

**MARCH 7, 2005 THE 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF  
THE JANUARY ADJOURNED TERM**

The County Commission met in the Associate Circuit II Courtroom at 9:01 a.m. pursuant to adjourn with Chuck Pennel, Presiding, Ron Herschend, Western District, and Danny Strahan, Eastern District present. The following proceedings were had and made a matter of record.

Prayer was led by Danny Strahan followed by the pledge.

**TRESSA LUTTRELL  
BID RESULTS**

Presiding Commissioner Pennel, asked Tressa Luttrell, Administrator, about bid results for the newspapers. Luttrell explained there were only two papers in the county and one bid did not come in time, so she suggested either to accept the one bid or reject the whole bid and go out again.

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to reject all bids for newspaper pricing and go back out for bids. Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

**RICK FINDLEY  
BRANSON MEADOWS TIF**

Rick Findley, Auditor, addressed the Commission on a bill he received from the City of Branson on the Branson Meadows TIF that included charges from 1998 to date for over \$27,000.00. Findley stated that he could not confirm the dollar amounts going back that far. Findley stated that Federal guidelines only allow payment back three years when bills are sent in late or not at all. Findley asked for a recommendation from the Commission.

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to follow Federal guidelines and compensate for dollars we can account for, for the last three years. Herschend expressed a concern as to why they are just now billing the County for the past seven years.

Commissioner Pennel seconded for further discussion. Commissioner Herschend asked for further documentation to prove the Commission owes that amount of money.

Commissioner Herschend amended motion to go back and pay three years minus taxes paid previously to the County to avoid paying twice.

Commissioner Pennel withdrew his second and expressed he is not comfortable with the current information.

Rick Findley clarified that he is confident his present documentation shows the commission should pay 80% of the TIF for the past 3 years. He does not have the exact figure at this time but will calculate that amount and bring it back to the Commission.

Commissioner Pennel again seconded the motion.

Commissioner Pennel requested Mr. Herschend to amend his motion to include “contingent upon approval of final amount as calculated by Findley”. Pennel seconded the amended motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

### **PRIOR MINUTES**

Commissioner Strahan made a motion to approve the minutes from February 28, 2005. Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (no), Strahan (yes).

### **ACCOUNTS ALLOWED**

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to approve accounts payable warrants #87985-88066, manual warrants #4336-4337. Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

### **PARK BOARD**

Presiding Commissioner Pennel stated that the Commission has been working on the establishment of a Park Board. The Commission has received recommendations of several persons for the board, but no decisions have been made as yet.

### **KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL**

Commissioner Pennel stated he had attended a Keep America Beautiful meeting and is pleased with its progress. Pennel would also like the Commission to consider budgeting for someone to oversee community service in next years budget.

Commissioner Pennel suggested the Commission send a letter to the Chamber in regards to their request to appoint a board member to the tourism tax board saying, legislation gives the Chamber responsibility to appoint a board member.

Commissioner Herschend clarified that the Commission decided not to appoint a board member because it was a Commission representative who was being asked to head up the campaign and there was a concern the two would conflict. Herschend went on to say the Chamber knows the Commission’s position and feels a letter would send the wrong message. Upon further discussion the Commission decided to leave the issue alone.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL**

Bob Paulson, County Counselor addressed the Commission on an animal control issue that was brought up in a previous meeting. Paulson stated that a policy should be in place to charge residents for animal care when a pet is taken because of a domestic disturbance.

Commissioner Pennel brought up that deputies should also be compensated for their time spent on animal calls and feels the animal owner should be charged for compensation before they can pick their animal up.

Commissioner Strahan suggested that everyone should use the common sense approach, giving deputies full control to handle the animals at their discretion.

Commissioner Pennel went on to state that Tressa Luttrell, Administrator, and himself would work on animal control policies.

## **RECESS**

Commissioner Strahan made a motion to recess. Pennel seconded. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

## **RECONVENED**

The County Commission reconvened at 9:58 a.m. on March 7, 2005 in the Associate Circuit II Courtroom with Commissioner Chuck Pennel, Presiding, Commissioner Ron Herschend, and Commissioner Danny Strahan present.

## **JOHN DEES SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION**

John Dees, representative of the Soil & Water Conservation department, along with John Calhoun, Board Member, and Cindy Dalton, District Manager, addressed the Commission in regards to a request for \$7,500. The money would help fund their S.A.L.T (Special Area Land Treatment) Project that would promote education in the hopes of improving the water quality of Taney County. Dees explained that with the \$7,500 the Soil & Water Conservation District could assist with administration needed to meet the documentation requirements of a grant for \$396,000, which they recently received.

Commissioner Pennel asked if are requesting the money for this year.

Cindy Dalton, District Manager, clarified that they would need it this year. Commissioner Strahan expressed willingness for the County to help with the Soil & Water Conservation's Platte Books.

Commissioner Herschend expressed a concern that the Salt & Water Conservation has come after the budget for this year has been made. Herschend went on to explain to while there are some reserve funds in the budget there are several other organizations in need of money and asked more specifically where the money would be used.

Cindy Dalton clarified that the money would be used to educate children about clean water, promote soil testing, and for an environ-marathon contest among high-school students.

Commissioner Strahan stressed the importance of the Soil & Water Conservation District to the county especially with the growing concern of sludge in the area.

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to table the Soil & Water Conservation's request for \$7,500 for two weeks to allow more information and further review. Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion to table request for two weeks. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Art Beck addressed the Commission and expressed that he feels they should help in any way possible with the Soil & Water Conservation's request for \$7,500 in additional funds.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 610.021. (1 and 12) for the purpose of litigation and contract negotiation. Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), Strahan (yes).

#### **RECONVENED**

#### **WORK SESSION**

The County Commission reconvened at 1:00 p.m. on March 7, 2005 in the Commission Meeting Room with Presiding Commissioner Chuck Pennel, Commissioner Ron Herschend, and Commissioner Danny Strahan present.

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to approve the purchase of a two, (2) Message Board's at a cost of \$15,950 each. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Pennel (yes), Herschend (yes), and Strahan (yes).

Ordered that the Commission recess.

Minutes taken and typed by: Hillary Bargman