

OFFICIAL

FEBRUARY 21, 2012, 15th DAY OF THE JANUARY ADJOURN TERM

The County Commission met in the Commission Hearing Room at 8:32 a.m. with Ron Houseman, Danny Strahan and Jim Strafuss present. The following proceedings were had and made a matter of record:

PRELIMINARY STUDY

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Assessor James Strahan went before the Commission to remind citizens of Taney County to turn in their annual assessment forms to the Assessor's office, as the deadline was March 1.

CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Commissioner Houseman called the February 21, 2012 meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRAYER

Treasurer Helen Souttee led the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Strahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Strafuss moved to approve the minutes of 2/13/2012 with changes and corrections. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/ JOURNAL ENTRIES/TRANSFERS

Commissioner Strafuss moved to postpone accounts payable, journal entries and transfers to a definite time of 1:30 p.m. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT

Rick Findley requested all Commissioners sign the Monthly Budget report. The Commission agreed THE PRESIDING Commissioner's signature was adequate.

FLOOD PLAIN MAPS

Bob Atchley with Planning and Zoning went before the Commission with the final Flood Plain maps from FEMA for adoption of the ordinance. Commissioner Strafuss stated the map had to be approved to get flood insurance; however there were citizens who were not previously in the flood plain that are now according to the maps. Bob Atchley stated properties within the flood plain could be re-evaluated and the map could be amended. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to adopt the flood plain management ordinance for 2012 as presented and amended. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Strahan asked how often remapping occurred. Bob Atchley stated remapping would be every two to four years. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

FORSYTH ANNEXATION DISCUSSION

Ruth Whitley, Clerk of the City of Forsyth, went before the Commission. Ms. Whitley had mailed all the certified letters to all property owners connected to U.S. Highway 160 and the only comments regarding the annexation had been verbal; people hoped the speed limit could be lowered. A letter from the Commission was requested allowing the annexation of the highway. Commissioner Strahan moved to approve the letter to the City of Forsyth on the annexation of U.S. Highway 160. Commissioner Strafuss seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

AGENDA REQUESTS REVIEW

The Commission met with Nikki Lawrence to review agenda requests.

BID PROCEDURE – JAIL SHOWER IMPROVEMENTS

Purchasing Agent Ron Erickson and Sheriff Jimmie Russell went before the Commission to discuss a response concerning the Jail Shower Improvement bid on Thursday. The only bid made by Mr. Kent Cissard, Kimberling City Plumbing was reviewed. Discussion ensued.

RECESS
9:52 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LEGAL UPDATE PER SECTION 610.021(1), (2), (3) & (12)

Commissioner Strafuss moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1), (2), (3) and (12). Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye), and Strafuss (aye).

EXECUTIVE SESSION
10:00 AM

See Executive Session Minutes for actions, if any.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to go out of Executive Session. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

OUT OF EXECUTIVE

12:23 PM

RECONVENED

1:32 PM

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – ANIMAL CONTROL

Mr. Berry with the Taney County Health Department went before the Commission to discuss animal control. Commissioner Strahan moved to increase the amount for animal control to the requested amount of \$198,565. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Strafuss asked if the request for 2012 was what was allocated in 2011. Mr. Berry said no; adjust to the requested figure of \$198,565. Discussion ensued. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye). Mr. Berry invited the Commission to the upcoming open house at the Animal Control Center to see changes that had been made.

BOARDS/COMMISSION

Commissioner Strahan moved to appoint Mr. Chet Dixon to the unexpired term of park board. Commissioner Strafuss seconded for discussion. Commissioner Strafuss asked how many vacancies there were. Commissioner Strahan said one vacancy currently existed. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

TCAD board appointments were discussed. Commissioner Strafuss moved to reappoint James Youngblood to District 3 and Bryan Caperton to District 5 of Taney County Transportation Advisory Board. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye). The District 7 vacancy remained unfilled.

Commissioner Strafuss moved to appoint Jeff Jackson to the Taney County Regional Sewer District board as the existing term was scheduled to terminate 12/31/2011. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

The Planning and Zoning vacancy was discussed.

AUDIT

Commissioner Houseman prepared a memo regarding a state audit which was read:

February 21, 2012

Gentlemen:

As a result of questioned tax disbursements to schools, questioned expenditures throughout the county system, a system-wide lack of historic county purchasing knowledge, a lack of written agreements, general fixed assets questions, inequities regarding bidding procedures, special funds uses, travel expenditures and a host of other unanswered questions; I have thoroughly reviewed what I believe to be the last comprehensive audit generated for Taney County through the Missouri State Auditor's office for the two years ended December 31, 2001.

The 10 year old audit is filled with countless findings and recommendations throughout the county system for accounting procedures, checks and balances, expenditures, budgets, purchasing procedures, written agreements, taxation issues, and multiple other clearly defined challenges that Taney County needed to address. I am sad to report that after my review of this audit, it is clear that most of the recommendations from the state were not implemented.

We now find ourselves in a position where we must seek another comprehensive state audit to guide us back into compliance with sound rules, regulations and previous findings of the Missouri State Auditor regarding this county. I know that a state audit will be costly; however I believe that such an audit should be viewed as a constructive tool that will point this county to sound financial management practices and will fully pay for itself in a very short period of time.

I am not pointing a finger at any single elected official or department. I do believe however, that through non-implementation of the State's recommendations Taney County has moved further away from sound management practices and sound internal controls. I also believe we would be fiscally stronger today and we would be providing more effective and efficient governmental services by having implemented recommendations the State Auditor offered 10 years ago.

It is the fiscal responsibility of the commission to ensure that all tax dollars are expended in accordance with Missouri law and that sound practices are maintained throughout the county system. With these comments in mind, I am formally requesting that the Taney County Commission take whatever steps are necessary to request a comprehensive three year audit through the Missouri State Auditor's Office.

Ronald Houseman
Presiding Commissioner
Taney County

Commissioner Strahan moved to proceed with a state audit. Commissioner Strafuss seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Strafuss said over the months of discussion there were a variety of estimates. A budget line had not been specified for an audit. Commissioner Strafuss asked if Commissioner Houseman had an idea of cost. Commissioner Houseman said after talking with others the price could range from \$75,000 to \$125,000 based upon comprehensive details and number of years audited; a minimum of two and a maximum of three years. Discussion ensued. Auditor Rick Findley addressed the Commission regarding an audit of specific areas, which would reduce the cost. Discussion ensued. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

PURCHASING/BID

As legal counsel had examined recent expenditures, it was determined there was difficulty in tracking the \$4,500 expenditures within a 90 day period for purchases made by the County. Elected Officials were charged with responsibility of bidding if spending over \$4500. If multiple entities purchase within the County exceeding the limit, the County Official would violate the statute if you are the last officer doing the purchasing. A policy needed developed to prevent this. Discussion ensued regarding centralized purchasing.

Ron Erickson stated the biggest challenge was training and monitoring. Mr. Erickson explained the term and supply contract of Boone County. Discussion ensued.

Interim IS Director Mark Rys went before the Commission to discuss the WISCA service and stated better reports within the purchasing program could notify the Purchasing Agent prior to going over the \$4,500. Commissioner Strahan stated County officials needed to know why they needed to participate. Discussion ensued. Melissa Trotter of the IS Department stated within the existing system, changes could easily be made. Commissioner Houseman asked if it could be Any 90 day period. Melissa said she could do that. Mr. Erickson stated this needed done not only to meet legal requirements, but to save the county money.

The commission directed Ron Erickson to help the County alleviate the problem and notify elected officials as to the possibility of elimination of procurement cards to prevent violation of the statute.

DOCUMENT RETENTION AND PRESERVATION

Commissioner Houseman directed Ron Erickson to draft the bid for historical document retention and preservation with the help of the Commission.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/ JOURNAL ENTRIES/TRANSFERS

Commissioner Strafuss moved to approve accounts payables as follows. Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion for discussion. The motion passed by vote: Houseman (aye), Strahan (aye) and Strafuss (aye).

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

DATE 2/21/2012

| CHECKS | | WARRANTS |
|--------|----|----------|
| 327861 | to | 327972 |
| 327973 | to | 5585 |
| 327980 | to | 5586 |
| | | 5587 |

TRANSFERS


1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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


| Date | Time | Signature | Comments |
|-----------|--------|-------------|----------|
| 2/16/2012 | 9:00am | [Signature] | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| NOT APPROVED | | COMMENTS: |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| CHECKS | TRANSFERS | |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

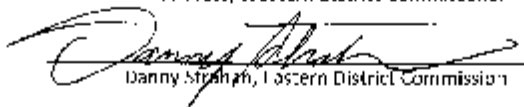
COMMISSION APPROVAL



 Ronald D. Houseman, Presiding Commissioner



 Jim Strafuss, Western District Commissioner



 Danny Strahan, Eastern District Commissioner

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

ADJOURNED
2:36 PM

The minutes were taken and typed by Lyn Wieneke, Deputy Clerk.