

**APRIL 29, 2005 THE 7TH DAY
OF THE APRIL ADJOURN TERM**

**COMMISSION, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND DEPARTMENT HEADS LUNCH
MEETING**

The County Commission met at the Longhorn Café at 12 noon with the Elected Officials and Department Heads 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.

The prayer was led by Bob Dixon.

PARKING

Presiding Commissioner Pennel discussed the cooperation he has gotten from employees and that most are now parking in the parking garage, or designated county employee parking. John Lavendar, Maintenance, discussed the covered walkway from the parking garage to the Court House and asked for suggestions. Jimmie Russell, Sheriff, discussed the security system and the security cards that would be issued to each employee. Russell went on to state that the door to the Sheriffs office would be locked after hours and that employees would need to use the security card to gain access.

MAIL BOX POLICY

Presiding Commissioner Pennel discussed the new Mailbox Policy and the requirement that all new mailboxes would need to have breakaway supports. Commissioner Strahan stated that current mailboxes would have a grandfather clause.

RELOCATION OF DISPATCH

Jimmie Russell, Sheriff, discussed the relocation of dispatch to a larger area, increasing from two to four workstations to provide a user-friendlier environment for dispatchers to work.

NEW JAIL PHYSICIAN PROGRAM

Jimmie Russell, Sheriff informed the Commission that the first Physician and Nurse that was sent out by HPL were difficult to work with. The Physician wanted to carry a sidearm and Russell refused. HPL sent out a new Physician and Nurse and they are both doing a good job.

PRISONER WORKFORCE

Jimmie Russell, Sheriff requested that anytime his prisoners are used for labor that they be feed by the Department that is utilizing their labor.

Commissioner Strahan stated that they should be taken through a Drive-Through restaurant to decrease the exposure of Taney County Citizens. Russell also stated that the inmates could not work outside of Taney County.

FALL CREEK ROAD

Dan Ratermann, Road and Bridge Engineer, informed the group that the work on Fall Creek Road was nearing completion.

PARKING STRIPING

Commissioner Pennel asked John Lavender if he had any complaints from citizens regarding the striping of the parking for the City of Forsyth. Lavender responded by stating that many persons asked him to stripe in front of their business. Commissioner Herschend stated the County had entered into an Inter-Governmental agreement with the City of Forsyth to stripe the parking around the Courthouse for safety.

NEW JUDICIAL FACILITY

Tressa Luttrell, Administrator, presented a drawing of the proposed Judicial Facility and described the changes. Luttrell stated that the upper portion of Shorty Copper road would be closed off. Jimmie Russell suggested that a memorial for Shorty Cooper be created.

C OF O AIRPORT

Commissioner Herschend informed the group that the County was negotiating with the College of the Ozarks to transfer ownership of the airport, hangers, and approximately 25 acres of land over to the county. Herschend stated that College of the Ozarks had to make several improvements to the airport to comply with Home Land Security requirements and since they were a private organization, they could not receive any kind of funding. Herschend stated that as a government agency we could apply for several grants to bring the airport into compliance. Commissioner Pennel said that the Commission would be setting up a board to handle the airport issue.

PARKBOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Strahan announced that the Commission had received 3 times the number of applicants for Park Board members, as they needed. Strahan was pleased with the amount of response.

RECESS

Minutes taken by: Donna Neeley