

**ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2013**  
**2ND DAY JULY REGULAR**

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on August 6, 2013 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. All Commissioners were present.

The Commission informed Sandra Collop, Adair County Clerk, of the discussion they had with Circuit Judge, Russell Steele, this morning. The morning began with Adair County Circuit Clerk employees, Susie Gall and Martha Cole, addressing the Commission. Mrs. Gall stated that she had been told by Matt Holt, Court Services Administrator of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit, to move downstairs to an area on the bottom floor of the Courthouse where she would now be required to work. She felt that the conditions of the area were not suitable for a working space. The Commission accompanied Mrs. Gall to the new work area and observed spider webs and spiders crawling out of what would be her desk drawer as well what appeared to be mold underneath the desk chair. The air conditioning was not working as the breakers were not able to sustain the additional power load of the unit; the electrical wiring appeared to be unsafe; there was no ventilation; there was a musty odor; and the dehumidifier and computer were not working due to the electrical conditions within the area. The Commission asked Mrs. Gall not be in the office until it was made habitable. As a result, Mrs. Gall returned to the third floor to resume her work.

The Commission contacted Jim LeBaron, Director of the Adair County Health Department, to come to the Courthouse to observe the conditions of the office area assigned to Mrs. Gall. Mr. LeBaron stated that the Health Department did not have authority over the Courthouse. Also, the situation did not involve food or sanitation issues. He suggested that the Commission obtain a professional opinion on the habitability of the area where she will be working. The Commission has scheduled a professional to inspect the area at the beginning of next week.

The Commission then went upstairs to discuss the situation with Judge Steele and Matt Holt. Judge Steele stated he did not appreciate the Commission coming upstairs and telling him how to deal with his internal issues. He felt they were undermining his authority. He told Matt Holt to call Jackson electric to check on the wiring due to the air conditioner not working and to move the files that were in that area.

The Commission along with Mrs. Gall, Mrs. Cole, and Linda Gentry came back down to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Commissioner's suite to discuss what had taken place with Judge Steele. Then, Judge Steele appeared in the Commissioner's office and told the girls that they had a job to do and they needed to go upstairs. Mrs. Gall told Judge Steele that they were having a private meeting. Judge Steele along with Commissioner Adams stated that meetings in the Commission office were always open unless they had moved to go into closed session. Mrs. Gall stated that the meeting wasn't over yet and all three ladies left the office. Commissioner Adams then told Judge Steele that he hadn't told Mrs. Gall, Mrs. Cole, and Mrs. Gentry anything more than he had told Judge Steele.

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ATTEST:

*Sandra Collop*  
per *Gonca Harden* Chief Deputy  
County Clerk  
*Stanley Rubin*  
Presiding Commissioner