

TANEY COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD



**JUNE 25, 2007 THE 32ND DAY OF
THE APRIL ADJOURN TERM**

The County Commission met in the Associate Circuit II Courtroom at 9:00 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.

The prayer was led by Rick Findley followed by the pledge.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Commissioner Pennel made a motion to appoint Dan Nosalek, Planning and Zoning Department, to the Solid Waste Management Board positions of District Councilman and District Executive Board Alternate.

Commissioner Herschend seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of three: Pennel (yea), Herschend (yea), Strahan (yea).

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to reappoint Danny Strahan, Eastern District Commissioner, to represent Taney County on the Southwest Missouri Solid Waste Management District Counsel and Executive Board.

Commissioner Pennel seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of two: Pennel (yea), Herschend (yea), Strahan (abstain).

Commissioner Herschend made a motion to reappoint Chuck Pennel, Presiding Commissioner, to represent Taney County to the Southwest Missouri Solid Waste Management District Counsel and Executive Board.

Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of two: Pennel (abstain), Herschend (yea), Strahan (yea),

MODOT CONTRACT/APPLICATION

Commissioner Pennel presented the following concerns regarding MODOT's positions on the Hollister Partners For Progress project as expressed in a recent news report:

1. The Hollister bridge would be closed for a year.
2. Cost sharing with the county on the east-west corridor.
3. Set up a meeting to discuss.

Further discussion resulted in deciding to keep this item open and do follow up.

**VV HIGHWAY PROJECT
DANNY STRAHAN**

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Commissioner Strahan presented a reminder of the VV Highway Project and recommended that the citizens use Highways 160 or FF instead when work takes place on July 9th.

Patrick Ellison and Debra Ellison, owners of Wistera Cottage in Mildred, expressed concerns about the VV Highway Project having a negative impact on their business.

Discussion of options to alleviate concerns followed.

WHITE RIVER BASIN APPOINTEE RON HERSCHEND

Commissioner Herschend presented information regarding the White River Basin organization and the importance of appointing a replacement for Floyd Gilzow, the previous appointee, who no longer resides in Taney County. Commissioner Herschend recommended appointing Chip Mason who is very familiar with the White River Basin organization and is recognized in Jefferson City.

Commissioner Pennel made a motion to appoint Chip Mason to the position.

Commissioner Herschend seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of three: Pennel (yea), Herschend (yea), Strahan (yea).

TRANSFER DOCUMENTS TO CLERK FOR DESTRUCTION RICK FINDLEY

Rick Findley, Taney County Auditor, requested to be put in the minutes because of the time on documents.

PRIOR MINUTES

The Commission stated that they were not ready to approve minutes at this meeting.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Strahan made a motion for approval of accounts payable checks #101462 – 101594 & 10196 – 101605 and warrants #4676, 4677, & 4678.

Commissioner Herschend seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of three: Pennel (yea), Herschend (yea), Strahan (yea).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Schantz addressed the Commission regarding Illegal Immigrant issues.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION BOB PAULSON – Contracts 610.021(1)

No discussion.

Commissioner Pennel made a motion to recess.

Commissioner Strahan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of three: Pennel (yea), Herschend (yea), Strahan (yea).

RECESS

10:00 a.m.

RECONVENE

1:00 p.m.

The Taney County Commission reconvened in the Commission Office at 1:00 p.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.

Also present were Ron Houseman, Charlie Pugh, Joan Chowning, Buddy Roberts, Angela Leist, Lisa Owen, Bob Schantz, Jack Harrison, Lonnie Combs, Leon Combs, Bob Paulson, Kevin Kline, and Rick Findley.

PARK BOARD, IDA, & WHITE RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Commissioner Pennel opened the meeting by asking Commissioner Herschend to explain the reason for the meeting.

Commissioner Herschend stated that after a lunch with Leon Combs, he thought it would be good to get the Park Board, IDA, and the White River Historical Society together to discuss a tax proposition.

Leon Combs and Lonnie Combs were inquiring about the possibility of placing a 1/16 or a 1/8 of a percent tax rate on the ballot for the purpose of benefiting the county through these entities.

Commissioner Herschend stated that a 1/16 increase would generate approximately \$750,000.00/year. Commissioner Herschend suggested that they have a 10 -year sunset on the tax so the taxpayers would know that it would not be out there forever. Commissioner Herschend also suggested that the money include the operations of the facilities that were built.

Commissioner Strahan stated that he did not think it should sunset, and maybe going through the GCR account would be wise.

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Ron Houseman questioned if the money was earmarked in the ballot language. Mr. Houseman also question if it stated the percentage that goes to each entity. Mr. Houseman stated that it would be easier to sell a tax if the ballot language earmarks the money and designates the percentage to be used for what.

Commissioner Strahan had concerns about the possibilities of winning a renewal on a sunset tax.

Lonnie Combs asked about the likelihood of getting a 1/8 percent sale tax that would sunset in 10 years passed by voters.

Bob Schantz stated that he had concerns that the people in Branson feel like they are “taxed to death” and that it may be difficult to their backing on something like this.

Commissioner Pennel asked each entity what would be priority project with the money they received. The White River Historical Society talked about a museum, the IDA spoke of affordable housing in the county, the Park Board spoke of Fairgrounds with facilities, and one full time law enforcement deputy for each of the 8 communities in the county.

Lonnie Combs stated that he would like to see a 1/8 of a percent sales tax to sunset in 10 years and to be split equally among the entities.

Commissioner Herschend suggested that one representative from each of the groups represented get together for a work session and put together a budget plan.

Minutes taken by: Melanie Whitaker and typed by: Gloria Severson