

**OFFICIAL**  
**JANUARY 9, 2014, 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF**  
**THE JANUARY ADJOURN TERM**  
**PRELIMINARY STUDY MEETING**

The County Commission met in the Commission Conference Room at 8:50 am for the Preliminary Study with Ron Houseman (present), Danny Strahan (present), and Brandon Williams (present).

The Commission met to review the day's business and County concerns.

**FORMAL AGENDA**

The County Commission met in the Commission Hearing Room at 9:09 am with Ron Houseman (present), Danny Strahan (present), and Brandon Williams (present). The following proceedings were had and made a matter of record:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Houseman called the January 9, 2014, meeting to order at 9:09 am and opened with prayer. Commissioner Strahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROAD VACATIONS**

Randy Haes with Road & Bridge came before the Commission to discuss Road Vacations. He presented a map that showed the sections of roads presented for vacations.

Mr. Haes recommends the following roads for partial vacations: Center Drive, Rim Road, Hilltop, Dale Drive, Lakeside Terrace, Rim Road, and Cross Road. He recommends rejecting the vacation of Waterview Drive and Stone Road.

Commissioner Strahan moved to vacate Center Drive, Rim Road, Hilltop Road, Dale Drive, Lakeside Terrace Road, a second portion of Rim Road, and Cross Road as described in "Exhibit A" upon Mr. Haes recommendation. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

Commissioner Strahan moved to reject the petition to vacate Waterview Drive and Stone Road as contained within "Exhibit A" as recommended by Mr. Haes. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

Commissioner Williams moved to table Ravine Drive, Devil's Pool Road, Lakeshore Drive, and Lakeside Drive as within "Exhibit A" as presented, until January 27, 2014. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

Tim Houtchens came before the Commission to ask if the information for road vacations could be sent to the Mapping Department. The Commission directed the County Clerk's Office to present the information to the Assessor's Mapping Department concerning changes to roads.

**2014 BUDGET APPROVAL**

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the 2014 Budget as presented. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Commissioner Williams moved to approve Accounts Payable as follows: Checks #338117 - #33142. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

**LONESTAR CHURCH & CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve the Quit Claim Deed from County of Taney to Lonestar Church and Cemetery Association. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

## **COURT ORDERS**

Assessor Chuck Pennel and Deputy Clerk Cristy Smith came before the Commission to present Court Orders. Ms. Smith explained the process of Court Orders. Discussion ensued regarding the specific court orders represented today. Superintendent Brent Blevins, with the Forsyth School Board, came before the Commission to discuss specifically Abatement #20140948. His concern is if this abatement is approved then Forsyth School District will have a significant decrease in their revenue of about \$17,000. If they were over assessed we would be happy to give it back but if this is a fair amount then Forsyth School District should receive those monies.

County Assessor Chuck Pennel stated that he was made aware of the issue by Jay Williams an employee of Empire Electric District. Mr. Pennel said he had spoken with the State Tax Commission's attorney and he doesn't believe the County has a legal way of holding to the new amount.

Collector Sheila Wyatt stated she is holding a check from Empire Electric for this payment until the County Commission makes its decision. If Empire Electric pays "Under Protest" then they have the opportunity to proceed through the court system, but the State Tax Commission is ready to hear this case if the County Commission decides to not approve this abatement.

The Commission was informed that Empire Electric isn't challenging the amount of the assessment just the time the new assessment was placed on the Tax Book.

Commissioner Strahan stated that he can't approve this abatement until he has more information. Ms. Wyatt agrees with Commissioner Strahan's position, but she informed the Commission that the County would need to defend this assessment with the Assessor's attorney.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve Exhibit A dated January 9, 2014, as presented, with the exception of abatement # 20140948. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

Mr. Pennel stated that he had received a new abatement yesterday. The citizen stated that since 2010 his property has been assessed as being in Taney County with a house on it. But the house actually belongs on the adjoining property that is in Stone County. The Commission labeled this item as Exhibit C - a refund for 2013 dated January 9, 2014. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve Exhibit C as dated. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

The Commission labeled the Personal Property abatements as Exhibit B dated January 9, 2014.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve Exhibit B dated January 9, 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (abstain), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Commissioner Strahan moved to appoint Shawn Pingleton to the Board of Adjustments to fill the existing vacancy for the Board of Adjustment. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

Commissioner Strahan moved to appoint Randy Casey to the Taney County Regional Sewer Board to fill the existing vacancy. Motion fails due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Williams noted he would like to review all applicants for the position. The Commission agreed.

This item will be rescheduled for a later meeting.

## **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Williams moved to approve Previous Meeting Minutes dated October 15, 24, 28, and December 30, 2013; with corrections. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

## **BID #201312-246 RECOMMENDATION FOR PLAT SCANNER/PRINTER**

Purchasing Agent Ron Erickson and Recorder of Deeds Robert Dixon came before the Commission to present their formal bid recommendation concerning Bid #201312-246 for Plat Scanner/Printer. The County has

received responses from the following three companies: Missouri Documents Solutions out of Springfield, Missouri; Source Graphics out of Anaheim Hills, California; and Drexel Technologies out of Maryland Heights, Missouri. Missouri Document Solutions was the low bidder at \$14,550. They recommend the Commission award Bid #201312-246 to Missouri Document Solutions. Mr. Dixon noted that the money for this machine will be paid out of the Technology Fund of the Recorder of Deeds.

Commissioner Williams moved to award Bid #201312-246 to Missouri Document Solutions out of Springfield, Missouri, as per recommendation. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

#### **CAPACITY/HOOK UP FEE DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Houseman opened for discussion hookup fees for residential properties. TCRSD Administrator Brad Allbritton said the sewer board wanted a little more clarification from the County Commission concerning this issue. He presented a document showing amounts for “capacity fees” which contains “hookup fees” along with other fees. He explained a capacity fee is currently considered revenue for the sewer district and would need to be available if the sewer sales tax went away.

Commissioner Strahan stated he didn’t think there should be a capacity fee or hook up fee because this is essentially a tax being placed on property owners. He also said if a person doesn’t have the funds at the current time to hook up to the sewer then they are penalized at a later date when they can hook up. Commissioner Strahan also feels that people who have paid the sewer tax since the 1980’s have already paid over the years for the hook up fee.

Discussion ensued regarding a definition for capital improvement. Commissioner Houseman suggested the Commission have a roundtable discussion with the TCRSD Board.

#### **RECESS**

**11:46 AM**

#### **RECONVENE**

**11:56 AM**

#### **AMENDMENT TO THE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AGREEMENT**

Commissioner Houseman discussed the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement that was presented. He stated Purchasing Agent Ron Erickson had drafted an amendment for the existing contract.

Commissioner Strahan moved to approve the Amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Williams (aye).

They agreed to have Mr. Cottey write a notice to be sent to WCA stating they were exercising their rights to renew the existing contract for another year.

#### **RECESS**

**12:18 PM**

#### **PERSONNEL POLICY**

This item was cancelled for today.

#### **DAILY STAFF REVIEW AND AGENDA REQUESTS**

This item was cancelled for today.

The minutes were taken and typed by Stacey Clemans, Deputy Clerk.