

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020
10TH DAY JULY ADJOURNED

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on August 24, 2020 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. All Commissioners were present.

At 10:00 a.m., the County Commission conducted the 2020 tax levy hearing for the General Revenue Fund and the Road and Bridge Fund. No one from the public attended the hearing.

Commissioner Thompson moved to set the 2020 General Revenue Fund tax levy at the State allowed rate of 0.0944 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Commissioner King seconded the motion. Presiding Commissioner Pickens concurred. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Thompson then moved to set the 2020 Road and Bridge Fund tax levy at the State allowed rate of 0.2755 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Commissioner King seconded the motion. Presiding Commissioner Pickens concurred. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion. The tax levy hearing concluded.

1:35pm

Meeting with Jon Cook Kirksville Fire Department

In Attendance:

Chief Jon Cook, Kirksville Fire Department

Presiding Commissioner Mark Shahan

1st District Commissioner Bill King

2nd District Commissioner Mark Thompson

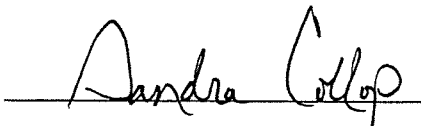
Meeting recorder Heather Kelley

Jon Cook, Kirksville Fire Department (KFD) Chief wanted to talk to the Commission about CARES Act Funding. Chief Cook said he has been working with Adair County Ambulance District (ACAD) and the Health Department on projections of community needs for Fall 2020 in response to the Covid virus. Mr. Cook stated that preparedness is important and understands that asking for money for things that may or may not happen is difficult. Mr. Cook also understands that the CARES Act funding received by the County is done by reimbursement only but asks the Commission to consider earmarking money for KFD, ACAD, and the Health Department in case they need it this Fall. Mr. Cook said that they could start ordering Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and get reimbursed now but the labor it may take to respond to a 2nd wave this Fall is unknown. Such as the wages it may take to support vaccine distribution. Currently during a flu clinic, KFD assisted in giving around 1,000 flu vaccines over a 6-hour period. If a Covid vaccine was available, consider how long would it take to give the vaccine to 25,000 County residents.

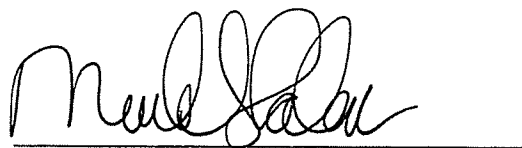
Mr. Cook would like to get away from individual governmental agency focus and look more at a community focus. For example, Family Support and other agencies are just now looking to buy PPE and we could help with their requests.

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Presiding Commissioner, Mark Shahan

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Mr. Cook stated that so far, the Health Department has caught up with testing, but that testing could become huge. There is just a lot of unknowns.

Commissioner Shahan asked where the testing machines in Adair County are located. Mr. Cook stated that the first machine went to the Hospital because they have their lab open 24 hours/7 days a week. The 2nd machine went to Truman State University and 3rd machine went to Complete Family medicine. The Health Department does not have a machine. Mr. Cook said that Adair County is getting around 300 test kits per week. The tests kits Adair County are receiving are provided by the State and there are no kits available on the open market. Adair County cannot get more kits and must rely on what is provided. Mr. Cook stated that Adair County gets some people from other counties for testing but not a lot. Mr. Cook does not believe Adair County will exceed its capacity to test if things stay the same. Mr. Cook stated that Adair County has numerous machines that can test viruses but that machines must be calibrated to test specifically for the Covid virus and be able to accept the Covid testing cartridge.

Mr. Cook said if people have symptoms two tests are done. 1) local test and 2) sent to a lab.

Mr. Cook stated that testing reliability is dependent on the collection and handling of the swab kit. Mr. Cook said that sometimes the samples taken are of poor quality and the kits must be tested within two hours or be refrigerated and these are the issues causing the tests to be unreliable. Mr. Cook stated that there have been around 6,000 people tested with a little over 200 testing positive so it is about a 3-4% positivity rate. A question was asked about the Red Cross testing for Covid at blood drives. Mr. Cook stated that the Red Cross is testing for Covid antibodies at blood drives and then asking those with the antibodies to donate plasma.

Mr. Cook said that he would like to also reserve CARES funding for quarantine costs. Quarantine costs would include quarantine of unsheltered people and for first responders that are not able to quarantine at home. Mr. Cook said that some of the items he has earmarked have been requested by the Health Department already like the UV disinfectant lamp. Mr. Cook said that community agencies can use the lamps as well.

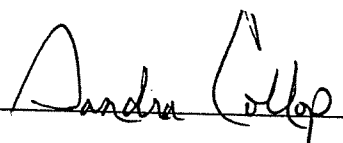
Mr. Cook is asking for approximately 10%-11% of the total CARES allocation to be set aside until December 15, 2020 for these potential expenses.

Commissioner Thompson said that the Missouri County Commissioner's Association is working to expand the timeframe for agencies to request the CARES money. Commissioner Thompson also stated that it is the County's intent to expend all the money locally and not return any back to the state.

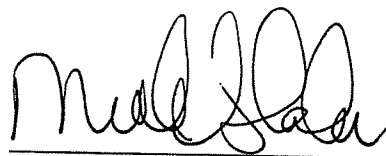
Commissioner Shahan stated that the County will be going through the Federal Emergency management Agency (FEMA) for any Covid related expenses to save the CARES funding for local agencies and businesses. Mr. Cook said that the Fire Department is still waiting on FEMA funding from last year. Mr. Cook stated that do not want to take all of it but just want to hold it back until December 15, 2020. Mr. Cook also said the list he provided was not all inclusive and he was sure that the Health Department and City will have more requests for money.

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Commissioner Shahan stated that the County does not want to see organizations stockpiling/hoarding supplies and creating a shortage. Mr. Cook said that the intent was not to stockpile and create a shortage but to be prepared. Mr. Cook stated that management of the supplies is key, and he suggests that Kirksville Fire Department manage the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies and the Health Department manage the testing and vaccination supplies. The quarantining of staff would be handled by the individual agencies while the homeless individuals could be managed by the Kirksville Police Department.

Mr. Cook just would like some assurances that the money is going to be there towards the end of the year. Commissioner King stated that they may have a vaccine in January, so the Commission understands the need for funding later than December 31, 2020. Commissioner Thompson said that he does not want to hurt people that have purchased items and cannot get reimbursed because the Commission has saved money back for the Kirksville Fire Department.

Commissioner King stated that the money is not being requested as quickly as they thought it would be. Mr. Cook reiterated that he hoped the Commission would reserve funding for the organizations responding directly to the Covid crisis. The Commission will consider Mr. Cook's request.

Meeting adjourned 2.25pm

Meeting with Carolyn Chrisman Kirksville Regional Economic Development, Incorporated (K-REDI)

In Attendance:

Carolyn Chrisman, K-REDI

Presiding Commissioner Mark Shahan

1st District Commissioner Bill King

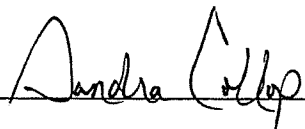
2nd District Commissioner Mark Thompson

Meeting recorder Heather Kelley

Carolyn Chrisman, Executive Director of K-REDI, convened with the Commission to discuss the upcoming Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) Board meeting and to discuss appointing new EEZ board members. These appointed members would be taxing district representatives on the EEZ board. Ms. Chrisman said that Adam Dorrell, Larry Burton, and Pat Williams were nominated to be appointed as board members. Commissioner Thompson stated that he was unaware that Pat Williams was considered for the EEZ board and he was opposed to him serving on the board. Commissioner Shahan said he was not opposed to having Pat Williams serve on the EEZ Board. Commissioner King asked Commissioner Thompson who he suggests serving on the EEZ Board. Commissioner Thompson asked if Tricia Reger could serve on the board. Ms. Chrisman said that you should not have someone currently tied directly to the public schools on the board. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Thompson stated that they could go ahead and vote on the EEZ board appointments as it only takes two commissioners that are in favor to approve a motion.

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Carolyn Chrisman announced the EEZ Board nominations for the Commission's vote.

Motion to approve Pat Williams to the EEZ Board

Commissioner King- Yes

Commissioner Thompson- No

Commissioner Shahan (Tie Breaking Vote)- Yes

Motion Approve.

Motion to approve Larry Burton to the EEZ Board

Commissioner King- Yes

Commissioner Thompson- Yes

Motion Approve.

Motion to approve Adam Dorrell as a member-at-large to the EEZ Board

Commissioner King- Yes

Commissioner Thompson- Yes

Motion Approve.

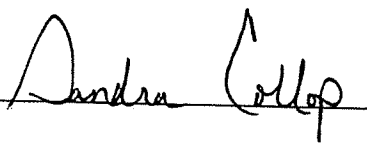
Ms. Chrisman asked if Commissioner Shahan was still willing to be the Governing Authority for the EEZ Board. Commissioner Shahan stated "yes" he would still be the Governing Authority.

A discussion was held regarding the windfarms going off the EEZ. Ms. Chrisman wanted to make sure the Commission understood that the windfarms will still get a 60% tax abatement and that the windfarms will never be assessed at 100%. The Commission stated that they understand the 60% tax abatement but that the EEZ would be an additional 40% off the already 60% tax abatement. It was mentioned that the Mayor of Novinger was very apprehensive about ending the EEZ because he felt that the next windfarm project scheduled to be done in western Adair County would not happen in our County if the windfarm company did not receive a tax break.

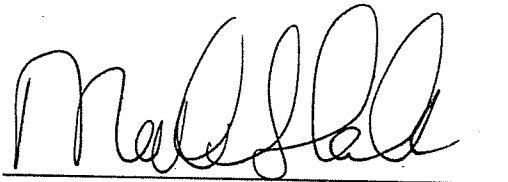
Commissioner Shahan said that he felt OK in removing the windfarm EEZ in Adair County. Commissioner Shahan stated anything that generates power is not even assessed such as the blades and generators. Only the tower base and lines can be valued. Commissioner Shahan said that solar farms are even worse. The materials generate power, so basically the only thing assessed is the substation and the lines. Commissioner Thompson said that these windfarm companies also receive tax rebates, and you need to think about the property depreciation associated with windmills on property.

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Ms. Chrisman stated that Knox County is looking to implement an EEZ to make them appealing to windfarm companies. She said that having an EEZ could be a deciding factor in how many wind turbines go in western Adair County and that more windmills may go to Putnam and Sullivan Counties. Ms. Chrisman stated that the EEZ was initially set up to make Adair County look good to windfarms.

Commissioner King said that if a windmill is worth 1 million dollars and the EEZ is 40% that is \$400,000. But then there is 60% abatement that leaves an assessed value of only \$160,000 which is not much of anything. Commission Thompson stated that Schuyler County, especially the school, would not be getting anything close to the amount of money they had originally thought they would because of the abatement. Ms. Chrisman said that in her opinion Ameren has been always very conservative with their numbers and that the projected revenue numbers they provided were probably conservative.

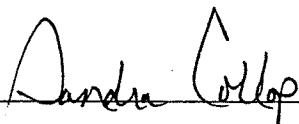
Meeting adjourned 2:45pm

The Adair County Commission adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on August 24, 2020.

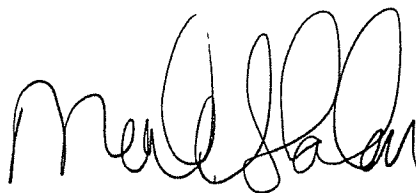
Unscheduled Public Walk-Ins and other Non-Agenda Items for Monday, August 24, 2020:

None

ATTEST:



County Clerk



Presiding Commissioner, Mark Shahan