

# RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

August 9, 2007

The Honorable Commission convened at the Huntsville Courthouse with the following present: Susan Carter, Presiding Commissioner, Doug Galaske, Eastern District Commissioner, Randy Asbury, Western District Commissioner and Nancy Copenhaver, Deputy Clerk.

**9:45 a.m.**, Com. Carter called the meeting to order. Com. Carter moved, Com. Asbury seconded approval of the agenda; motion carried (3-0). Com. Asbury reported a call from Steve Young who requested that the asphalt/gravel section of Highway D and CR 2210 be repaired. Com. Galaske noted that two cutbacks made when the Road and Bridge tax was not extended were: (1) ending such maintenance that is the responsibility of the state and (2) maintaining school bus turnarounds. Com. Asbury will call Dennis Brucks at MoDOT. Correspondence received included an offer of a free estimate on waterproofing from T&J Restoration. Notice was received from Attorney Jackie Barrow regarding the hearing on the Aubrey Bradley/pipeline suit. The communication requested from Steve Smith of Williams Keepers concerning audits was received, indicating that . . . "in my opinion, based on my reading of Circular A-133 and my experience in conducting Single Audits, if the federal grants of the Health Department have been awarded to the Health Department and not to the County, the County would not need to include the amount of the Health Department's federal expenditures, as federal expenditures are defined by Circular No. A-133, when assessing the County's need to have a Single Audit performed."

NEMO Electric sent an estimate for work at the Moberly Courthouse (\$625) but can't do the work until Heddinghaus has completed work. Lynda Davis from the Prosecuting Attorney's office sent an e-mail concerning disposal of electronic equipment. The Road and Bridge Department will be asked to pick up the equipment. Commissioners will check to see if anything is usable. Com. Carter moved, Com. Asbury seconded approval of the Court Order of Erroneous Assessments of +\$3,481.62, +\$94.10, -\$781.96, and -\$63.20; motion carried (3-0). Commissioners signed official minutes of July 3, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, and 31. **10:05 a.m.**, Sheriff Mark Nichols and Chief Deputy Nevin Turner arrived for their quarterly budget review. Sheriff Nichols feels comfortable with the budget at this point except for the patrol car expense line item which has only 35% of the budget remaining. He attributes this to some repairs needed and rising fuel costs. Deputy Turner noted that the cars are getting older, with a fleet of 20, 2 in reserve, 14 have over 100,000 miles and of those, 9 have over 150,000 miles, making frequent repairs necessary. Mr. Nichols would like to trade when vehicles reach 75-80,000 miles, which would require about 5 purchases a year. Commissioners asked the Sheriff to prepare a written report on his present and future needs in his department. The Sheriff went to Jefferson City to look for vehicles and found a 2002 Highway Patrol car with hail damage for \$7,500 but he is not sure he has enough money in the Sheriff's fund to buy it. **10:45 a.m.**, Cairo Mayor Jerry Frans came in to continue the discussion concerning right of way violations of Prather's Salvage in Cairo. Sheriff Nichols and Deputy Turner were present for the discussion. Com. Carter reported she had contacted MoDOT and DNR about past actions but no one has gotten back to her. According to Sheriff Nichols, if cars are in the traveled portion of the road, they may be towed. If they are in the right of way, a 48-hour towing notice must be attached, but the sheriff says he does not have sufficient personnel to make that a priority. Discussion continued on other options. **11:35 a.m.**, Rick Howard came in for his maintenance report. Commissioners gave him permission to purchase a cheap electric weed eater for inmate use. Mr. Howard reported that ABC Electric is to send a cost estimate for a light fixture for the front and side doors of the Justice Center. Also discussed were the water test of the Justice center to determine where the leaks are occurring, and possible solution to the noisy lights in the courtroom. Mr. Howard will meet with the Commissioners at the Moberly Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday.

**11:55 a.m.**, the meeting recessed for lunch.

**12:05 p.m.**, the meeting reconvened. Commissioners called J. W. Ballinger for some background information on a previous temporary re-location of some County offices and an earlier building study conducted by the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee. Mr. Ballinger told them where to find the study and suggested contacting Joe Snodgrass and/or Bob Riley. Eve Bagby, Deputy County Clerk, brought in some information about expenditures from the emergency fund in 2006-07 on the Huntsville Courthouse repairs. **12:15 p.m.**, Com. Carter moved, Com. Asbury seconded approval of invoices presented for the August 7 election; motion carried (3-0) and checks were signed. Bill Dougherty delivers specifications for the purchase of a cinder spreader and Commissioners gave it to Clerk Jim Sears to advertise for bids. **12:30 p.m.**, Assessor Richard Tregnago came in for his budget review. He has one full-time employee who may retire later in the year and he hopes to utilize part-time employees to replace that position. He is always looking for part-time employees, since many of the jobs in his office are seasonal. Mr. Tregnago thinks employees should be paid more due to their responsibility, especially field people. He feels that criteria for satisfactory job performance should be established and determine the pay accordingly. He noted that his is on a calendar year budget and should have \$125,000 left in the assessment fund at the end of December. His web site page is up and running, about 95% done. His anticipated needs would include buying a new server for the office (his is 6 years old) and using the older one to run the web site, at an estimated cost of about \$2,000. Titian Consulting indicated they could do the change over on a weekend for minimum down time. The cost would be \$1,800 without tape backup drive. Mr. Tregnago suggests changing out his 5-6 year old PC's during August-September, when he can afford the down time. He also anticipates one-half dozen more houses added to the tax base. He reported doing research and he has no statutory requirement as to where his office is located and his current space is approximately 30 ft. by 40 ft. About \$85,000 (one-fourth) of the Assessor's budget may be impacted in future years if the legislature makes a change in the state reimbursement to his Assessor's fund. Mr. Tregnago also said he would like to be able to reward part-time employees with some benefits, such as prorated vacation and sick leave. **1:20 p.m.**, Com. Carter called Winkler Communications in Kirksville concerning estimates for updating the Moberly Courthouse phone system. Commissioners spoke with Bill Dougherty. He, Charlie Gillispie, and Rick Howard will meet Commissioners at the Moberly Courthouse Tuesday morning to discuss renovations. Treasurer Becky Brown stopped in to answer a question posed earlier, whether insurance money for repaired patrol cars was replaced in the Sheriff's fund—it did—and Com. Carter called Sheriff Nichols to inform him. **1:40 p.m.**, Tim Winkler with Winkler Communications returned the call. He will send a representative to the Moberly Courthouse on Tuesday. Com. Carter called Lynda Davis at the Prosecuting Attorney's office to let her know that Road and Bridge would be by to pick up the computer equipment. Mrs. Davis informed Commissioners that Dan Larimer had cleaned all information off the hard drives. Com. Asbury called Dennis Brucks at MoDOT and left a message about the Steve Young complaint. **1:55 p.m.**, Bill Dougherty came in to observe. Recorder Mark Price, Treasurer Becky Brown, County Clerk Jim Sears came in for a budget review. Space needs and utilization and condition of the Huntsville Courthouse were also a topic. After a lengthy discussion, Com. Asbury inquired as to which priority was more important: operations or facilities and most agreed that operations should have priority. **2:55 p.m.**, Mr. Sears left and Treasurer Brown noted her budget was tight and she had no additional requests for the future. **3:45 p.m.**, the meeting adjourned with no contact by the media for the news conference.

APPROVED

*Susan Carter*  
*Doug Galaske*  
*Randy Asbury*  
*Nancy Copenhaver*