday morning visitors from all the nearby smaller towns came to celebrate a day away from routine work—to shop, to visit, to handle some personal affairs.

The courthouse provided a path around the square for persons to walk and visit and make contact. Some locals would park their cars early in the morning so they could watch the walkers later in the evening. You could see a couple of boys together, following a couple of girls, and after a few laps around the square the arrangement changed—a boy and a girl, a boy and a girl. It didn’t take much in those days to excite the public. Remember, we had silent movies in those days—and many of today’s movies would be a blessing if they, too, were silent.

These persons came to the Mexico square, as they did not doubt to this Columbia square and frequently would get their names in the local newspapers. “Mr. And Mrs. Tom Jones of Vandalia spend Saturday shopping in Mexico”—those were called “locals” and as a teenager I got a ticket to the theatre for each 10. (Pinkie West-Courthouse women’s restroom).

Now a bit more serious, and localized—let’s see what one of the city’s most influential citizen and publisher, E. W. Stephens wrote about a courthouse in 1900:

A county is largely judged by its courthouse. It is usually the most conspicuous and it is always its most frequented building.

It not only represents the enterprise and public spirit of a people but stands for the protection of life and property and the enforcement of the law.

A court of justice should be an impressive place.

An atmosphere of dignity should be about it, that everyone who enters it may feel a profound reverence for the majesty of the law.

A temple of justice should have within and about it a sanctity akin to the temple of God. They should stand side by side.

(Have our ideas changed since those years, about a century ago? Possibly the comparison with a “temple of God” would disturb some.)

Since the early days farmers have considered the courthouse some what a second home. Not only for the routine facilities there but for the governmental agencies within those walls. The *Columbia Missouri Herald* in the late 1900, noted in part:

“Those most interested in the use of the courthouse are the farmers of Boone County, as they and their families constitute more than two-thirds of the population of the county and more than four-fifths of the business transacted in the courthouse and its office related to business in which farmers are personally interested. . . it is the only public building in the county over which they have any control: under the shadow of its dome they are at home.” (Still true?)

And no doubt times have not changed since this old joke appeared about farmers:

One woman said that her husband tried farming and gave it up because there were too many ups and downs. He had to wake up, then get up, chow down, and hitch up. Then when he checked up, he didn’t have enough to pay down, so he just gave up. (Familiar today?)

One might wonder if today the lawyers have replaced the farmers in the frequency of their presence in this building? With their dark suits and white shirts and briefcases often they appear to form an Iron Curtain, as Winston Churchill might say, around the courthouse—but this is not invisible wall!

Your program cites figures and facts, but does not tell about the early judicial gatherings in Colonel Richard Gentry’s tavern in Smithton, later in Columbia. The tavern was “the” place then—business was transacted, deals were made, dances and social affairs held, and for a stranger it was the place to find information, prior to a Chamber of Commerce.

While debates linger concerning the separation of church and state, it is interesting to return to these early courthouses and recall that from 1828 to 1836 the Columbia First Baptist Church members gathered in the courthouse until they obtained their own structure. And later the Catholics, too, often used courthouse facilities when available.

And do you know, the courthouse structure survived!

One cannot separate the growth of the University of Missouri and the County of Boone and the City of Columbia. Remember—local individuals made it possible for Boone County to obtain the University in the 1840s. And as James Olson wrote:

“In the beginning the University of Missouri was thought of primarily as a Columbia institution. Most of the students were from Boone County or other nearby counties in central Missouri.”

This tie-in continues today. Our history recalls the burning of Academic Hall in January, 1892, leaving the columns. And a courthouse fire left another set. And today we have the Avenue of the Columns—two sets of meaningful columns aligned, signifying an invisible link between these major institutions. (Myrtle story-1956)

We observe, and participate in a continuity of historical events—it is what life is all about—we are born, we marry, we have children, they have children, and on and on. And so with courthouses—one serves an immediate need, soon is outdated, only to be replaced by a better structure—and usually encountering a divided public that will include the “never-changers” or keep the taxes downers.”

And what our Capitol building in Washington DC is today to America, our courthouses here today is for us our center of faith and trust in receiving justice in a world that so needs justice as never before.

We wonder what this will be like and who will be present when another celebration is held in the century ahead. Thank you for your attention.

William H. Taft 107 Sondra Ave. Columbia, MO 65202 (443-3521)
Commissioner Stamper requested that the County Commission give direction as to where the placard should be placed. He thanked the Boone County Historical Society for the designation.

Subject: Out of County Housing for August 1999

Sheriff Boehm and Major Warren Brewer were present to discuss this item.

Major Warren Brewer stated that he was present to request a budget revision to transfer funds from Emergency to Outside Services to cover the August, 1999 out of County housing costs. He stated that the average number of inmates housed out of County in August was 56.

Commissioner Miller asked if the County was still on target to finalize Phase I of the Jail renovation within a 2-week time period.

Major Brewer stated that he hoped that this goal would be met. He stated that the Corsair Co. would be out to the Jail this week to do some of the final work on the renovation.

Commissioner Miller stated that the inmates being housed out of County should all be home by October 25th.

Commissioner Miller moved to authorize a budget revision as follows:

AMOUNT	(from) ACCOUNT	(to) ACCOUNT
\$57,980	1123-86800 Emergency	1255-71100 Outside Services

Said revision is to transfer funds to pay for out of County housing August 1999.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 3-0. **Order 410-99**

Subject: Psychiatric Care Plan for the Jail

Sheriff Ted Boehm stated that about six to eight months ago, the medical staff at the Jail brought it to his attention that the Sheriff’s Department was starting to see an increase in behavioral problems in the inmates. He stated that at this time they researched questions such as what is currently being done (in the field of inmate psychiatric services), what is available, and what is the cost of attempting to take care of those displaying behavioral problems?

Sheriff Ted Boehm stated that the nursing staff advised him that approximately \$18,000 had been spent this year on inmates that enter the Jail on medication. He stated that his present staff does not have the expertise to determine whether those individuals are on the proper medication or to perform the follow-up care that those inmates require. He stated that the only authority that the staff has is in a situation wherein the inmate(s) demonstrates that they are a danger to themselves or others. He stated that then the inmate(s) can be taken to the Emergency room and then transferred to Mid Missouri Mental Health to be evaluated for 96 hours.

Sheriff Ted Boehm stated that when the 96 hours have lapsed and there are pending charges on the inmate, the inmate is then transferred back to the custody of the Sheriff’s Department with either further medication or a different type of medication. He stated that then, the problem once again is that his staff does not possess the medical expertise to deal with the individual.

Sheriff Ted Boehm stated that he held discussions with several professionals in this field who would be willing to contract their professional services to the Sheriff’s Department for these

inmates. He stated that there had been a person in line to accept the job of providing these services. He stated however that person accepted another job before the contract could be finalized.

Major Warren Brewer referred the Commission to page 2 of his Psychiatric Care Plan proposal. He stated that the psychiatric care plan was placed in the proposed 2000 Budget as a supplemental request. He stated that some of the things that the Sheriff's Department hoped to accomplish with the care plan were: less costly medication through the use of generic brands, decreased dosages (as determined), withdrawal of unnecessary medication (many times due to manipulative behavior), counseling and behavior modification, and crisis intervention. He introduced Lori Montague, RN at the Boone County Jail.

Lori Montague stated that there was an inmate that was committed to Mid Missouri Mental Health a couple of weeks ago on a 96hr stay. She stated that the recommendation from that facility was to have the charges against the inmate handled prior to the administering of therapy or medication. She stated that the inmate has been in segregation since that recommendation with no psychiatric care.

Lori Montague stated that there was another instance wherein an inmate attempted to commit suicide by slitting his wrists. She stated that neither the medical staff nor the officers have the ability to handle those types of problems. She stated that there is also the issue of the safety of the Jail staff in handling those types of inmates. She stated that the only thing that the medical staff is able to do, in situations where the inmate comes into the facility on medication, is to continue giving the inmate the medication and conduct blood tests to make sure that the medication is therapeutic (and not toxic or harmful). She stated that often times the inmate may need different medication or to be taken off of the medication. She stated that it becomes very frustrating as a nurse not to be able to give the inmate the kind of follow-up care that they may need.

Commissioner Stamper asked what percentage of the Jail population is on psychotropic medication.

Lori Montague stated that the percentage changes on a daily basis. She stated that the percentage has been as high as 60% and as low as 15%. She stated that 60% of the budget is currently being spent on psychotropic medication.

Major Warren Brewer stated that the average inmate population on psychotropic medication is 15%. He stated that the proposal for the psychiatric care plan is based on budget figures taken from the years 1998 and 1999.

Sheriff Boehm stated that the maintenance staff has stated that the Jail has experienced increased instances of vandalism in the form of the destruction of smoke detectors, sprinkler heads, etc.

Lori Montague stated that some of the behavior of the inmate is manipulative in nature. She stated that if given a choice between spending time in a cell or a psychiatric ward, most inmates would choose a psychiatric ward. She reiterated the fact however that the medical staff is not equipped to determine which inmates are being manipulative and which have real issues.

Commissioner Stamper asked if this psychiatric care plan would entail an assessment of the individual entering the Jail.

Lori Montague stated that it would entail an assessment of incoming individuals and of the current population on psychotropic medication.

Commissioner Stamper asked if an individual could be placed on psychotropic medication if he/she did not enter the facility on the medication.

Lori Montague stated that under the psychiatric care plan that would be a possibility. She stated that a majority of the plan would be assessment.

Commissioner Stamper stated that there seemed to be a distinction being made between assessment versus intervention. He stated that it would need to be determined how far the County is willing to go in preparing the inmates to go back into non-controlled life. He stated that this issue raises a red flag in his mind because it could be an endless venture. He stated that therefore the psychiatric care plan would need to be well-defined, with specific parameters to define its boundaries.

Lori Montague stated that her major concern is what is done for the inmate while he/she is at the Jail. She stated however that she had spoken with psychiatrists who had mentioned that they could help with "discharge planning" similar to the kind of instruction given when a patient is released from a hospital.

Sheriff Boehm stated that he did not know whether the County/Sheriff's Department should attempt to go to the extreme of detailing a plan for an inmate after he/she leaves the Jail. He stated that his major concern is what is done while the inmate is in his custody.

Sheriff Boehm stated that the Boone County Jail is becoming more like a mini-State correctional facility. He stated that the Sheriff's Department is at this time attempting to figure out what to do with the long-term inmates. He stated that the Sheriff's Department already has a great deal of responsibility to the inmates while they are in custody. Sheriff Boehm stated that he is not sure whether it is the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department to prepare the inmates on what to do after they are out of his custody.

Commissioner Vogt asked if what was being stated then was that "rehabilitation is none of our business, and that we just incarcerate people, keep them locked up, and return them to society at the end of their time and whatever happens, . . . happens." She asked if it was being stated "that we (County) do not have any responsibility in rehabilitation at all."

Sheriff Boehm stated that this was not what he meant. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has introduced many programs at the Jail such as AA and other educational programs in trying to assist the people who are in the facility to do better when they get out. He stated that the Boone County Jail, because of its size, does not have near the number of programs as the State institutions.

Commissioner Stamper stated that the Boone County Jail has almost transitioned (because of the number of long-term stays) into a full-fledged correctional facility. He stated that the number and length of stays is almost excessive.

Sheriff Boehm stated that Major Brewer had recently shared the information with him that the August figures (population) reflected a lot of long-term stays.

Commissioner Vogt asked what the longest period of time was that someone had been committed to the Boone County Jail.

Major Brewer stated that in most recent history, there was an individual placed in the Jail on consecutive misdemeanor charges for two years and nine months.

Commissioner Vogt asked how it was determined whether an incoming individual should be on certain medication.

Lori Montague stated that the Sheriff's Department contracts the pharmacy and/or doctor to verify the medication. She stated that then if there is a condition that can be monitored, for instance high blood pressure or diabetes, then the condition is monitored. She stated that for psychotropic medication, the blood is monitored (as stated previously).

Commissioner Vogt asked how medication is determined for a "manipulative" person.

Lori Montague stated that historically, no one is *started* on psychotropic medication. She stated that this is one of the concerns of the medical staff. She stated that she does not feel qualified to say whether a person is manipulative or not.

Sheriff Boehm stated that an individual has to exhibit extreme behavior to even be sent to Mid-MO on a 96hr stay. He stated that the inmate then returns with a recommendation.

Commissioner Vogt asked if a doctor from Mid-MO would come to the Jail to administer care.

Lori Montague motioned that they would not. She stated that the mental health coordinator for the area would come to the Jail to evaluate an inmate with extreme behavior. She stated that the medical staff at the Jail then follows the recommendation of the mental health coordinator. She stated that the mental health coordinator either recommends committal or that the inmate see a psychiatrist after their time is served.

Commissioner Miller asked if there had ever been consideration given to having a Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous program at the Jail to help those inmates that have substance abuse problems.

Major Warren Brewer stated that the Alcoholics Anonymous program is already in place. He stated that the Narcotics Anonymous program would be in place by November.

Commissioner Miller stated that she recently met with Dr. Wilson, State Director and asked for statistics on the Jail population. She stated that after she received those figures she would speak with the Sheriff and ask him to begin keeping statistics so that those needs could be identified. She stated that she did not feel that it would be in the best interest to implement this proposal (being only two months away from adopting the budget) without looking at the needs of the entire correctional facility.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she was curious as to why this proposal was being made in October considering that a program of this nature is usually implemented in a new budget year.

Sheriff Boehm stated that the Sheriff's Department has been in the process of working on this proposal for six to eight months. He stated that the purpose of this proposal is to identify the need. He stated that if this was a subject that would "go away tomorrow or could wait until January 1, then he would not be present to ask for it today." He stated that the medical staff informed him that this is something that really needs to be worked on now.

Major Brewer stated that this proposal was also included in the 2000 budget as a supplemental request.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she does have a certain amount of support for this need. She stated however that it is something that she would like to evaluate with the other items in the 2000 budget.

Commissioner Stamper asked Sheriff Boehm what his colleagues around the State are doing in this area. He asked to know if the Sheriff's proposal was modeled after another program.

Lori Montague stated that Jackson County, which has a much larger population, has an entire ward for their psychiatric patients. She stated that most other jails follow the policy of the Boone County Jail in that if the person is bad enough, they are sent out.

Major Brewer stated that Greene County has a full time psychologist that works with the inmates and the staff. He stated that this individual does not medicate or prescribe, however he can deal with a majority of the issues. He stated that St. Charles also has a psychologist. He stated that the proposal that the Sheriff's Department developed is modeled more after the State program.

Sheriff Boehm stated that funds had been identified in the existing budget so that money would not have to be taken from the Emergency Fund in order to implement this proposal.

Commissioner Miller stated that the money that had been identified for this proposal however, was part of the core that had been identified for the medical division of the Jail in the 2000 budget. She stated that this is really not free [available] money because it would have to be dealt

with in the coming year.

Commissioner Vogt asked if the Sheriff's Department had looked for any grants that would support this need.

Sheriff Boehm stated that he had not.

The County Commission agreed to review this proposal in the 2000 budget as a supplemental request.

Commissioner Stamper recognized a gentleman in the audience for public comment.

Andy Tribble, RN and worker at the St. Francis House for the past 15 years stated that he is in support of the proposal from the Sheriff's Department. He stated that the Los Angeles County Jail is now the largest mental health facility in the country. He stated that mental illness in jails is becoming a very significant problem. He stated that people with mental health problems that serve time in jail go through a cycle because they have needs that are not addressed. He stated that because of their judgement and decision-making skills, they often end up back in jail.

Andy Tribble stated that the treatment of a large portion of the alcoholic population is missed because people cannot afford a prescribed drug. He stated that a lot of mental ill people self medicate their mental illnesses with alcohol because it is accessible and affordable. He stated when they are addressed as alcoholics, the other part of their problem is missed. He stated that there is need for an assessment plan to show that certain individuals are in need of psychiatric care.

Commissioner Stamper thanked Mr. Tribble for his comments.

Commissioner Stamper asked if there was anyone else that wished to make comments on this subject.

There was no one else that wished to speak.

Commissioner Stamper thanked the Sheriff's Department for bringing this subject to the Commission's attention. He reiterated the County Commission's preference for handling this as a 2000 budget item.

Subject: Budget Revision for replacement safe at the Jail

Major Brewer stated that this is a request to transfer funds from Class 9 auto to purchase a replacement safe. He stated that they would like to purchase a safe that would allow someone to put items in it, however would not allow one to get past the feedback in order to retrieve those items. He stated that this kind of safe is needed because the staff is responsible for accepting cash/bond money. He stated that the staff is being held to a high degree of accountability and he believes that it would behoove them to have the proper equipment in place to ensure that accountability.

Commissioner Stamper moved to approve a budget revision as follows:

AMOUNT	(from) ACCOUNT	(to) ACCOUNT
\$650	1255-92400 Repl. Auto Truck	1255-92000 Repl. Office Equipment

Said revision is to transfer funds to replace an old safe at the Jail.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Vogt asked if the Sheriff's Department would continue to use the old safe or place it in the County's inventory for other use.

Major Brewer stated that the safe would be placed in the County’s inventory.

The motion passed 3-0. **Order 411-99**

Subject: Budget Revision for control locking system at the Jail

Major Brewer stated that this budget revision is for the purchase of two, touch screens needed in conjunction with the new control locking system at the Jail.

Commissioner Miller moved to authorize a budget revision as follows:

AMOUNT	(from) ACCOUNT	(to) ACCOUNT
\$7,920	1123-86800 Emergency	1255-92300 Corrections: Replacement Machinery & Equipment

Said revision is to transfer funds to purchase replacement monitors for the control-locking system at the Jail.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

Discussion: Major Brewer stated that (during the 2000 budget hearings) he would like to discuss having the funding for the control locking system taken out of the Facilities Maintenance budget rather than the Sheriff’s Department budget since the system is an integral part of the security of the overall facility.

The motion passed 3-0. **Order 412-99**

Subject: First reading of Budget Amendment for Fairgrounds lien search performed by Boone Central Title Company

Commissioner Stamper prefaced the reading of the budget amendment with the statement that he was in the process of compiling a budget for the Boone County Fairgrounds. He stated that until there is a budget for the Boone County Fairgrounds, the budget would have to be amended to cover costs attributed to the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Stamper read into the public record a budget amendment to cover the cost of a lien search on the Boone County Fairgrounds as follows:

AMOUNT	(to) ACCOUNT
\$125	2090-71101 Hospital Profit Share: Professional Services

Commissioner Stamper requested that this item be brought back on the County Commission agenda following the required ten-day waiting period.

Subject: Discussion of Conditions for Mertens Construction (Riggs Quarry) CPU

Commissioner Vogt stated that there has been an ongoing discussion between Mertens Construction and the Riggs Quarry. She introduced Skip Walther, attorney for Mertens Construction.

Skip Walther, 700 Cherry stated that there would be another meeting with the neighborhood within the next couple of days and that he hoped to be able to reach agreement with them at that time.

Commissioner Vogt requested that Skip Walther and John Patton, County Counsel be allowed to

work with the neighborhood in order to resolve this. She stated that when an agreement had been reached, the conditions would be scheduled on the agenda of a County Commission meeting.

Subject: Delegates for the MAC Conference

Commissioner Stamper moved to designate the following delegates for the Missouri Association of Counties Annual Conference on November 21-23, 1999:

Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt
County Clerk Wendy S. Noren
County Treasurer Kay Murray
County Collector Pat Lensmeyer
Recorder of Deeds Bettie Johnson
County Auditor June Pitchford

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 3-0. **Order 413-99**

Subject: Program Year 1997 Job Training Partnership Act Report

Commissioner Stamper submitted the report for the public record.

Subject: Discussion of Boone County's intention regarding SDA-5's merger with SDA-9

Commissioner Stamper stated that a discussion needed to be held concerning SDA-5. He stated that of the eight counties that comprise SDA-5, the counties of Howard, Cooper, Cole, Moniteau, Audrain, and Osage have expressed their intent to merge with SDA-9. He stated that Callaway County has expressed opposition but has not identified another plan. He stated that he needed to bring forward a discussion of Boone County's intentions.

Commissioner Miller stated that she received calls from Cooper and Moniteau stating that they were waiting to see what Boone County decision would be because neither of those two counties had decided (as of yet) to merge with SDA-9. She stated that she had received information that Boone County wanted to be a part of the merger.

Commissioner Miller stated that she did not feel comfortable with the merger. She stated that she did not know what the impact would be if there are four counties that are a part of the merger and four counties that are not.

Commissioner Stamper stated that it would weaken Boone County's position in SDA-9. He stated that Cooper County could not simply go to another region. He stated that there would have to be a vote to authorize them to go and the other region would have to vote to authorize their acceptance.

Commissioner Miller stated that she did not believe that Cooper County wanted to go to another region. She stated that she believed that Cooper County preferred to have the group (SDA-5) stay together and go under the Regional Planning Commission.

Commissioner Vogt asked if individual counties could go to the RPC, in the event that SDA-5 did not remain together.

Commissioner Stamper stated that they could not. He stated that a county must be a member of a region in order to go to the RPC.

Commissioner Stamper stated that SDA-5 is not sustainable, revenue-wise, under its current structure. He stated that there would have to be significant reconstruction under the Workforce Investment Act.

Commissioner Vogt asked if a decision on Boone County's intention could be delayed until the County Commission had an opportunity to attend the MAC Conference and hold discussions with the County Commissioners from the other counties.

Commissioner Stamper stated that he had already had an opportunity to do this. However, he stated that it would be okay if the other members of the County Commissioners wanted to do so.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she was not comfortable with the recommendation [to be a part of the merger].

Commissioner Stamper requested that Commissioner Vogt make a motion to decline the recommendation.

Commissioner Vogt moved to decline the offer to join region SDA-9.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Vogt stated that this is a very difficult decision, however she noted that there could be advantages to discussing this with everyone at the MAC Conference and possibly finding a solution that the State would accept.

The motion passed 2-1. Commissioner Vogt and Commissioner Miller were in favor of the motion. Commissioner Stamper was opposed. **Order 413A-99**

Subject: Parking/paving Improvements for the Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Boehm stated that he was asked to contact an asphalt company concerning the needed improvements. He stated that this document was the estimate of costs from one company (Christensen & Company).

Commissioner Miller stated that this should have been a bid item since the improvements would cost nearly \$12,000.

Commissioner Stamper stated that these improvements had been requested for the past couple of years as a supplemental budget item. He stated that the improvements were not chosen to be a part of the budget either of those years.

Commissioner Miller stated that she would work on this item with June Pitchford and Sheriff Boehm and bring it back on the next agenda as a change order.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Stamper

Commissioner Stamper stated that he needed to bring a discussion forward on the third floor. He stated that the bid was awarded to one vendor and the other vendor that turned in a bid had since contested the award.

Commissioner Stamper stated that this bid process was conducted by the Facilities Maintenance department rather than Purchasing. He stated that the vendor to whom the bid was awarded, turned its bid in a few minutes late (the other vendor's bid had not been opened yet). He stated that Chuck Nichols, Facilities Maintenance Director recorded these facts and contacted John Patton. He stated that John Patton advised Chuck Nichols that since the bids had not yet been opened, the time requirement could be waived and the late bid could receive consideration.

Commissioner Stamper stated that the County Commission reviewed that information and made the decision to award the bid to the vendor with the lowest quote. He stated that he needed to know if the County Commission wanted to hold to the bid award or modify its decision.

Commissioner Vogt stated that she spoke with the Purchasing Director and there was great concern on her part. She stated that she was not aware that John Patton had been contacted regarding this and that she was glad to have the rest of the facts regarding this bid.

Commissioner Stamper invited comments from County Auditor June Pitchford.

June Pitchford stated that she received an inquiry from the contesting vendor. She stated that there had not been any departure (by the Facilities Maintenance department) from the standard policy that the Purchasing department follows when it sends out bids. She stated that there was no doubt on the part of the contesting vendor that the vendor that received the award had turned its bid in late.

June Pitchford stated that she brought the question to the Commission again because she felt very confident that regardless of the department that handles the bid, there should be consistency in the handling of bids in adherence with the published policies.

Commissioner Stamper stated that this was the choice of the Commission. He stated that the Facilities Maintenance department had contacted John Patton concerning this matter.

Commissioner Miller stated that she had spoken with the contesting vendor and they had given her the impression that the bid was turned in 15 minutes late. She stated that the contesting vendor wanted to know why the County was not adhering to its policy.

Commissioner Miller stated that she would be very upset if she were a vendor that made the effort to make sure that the bid met the qualifications, and then those were disregarded and the bid awarded to another vendor.

Commissioner Miller moved to rescind the Commission order awarding the Construction bid for the 3rd Floor of the Government Center and authorize that it be re-awarded to the bidder that met

the qualifications for the bid-Maranatha and the Presiding Commissioner to sign the documents.

Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed 3-0. **Order 413B-99**

Commissioner Vogt

Commissioner Vogt reported for the public record that she attended the Snowplow Rodeo last week. She stated that it was held at an old Army barracks in Kansas. She stated that there were three people (from Boone County) that received awards. She stated that one could tell how hard the individuals involved worked to compete. She stated that she is very much in favor of the event because she believes that it motivates those individuals to be better drivers.

Commissioner Vogt stated that a member of the Boone County staff, Randy Garrett, competed for the first time. She stated that he did a great run.

Commissioner Vogt stated that Boone Retirement Center is holding a ceremony at 11:00am this morning for an award that they received from OSHA. She stated that the County Commission is invited to attend.

Commissioner Miller

Commissioner Miller reported that the County received notice last week that the Human Resources Director, Mark Stone, would be resigning his position in early November. She stated that the position vacancy had been posted in a Jefferson City, MO and a human resources publication. She stated that Mark Stone feels that there will be a lot of strong candidates.

Commissioner Miller stated that she is pleased that Mark Stone will have the opportunity to do some things that he has been wanting to do, however she stated that she and other departments will be sad to see him go. She stated that he has been a very good Human Resources Director.

Commissioner Miller reported for the public record that she attend (on behalf of the County Commission) the Public Official Liabilities Seminar—the public employers portion of the seminar. She stated that it was a very good seminar. She stated that she had learned some things that she could share with the Human Resources department.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner