Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

November 10, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 10th day of November 2021 at 8:20 am. Jim Ruse, Presiding Commissioner, called the meeting to order. David Cox, 1st District Commissioner, and Wayne Uthe, 2nd District Commissioner, were present.

James Lewis, Road and Bridge Supervisor, met with the Commission to update them on current projects. The road and bridge crew will continue the mowing operation at least one day a week until they are able to hire an additional crew member. The mower is running in Jefferson Township. They are continuing to accept applications. Discussion over trading dirt for brush mowing was held. The Commission discussed upcoming training opportunities with Road and Bridge Supervisor, James Lewis. He will let the Commission know next week which of his crew will be attending. The Commission also discussed a bridge in Salem Township that someone had cut the side rails off. They will check into what options they have for re-attaching the rails.

RaCail King, County Health Director, spoke by phone to the Commission to advise them of current Coronavirus cases in Daviess County. RaCail advised as of Wednesday morning there were 18 actives, 1029 total, 4 hospitalized, and 20 deaths. The health department is now giving booster shots to eligible persons for Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. They are also starting to immunize eligible children.

American Rescue Plan Act funds were discussed. New guidelines are supposed to be coming soon from the US Treasury. Information from attorney, Ivan Schraeder, was also discussed.

Jim Ruse signed the engineering agreement for BRO 031(39) on DocuSign, that was approved in Sept.

Discussion of the estimate of $13,500 for repairs to the elevator was discussed. Discussion was also held regarding the possibilities or not of replacing the current elevator with a bigger commercial elevator. A bidding opportunity will be advertised. Issue continued.

McClure Engineering presented BRO 38 Invoice 7 for approval and signature. Jim Ruse signed the invoice.

The Commission received information from the MO Emergency Response Commission (MERC) that new regulations were still pending regarding who could fill the position of Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) president. At present it cannot be the Emergency Management Director but can be a Commissioner. Issue continued.

The Commission received word from the Senior Center that they would be serving Thanksgiving dinner on Wed, November 17th as a drive thru event this year.

The Commission received the Assessor Quarterly Reimbursement report for the third quarter for signature. Jim Ruse signed off on the report. It will be sent on to the State Tax Commission for reimbursement.

The Commission received an invitation to attend the Northwest Commissioner’s Quarterly meeting on December 16th in St. Joseph, MO. All three Commissioners plan to attend.

Discussion was held regarding repairs needed to the backflow on the boiler. Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, will notify a company in St. Joseph to do the repairs as soon as they can, and then reinspect the backflow for certification. A leaking waterline coming into the boiler was discovered at the same time, which is to be repaired by Jay Hart, Grand River Heating & Cooling, as soon as he can.

Notice was received by Bruce Vanderslice, Jefferson Twp landowner, that he was not aware of any brush on his property noted in the brush letter he received. Wayne Uthe will go review the brush in question and will contact Mr. Vanderslice. Issue continued.

CJ Hageman, Jefferson Twp landowner, left word for the Commission that he was working on clearing his brush and requested a 30-day extension. Commission granted the 30-day extension.

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Jenni Pankau, Nursing Home Director, & Jennifer Miskimins, The Osby Corp, met with the Commission to present a list of repairs/upgrades they would like help paying for. The Commission reminded them that the lease Osby Corp has with Daviess County is a triple net lease which states all repairs and/or upgrades are the responsibility of Osby Corp. The Commission does, however, have a small trust fund that could be used for a few of the requests. The Commission will take the request under advisement and let the Osby Corp know what they can help with. The Nursing home is currently holding a fund raiser for new raised flower beds by selling real Christmas wreaths. Anyone interested in purchasing one can contact Jenni Pankau at the Nursing Home. Issue continued.

Jon Dwiggins, Howe & Co, met with the Commission to update them on BRO and Soft Match fund regulations that have changed recently. Mr. Dwiggins stated that Daviess County is Number 3 in the MO DOT Northwest area for the most bridges in poor condition, with 59. Congress has recently reauthorized the Surface Transportation Program for an additional 5 years and raised the local portion of the Bridge Replacement Off-System (BRO) funds by 5% to 20%. That should give Daviess County about $130,000 more BRO funds for next year. A new bridge costs between $350,000 and $1,000,000, but any additional funds will be welcomed.

Kayla Michael, Public Administrator, met with the Commission to turn in her resignation effective December 31, 2021. Applicants interested in this position should fill out an application and submit it to the Commission immediately, and also apply to the Governor for a permanent appointment for the 3-year unexpired term at <http://boards.mo.gov> . More information is available by contacting Ronetta Burton at the County Clerk’s office. A 1-year unexpired term for the Circuit Clerk’s position is also open effective December 31, 2021, and can be applied for at the same website.

David Eads, Sheridan Township resident, didn’t show up for his 9:30 am appointment.

In the afternoon the Commission made phone calls regarding possible elevator repairs/replacement and purchasing items for the Nursing Home.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Approved:

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 Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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