

THE APRIL TERM HELD ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2014

The County Commission convened at 9:05 a.m., pursuant to adjournment on April 1, 2014. Present: Dan Colbert-Presiding Commissioner, Eugene Galloway- Associate Commissioner District 1, Matt Bass-Associate Commissioner District 2, Crystal Hall, County Clerk, the following proceedings were held:

Invocation given by Commissioner Bass.

**Highway Department:** Bruce Wallace & Don Lilley

- General maintenance issues were discussed.
- Discussed the continued issues with the fuel pumps. A representative from Neumeier has been contacted with a list of all issues to resolve.
- The road graders will be able to fix a majority of wash out spots, which were created by heavy rains and flash flooding, while performing routine road grading. Wallace reported that several motorists drove through road barricades, resulting in several rescues by the Lincoln County Fire Protection District.
- Grading is being completed for the salt structure site at the Highway Shed.
- The Commission asked that road and bridge crews haul off tree debris from the Courtyard. Ameren's contractor cut the tops of the tree away from the power lines, but the remaining portion needs to be removed and hauled off.
- The new Case IH tractor is ready for delivery from Ennis Implement.
- Discussed a complaint regarding a washed out spot on Aubuchon Road.
- Discussed placing overlay on St. Alphonsus Road Bridge to tie in asphalt to the bridge deck.

**Maintenance Staff:** Sam Clary

- General maintenance issues and work orders were discussed.
- Back flow tests for the jail did not pass the City of Troy inspection. Sheriff Cottle is getting repair estimates to correct the issue.
- During heavy rains last week, the Courthouse roof suffered a leak on the copper portion of the roof. Some ceiling tiles will need to be replaced.

**Kevin Bishop, Assessor**

- Kevin Bishop is joining forces with 19 other County Assessors throughout the state regarding the current State Tax Commission Appeal with Ameren UE on its natural gas distribution system values. The Assessors met on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> in St Charles County and with other Assessors in a video meeting at Boone County concerning this appeal. The Assessors have started the process of hiring expert legal counsel and appraisal services to fight this pending battle with Ameren UE. Bishop stated that this looks to be a long drawn out and costly affair. Bishop says there is quite a difference in values from the County's standpoint compared to Ameren – hence the appeal and also the possibility of lost revenue should Ameren prevail. The Assessors' contention in this matter is that Ameren has not been forthright in reporting the true original costs on both real and personal properties and has depreciated those costs prior to an additional depreciation they want applied as well. The Assessors have retained Dick Reed, legal counsel and George Sansoucy, Appraiser. The cost for legal and appraiser services has been estimated between \$500,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 for all the counties combined, should it go to trial. Bishop estimates Lincoln County's share to be about \$85,000.00. Bishop stated he would possibly be asking for help from general revenue to pay legal fees. Bishop has reached out to all the local schools as well to see if they could contribute to the legal fees, as they stand to lose the most.
- Bishop revisited the possibility of lowering the mileage rate that his office pays for a County vehicle. Currently, the Assessor's office pays 0.75 per mile.

**George Gundy, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**

- Notice of hearing has been scheduled for Judge's docket for beginning of May for a driveway violation injunction.
- Gundy will contact Shannon Creighton, Gillmore & Bell regarding Neighborhood Improvement District legislation clarification.
- Gundy is drafting 911 dispatch service contracts.

- Commissioner Bass made a motion to go into closed session to discuss legal matters. Commissioner Galloway second. A roll call vote was taken, all ayes to enter closed session. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Galloway made a motion to leave closed session. Commissioner Bass second. A roll call vote was taken, all ayes to leave closed session.

**Unfinished/New Business**

- The Commission held a meeting in the Courtroom concerning the current structure of the 911 Advisory Board and the potential of adding a user element to the board. Fourteen people attended the meeting and gave the Commission input from various entities throughout the County which use the 911 Center for dispatching. Current members of the Advisory board were present and voiced their concerns regarding changing the structure of the current board. The Commission stated they would take the concerns of all parties into account before any decisions are made.

There being no other business before the County Commission at this time, the meeting thereupon was adjourned until Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

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Crystal M. Hall  
County Clerk

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Daniel H. Colbert  
Presiding Commissioner

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EuGene Galloway  
Associate Commissioner District I

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Matt Bass  
Associate Commissioner District II