

**MEETING SUMMARY JUDICIAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE
APRIL 17, 2013**

Persons present:

Bill Abrams, Rusty Antel Judge Jodie Asel, Christy Blakemore, Judge Michael Bradley, Warren Brewer, Mary Epping, Nicole Galloway, Kathy Loyd, Judge Gary Oxenhandler, John Schloot, Lisa Thomas, Janet Thompson, Dennis Winfrey

The meeting convened at 4:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Sheriff Carey had been scheduled to speak, but due to an unplanned medical procedure was not able to attend. Nicole Galloway presented a detailed report as to the planning and transition process to move emergency management operations to county government. The tax passed at the election on April 2, 2013, but will not take effect until October 1, 2013. The Department of Revenue will notify county merchants as to the revised tax amount and collections will begin on October 1, 2013. No money will be received by the County Commission until sometime in December 2013. The anticipated revenue from the tax is approximately \$9.2 million per year.

A transition team has been formed to make recommendations to the County Commission. The new agency will be a Boone County Commission department with a department director. The transition team has identified short-term, mid-term, and long-term issues to present to the County Commission, along with recommendations for implementation. Among the short-term issues will be the hiring of one additional full-time call taker position, which translates into five full-time employees. The call takers will have only call taking function and will not serve as dispatchers. There are also issues with transitioning the present employees, who are City of Columbia employees. The City has indicated they will cooperate on the transitioning process. This includes issues with retirement, as the County is on a different retirement system than the City.

The City has agreed to allow Joint Communications operations to stay in the Columbia Police Department building until the new facility opens. The new building is expected to open sometime in 2015. The Commission will send out a RFP for an architect and it is anticipated that the construction will begin in 2014. There are significant issues to be worked out with the transfer of physical assets from the present joint communications center and issues with approximately 21 radio towers.

The County will also begin the process of selling bonds to fund the project. However, before bonds can be issued, the cost of the building and equipment will have to be known and the bonding process is not expected to begin until spring 2014.

The County anticipates that the existing county budget for communications and emergency management will probably be used to assist with the transition.

In the absence of the Sheriff, Warren Brewer talked about the Sheriff's Department's priorities for 2013 which includes securing grants for the Internet Crimes Unit and increasing the amount of pro-active enforcement. Warren reported that there are approximately four open enforcement positions with the Sheriff's Department and ten open positions for corrections officers at the jail.

The "snapshot" population of the Boone County Jail on April 18, 2013, was 170, well within the optimum capacity of 182 and significantly below the maximum capacity of 210. As of April 18, one inmate was being housed in another jail at a cost of \$35.00 per day.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 10, 2013, at 4:30 p.m. If anyone has any suggestions as to topics of discussion or speakers please let me know.

Rusty Antel, Chair