

# **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**May 02, 2011, 13th DAY OF  
THE APRIL ADJOURNED TERM**

The County Commission met in the Commission Hearing Room at 8:30 am with Ron Houseman, Danny Strahan and Jim Strafuss present. The following proceedings were had and made a matter of record:

## **PRELIMINARY STUDY MEETING**

The County Commission met to review previous meeting minutes and accounts payable.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Donna Neeley requested that the County Commission post a BOE discussion on the agenda.

Don Ehrhardt requested that public comment be during the Commission meeting instead of before the Commission meeting starts.

Don Ehrhardt also addressed concerns regarding the Taney County Sewer Department running a sewer line across his property.

Commissioner Houseman stated that Commissioner Strafuss has kept a log of all of the Emergency Calls that were made during the flooding in Taney County. Commissioner Houseman stated that he will present his notes regarding the Emergency Meetings along with the phone log of the emergency calls to Clerk Donna Neeley.

Commissioner Strafuss stated that he will step out of the Commission Meeting at 9 AM to get an emergency update from the Corp of Engineers regarding the flooding.

## **CALL COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING TO ORDER**

Commissioner Houseman called the May 2, 2011 meeting to order in the Commission Hearing Room with all members present.

## **PRAYER**

Commissioner Strafuss led the prayer.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Strahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Strafuss stepped out of the Commission meeting to sit in on a conference call through Emergency Management with the Corp of Engineers regarding an emergency update.

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Strahan and Houseman stated that they would like to hold the minutes for April 21, 2011 to add some verbage regarding the Corp Meeting and the roads that they are working on in concert with the corp.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve the Minutes of April 26 and 27. Commissioner Houseman seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (absent).

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/TRANSFERS**

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve accounts payable excluding check # 324292 per Commissioner Strafuss which will come out of budget line 45050040; for legal review.

DATE 5/2/2011

	CHECKS		WARRANTS	
	<u>324285</u>	to <u>324363</u>	<u>5405</u>	<u>          </u>
	<u>324364</u>	to <u>324392</u>	<u>5406</u>	<u>          </u>
void	<u>324335</u>	to <u>324363</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
void	<u>324393</u>	to <u>324400</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	<u>324401</u>	to <u>324408</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Please sign and date that you have reviewed the included information.

Date	Time	Signature	Comments
4/29/2011	11:00am	jj	1 transfer

Commissioner Houseman seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (absent).

## **BID OPENING DE-ICING MATERIALS, CULVERTS AND JANITORIAL SUPPLIES**

Linda Gifford, Purchasing Agent for Taney County met with the County Commission to present three separate bids.

Linda Gifford asked for direction from the County Commission on their preference of her presentation.

Linda Gifford presented and opened three separate bids to the County Commission:

De-Icing Materials: Oakley, Gunther Salt Company, Scott Wood Industries, two bids from Salisco, Morton Salt and Bingham Sand & Gravel.

Culverts: Contech Products, Viebrock Sales, West Pipe Company, Metal Culverts and Waterwork Specialties.

Janitorial Supplies: Springfield Paper Company, All American Poly, Bob Barker Company, Pippin Wholesale Company, Unipack Company from Brooklyn New York the outside of the envelope said this is a No Bid; they returned my no bid form.

**RECESS  
9:17 AM**

Commissioner Strafuss entered the Commission Meeting.

**RECONVENED  
9:35 AM**

**FEMA ISSUES**

Rob Dalton asked the County Commission if they had deliberated. Commissioner Houseman stated that due to all of the flooding they have not addressed that issue. The County Commission will chat about that issue and set up a time on Thursday May 5, 2011.

Commissioner Strafuss stated that he emailed Senator McCaskill's office. Their field rep sent an email back stating that they would contact Rob Dalton. Discussion ensued.

## **STORM UPDATE – LOCAL DISASTER DECLARATION**

Chris Berndt, Taney County Emergency Management Director and Sheriff Jimmie Russell gave the County Commission an update on the conference call with the Corp of Engineers regarding the water level. Bull Shoals is going to crest on May 11 at 696 or 697; this will be a record high for Bull Shoals. Additional roads are going to flood potentially major roads are going to flood. That would be 1 to 2 feet higher than 2008 based on water that is on the ground not including any additional rain.

Jimmie Russell recommended that residents on Lake Taneycomo that have been flooded remove remaining items that can be saved out of their homes during this window of opportunity.

Commissioner Strahan discussed waiting until a later date on the declaration of 2008 for free trash service for the sheet rock, carpet etc. for the flood victims.

Chris Berndt requested that residents hold off on rebuilding at this time.

Commissioner Strafuss mentioned a couple of things from SEMA they recommended that everything be documented, take lots of pictures due to the flooding contact the cities to make sure you are following all of their policies, rules and codes.

Sheriff Jimmie Russell stated that they are going to maintain 24 hour patrols in these flooded areas until people can get into their homes. He also advised the public not to go into these areas to sight see. Homeowners only or people assisting homeowners!

Commissioner Houseman commended Taney County agencies, the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management for all of their hard work.

### **DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**

Chris Berndt stated that it is a good idea for the County Commission to declare Taney County as an emergency disaster area. It lets the state know that we are serious and that we do have a problem. The state has already declared a disaster for the state; to the governor's office through SEMA. They are combining this with Popular Bluff and the tornadoes in St. Louis. There is a good reason to combine all of these in order to go from the state to the federal government to ask for assistance. You must have a minimum dollar amount. The higher the dollar amount the better your chance will be for a federal declaration. Emergency management submitted their figures to the state of the estimated damage. Now the state has to come out and do a preliminary damage assessment at the state level. The state level recommendation will go to President Obama to declare Missouri a disaster. There are two types of assistance; individual assistance and public assistance, and we are asking for both individual and public assistance.

Commissioner Strahan moved to send a letter through Chris declaring Taney County as a local emergency disaster area. Commissioner Strafuss seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

Commissioner Houseman read the Declaration of Local Emergency into the minutes.





Commissioner Strafuss urged residents and the public to heed any emergency warnings from the sheriff department deputy or emergency management regarding the release of water. Our window of warning time has shrunk, as we are at a critical time.

### **EMERGENCY MEETING UPDATE**

Commissioner Strafuss invited the public to attend the town hall meeting tonight at 6:30 PM at the Keeter Center Auditorium to discuss the flooding issue in detail. Photos of county wide flood damage will be shown and questions will be answered.

Randy Haes with Road & Bridge stated that an updated list of current road closings can be located on the front page our website at [www.taneycounty.org](http://www.taneycounty.org).

Commissioner Houseman requested that Randy Haes develop a list of the roads that may be affected by the 696/697 possibility a height we have never seen before.

Commissioner Houseman commended the Road and Bridge Department of Taney County as well as the cities that had been so involved for the tremendous job they did. Commissioner Strafuss stated that the Cooper Creek Lift Station was threatened; their levee was not high enough. It was starting to erode down by the par 3 golf course. Our Road and Bridge Department went in and built an additional three foot of levee over 1100 feet long; they started working at 5 pm until 4 am. When you look at the aerial photos it is the only thing that is dry in that area. They were able to save that major lift station. They also built an access road on Dale Avenue for residents and emergency vehicles access. Great Job!

**RECESS**  
**10:07 AM**

**RECONVENED**  
**10:37 AM**

### **DECLARATION OF A PUBLIC COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT**

Sarah Klinefelter met and presented a document to the County Commission. She briefed the County Commission on the Declaration of a Public County Library District. Mrs. Klinefelter asked the County Commission to make a declaration for a County Library today. She stated that upon that declaration the County Commission would have 60 days to appoint a five person library district board. She gave the County Commission 14 resumes with contact numbers as recommendations for that board. Then it becomes the function of the library district board to work toward a tax referendum, as well as work on the administration for a county library. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Strafuss applauded this group for all of their efforts. Commissioner Strafuss stated that with the formation of a district it will have to be funded through a tax. According to the timeline you have five years to pass a tax or the library district will be dissolved. The County Commission has sixty days to select a five member board. At that

point the five member board would come back with an operational budget so we know what the amount of the levee will be to operate. Discussion ensued.

Sarah Klinefelter requested that the County Commission help pay for the election until they can get established.

Gail spoke to the County Commission regarding the process, technology, county library system. They have an email from Dr. Higgins at OTC stating that he would love to outsource the library system at the new OTC; this is a possibility. The voters have to vote on it.

Clerk Donna Neeley stated that an April Election would cost the County funds, if we put it on a November Election the county is already paying for this election, the cost to the citizens would be very minimal. August is also a possibility but there are ballot splits.

Branson Mayor Raeanne Presley spoke to the County Commission about adding her support and encouraged the County Commission to provide the opportunity for voters to be able to vote on this issue. She also asked the County Commission for their consideration and support of this effort.

Commissioner Houseman stated that he would not be opposed to making a motion or being receptive of a motion pending the caveat of legal review.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to declare that there shall be established a Taney County Library District according to the provisions of RSMo 182.015 with the caveat of statutorily making sure that legal we do not have to establish a levee at the same time . Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

Commissioner Houseman complimented Sarah Klinefelter, Jim Babcock and the groups and individuals that have been involved in this. Commissioner Houseman stated that he looks forward to working with them in the future.

Sarah Klinefelter requested that the County Commission give the review of the candidates some due consideration, then follow up with her with their decision. Commissioner Houseman stated that they will establish a work session in the near future.

Clerk Donna Neeley addressed the County Commission with political subdivision concerns regarding the new Library District. Normally when a political subdivision is formed it is formed with a levee so they have a funding mechanism to pay for their elections.

**RECESS**  
**11:03 AM**

**RECONVENED**  
**11:16 AM**



## **HPRP UPDATE**

Alan Catron, CEO of Christian Associates presented a video and briefed the County Commission on the Homelessness Prevention Program which includes the HPRP.

Alan Catron asked the county float the upfront money of \$45,500 on a reimbursable basis.

Alan stated they are possibly out of compliance with federal regulations because they do not have a comparable database that matches the HUD database. We have a separate database because of our domestic violence issue. It is compatible. A state lady that runs the HPRP program sent them a message regarding the possibility of a non-compliance of the database. She admitted that it was pushed by the HUD audit.

The HPRP internal local audit is scheduled for May 15, 2011 this will determine whether they have a comparable database.

Commissioner Strahan applauded Alan Catron for his efforts.

The 2012 and 2013 budget was discussed.

ESGP = Emergency Shelter Grant Program. The new program that is replacing most HUD housing programs is ESG it is a sustainability type program, it is going to replace HPRP and many others. That proposal should already be out. That will be substantial money starting in 2012 and especially in 2013. Discussion ensued.

Communication has improved between county help agencies.

The Commissioner Houseman asked Auditor Rick Findley if we have the funds available within the contingency funds if the County Commission decides to front the \$45,500 and wait for reimbursement. Auditor Rick Findley stated yes, we do.

Commissioner Houseman told Alan that the County Commission would discuss this.

Alan suggested a round table discussion to agree that there is a problem some structure can be established, the lady from the state also offered to come down for this discussion.

Alan introduced and recognized his staff.

Commissioner Straffuss requested that Alan Catron present some insight on the pay structure how he would like to see the \$45,500 structured. The County Commission will have a work session and follow up with Alan Catron.

## **FLOOD WAIVER**

Commissioner Strahan moved to implement that flood waiver on the transfer station monies charging fees we have a form already in place that has name, address and proof of ownership in those flooded areas for the flood waiver to the Taney County Transfer Station during the month of May. Commissioner Strafuss seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

Discussion ensued.

## **NEWSPAPER ARTICLE**

Commissioner Strahan explained the article for the park trail and the \$25,000 that was mentioned in the article that was strictly an issue that needed to be brought to the county's attention. Road & Bridge funds are involved they are in a transfer. On a positive note we are not looking for the City of Forsyth to come up with any immediate funds it was just to make them aware. Spencer Jones is in control of notifying the City of Forsyth.

**RECESS**  
**11:57 AM**

**RECONVENED**  
**1:03 PM**

## **EMPIRE ELECTRIC EASEMENT**

This is an area out by the airport with no exhibit A this did not get to Attorney Pat Keck to review the easement.

The County Commission agreed to refer this to counsel for review.

## **TIF CALCULATIONS**

Auditor Rick Findley discussed the TIF Calculations to the County Commission. He sent a spreadsheet to the County Commission. This has been figured back to 2004. Rick is seeking direction from the County Commission on the way he figures the TIF Calculations. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Houseman mentioned having a work session with the City of Branson.

Commissioner Strafuss suggested having an attorney review the statue first. Commissioner Houseman agreed.

Commissioner Houseman stated that they will schedule a time to discuss this and invite Auditor Rick Findley to sit in on it.

### **457 NATIONWIDE PLAN (DEFERRED COMP)**

Auditor Rick Findley stated that our county offers two 457 plans; CERF savings has a match and deferred comp. We have been advised by nationwide to max out that match before going to both.

Auditor Rick Findley explained that this is a plan that allows our employees to have a savings plan that is tax deferred. It is a bigger benefit than people realize.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to authorize Commissioner Houseman to sign necessary documents for the 457 nationwide plan. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

### **INTRINSIC CORP AGREEMENT**

Linda Gifford stated that this is the agreement between Taney County and Villa GIS or Intrinsic Corp for the Assessor, Collector and Clerk Software this has been reviewed previously by counsel and now we need the Commission to sign it.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve the Intrinsic Corp Agreement and for the Presiding Commissioner to sign it. Commissioner Strafuss seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

The County Commission talked about the format of the town hall meeting tonight at 6:30 PM sharp at the Keeter Center. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to adjourn. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strafuss (aye) and Strahan (aye).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**1:27 PM**

The minutes were taken and typed by Angelia Edwards, Deputy Clerk.