Part 1 of 2

Minutes of the Daviess County Commission

December 1, 2021

The Honorable Daviess County Commission met this 1st day of December 2021 at 8:10 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, was absent. The road and bridge crew are continuing to mow in Jefferson Township and checking bridges in the county. They are continuing to accept applications for a crew member. Discussion was held regarding brush issues in the county. There was a discussion of why townships were putting in tubes 36” and over to replace small tubes. A letter with tube procedures will need to be sent to the townships.

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 42 actives, 1107 total, 3 hospitalized, and 20 deaths. The health department is now giving booster shots to eligible persons for Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines on Thursdays by appointment. They are also immunizing eligible children. Testing is available by calling for an appointment.

American Rescue Plan Act funds were discussed.

Aaron Piburn, Assessor, met with the Commission to discuss details of his ability to print the county plat books. Discussion was held regarding the existing arrangement with the Soil & Water Conservation department. The county would be able to print the books on demand with up-to-date information if the Assessor’s office did the printing. Issue continued.

CLOSED SESSION – 10:50 am to 11:00 am

Wayne Uthe made a motion to go into closed session at 10:50 am pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (3) personnel matters, David Cox seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye, David Cox – Aye.

Wayne Uthe made a motion to come out of closed session at 11:00 am, David Cox seconded. Jim Ruse – Aye, Wayne Uthe – Aye, David Cox – Aye. The Commission will send an email to all employees advising them of the COVID-19 situation with county employees, and what is expected from both elected officials and hourly employees regarding reporting symptoms to their supervisor and/or Human Resources.

Discussion was held regarding Blue Cross Blue Shield changes to county prescriptions plans. All employees affected have been notified, however the Commission instructed Ronetta Burton, County Clerk, to also send an email to each of them.

A representative of Mid-States Services met with the Commission for permission to look for the best access point to come into the Extension office with a service line. Permission granted to look for access. The Commission will need to hear what parameters are needed and what are available before issuing approval.

Discussion was held regarding a motion last week to pay for some meals at the Christmas Lunch with county funds. Decision was made to rescind that motion due to the appearance of a conflict of interest. The Commission also offered to pay for the three lunches with personal money, but that was also unacceptable. Judge Adkins will pay for the meals for himself and his two colleagues.

Discussion was held regarding progress on the work being done in Sheridan Township on Unity Ave and 215th Street. This project is nearing the end.

Wayne Uthe advised the Commission there had been significant repairs done to 175th street in Sheridan Township by a landowner. The township will need to reset a tube and the county will need to refloor the bridge and add rip rap to make this road usable again.

Wayne Uthe also led a discussion regarding who provided maintenance for Executive Drive and Oval Avenue in Union Township.

Part 2 of 2

Discussion was held regarding appointment applications to the Governor for the Public Administrator and Circuit Clerk positions. Anyone wishing to apply for these positions should notify the County Commission and file with the Governor’s office. Additional information can be obtained by calling the County Clerk’s office at 660-663-3300, ext 401. Interim appointments will be made at the end of December if a permanent appointment has not been made for either position. Issue continued.

The Commission will attend a NW Workforce Development meeting December 7th at 4:30 pm in St. Joseph, MO.

The Commission will attend a MO DOT Transportation Action Committee meeting December 15th at 8:00 am in Trenton, MO. Their normal commission meeting will be held that week on Tuesday, December 14th.

Austin Story, Sheridan Twp resident, spoke with the Commission by phone regarding two tubes that need repair on 177th Street. The Commission will contact the township and see who needs to do the repairs.

Jim Ruse advised the Commission the Road & Bridge crew will be adding dirt and rock around the sidewalk to fill some holes. They will also be removing air conditioners from the courthouse next week.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Approved:

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 Presiding Commissioner 1st District Commissioner 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

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