

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019
5TH DAY OCTOBER REGULAR

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on October 9, 2019 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. All Commissioners were present.

At 8:30 a.m., employees of the Road and Bridge Department came to address the Commission. Those attending were Lonnie Harris, Ty Moran, Tyler Summers, Bob McCarty, Rusty Harris, and Billy Scott.

Discussion ensued. The employees asked where they stood with the Commission. They expressed admiration for Isaiah Curtis, Road and Bridge Supervisor, and wanted them to know that they were behind him. He was a good boss and was respected by the people who were attending today. They felt that other employees were working against Isaiah and did not have the best interest of the Road and Bridge Department in mind. They felt some of the employees needed to be let go as they undermined Isaiah's operation and/or spied on the employees.

Commissioner Thompson said those were issues that needed to be addressed. He wanted to go on record that he thinks Diana Thomas-Couch was a back stabber to the employees as well as himself. He thought she should no longer work at the Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Shahan said the Commission was taking care of the situation. He thanked everyone for coming to the office to express their concerns.

The Commission received notification from the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) that the Federal Emergency management Agency (FEMA) had officially closed the file for Adair County Disaster FEMA-4238-DR-MO.

At 9:00 a.m., the Commission met with Carolyn Chrisman, and Shaun Bonnell, K-REDI President. Mrs. Chrisman asked why a change had been made to Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ). She has been having conversations with Nextera and a solar company and was not aware of the changes.

Commissioner Shahan stated that things were good now and it was no longer needed.

Commissioner King said the previous EEZ provided tax abatements to wind farms for 20 years. The County would never benefit from them as the life expectancy of the wind farm is approximately 20 years.

They would have been OK with it for a less period of time, like ten years. Plus, required 60% tax abatement. Solar doesn't pay taxes. He thought 60% was too much. He even called the State.

Mrs. Chrisman asked about Schuyler County's EEZ.

Commissioner King stated that we want to keep taxes locally.

Commissioner Thompson commented that they receive Federal tax credits.

Mr. Bonnell felt that it should still be an incentive. What if three projects didn't come to the County. What would be better?

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Commissioner King stated that Terra Gen always planned to sell the wind farm. It won't affect anything.

Mrs. Chrisman said the tax credits leave in 2022 or 2023. This may be the only one they see. Nextera is looking at locating in Sullivan, Putnam, and part of Adair County. Again, she said her fear was this maybe the only one we might get.

Commissioner King thought the savings was nothing.

Mrs. Chrisman then mentioned the solar farm that is expected to be built in Green City. She will check with the Department of Economic Development to double check.

Mr. Bonnell wanted to make sure they're all on the same page.

Mrs. Chrisman asked if they could negotiate or suggest payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT).

Commissioner King said the 60% - 20 years only pertained to wind farms.

Mrs. Chrisman was concerned about the megatronics and the community development block grant (CDBG) grant. Will it affect our studies or will some stop. Glen Smith was shocked.

Commissioner King said that all along Ameren was going to purchase the wind farm.

Mrs. Chrisman said perhaps they would not be opposed to less time and less percentage. Stated they could go bankrupt at any time. Ameren is public regulated for the longevity of the project.

Commissioner King said he didn't like being told untruths.

Mrs. Chrisman wants to double check with other Counties if this was kosher or not. She asked again about PILOTS.

Commissioner King said "No", we go by statute. We want local control over these things.

Mrs. Chrisman mentioned a wind farm task force in regards to tax assessment and a committee for a wind study group. She told the Commission she appreciated their time.

The meeting ended at 9:25 a.m.


At 10:00 a.m., the Commission attended the Crisis Track Presentation at the Adair County Annex.

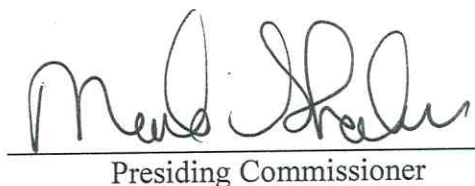
At 1:25 p.m., the Commission met with Adair County Road and Bridge Supervisor, Isaiah Curtis. The Commission chose not to be in closed session.

Commissioner King stated that the investigation for the Road and Bridge Department had closed. Mr. Curtis asked when findings of his grievance would be addressed. He had filed it yesterday. Commissioner King said it needed to be an official grievance.

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Mr. Curtis stated he was in charge of hiring and firing of employees and wanted to know what "salary exempt" meant. Commissioner Shahan said he did not want to be told the rules were and not to discuss things in front of everybody else.

Mr. Curtis asked if he was on probation or not. Commissioner Shahan stated there would be guidelines and they would let him know. Commissioner Thompson said his status was to be determined. Mr. Curtis said his probation was under a pretense that he didn't know anything about.

Commissioner Shahan said they needed to talk among themselves. Commissioner Thompson said Mr. Curtis had a right to know. Commissioner Shahan said when we get where others are not around, we will discuss that. I am not responding to any of his questions.

Mr. Curtis said he wanted answers by 7:00 a.m. on Friday. Commissioner Shahan said he was not following procedures. Commissioner King agreed. Mr. Curtis stated that the Commission could not run the Road and Bridge Department. It was a conflict of interest. A letter was then given to Mr. Curtis.

He was told that his grievance needed to be reported to Heather and needed to be in writing.

Mr. Curtis stated that if he were in charge of Road and Bridge, he had the right to fire Diana. Commissioner Shahan asked if he was going to fire her. Mr. Curtis said "Yes, that's what I talked about three weeks ago."

Mr. Curtis asked how everyone found out he was going to be on leave. Commissioner King said he didn't see anyone beforehand. Commissioner Thompson also said he didn't see anyone beforehand. Mr. Curtis asked the Commission if they told the employees being interviewed that it was in confidence. Commissioner King and Commissioner Shahan both said they had told them it was in confidence. Mr. Curtis said there was info out there. Commissioner Shahan said they never talked to Diana about things going on. Heard she was going to bring something up to the Courthouse. We did visit amongst ourselves about what to do if it was bad.

Commissioner Thompson said we need to investigate. Commissioner Shahan wanted to know if everything was good there before.

Mr. Curtis said that people at the gun shop know. Wanted to know where there was a clearance for his stealing.

Commissioner King said they were not going beyond the policies of the book. Mr. Curtis asked Commissioner King and Commissioner Shahan why they brought in something to the Road and Bridge for him to re-load. Commissioner Shahan asked why he was doing this. Commissioner King said that was in 2014 or 2105 and he did not bring it in the building.

Mr. Curtis asked if it was illegal then. Commissioner King said in 2014 there were three people. He added, we're not firing you. We're trying to stop all of this.

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Mr. Curtis asked if there was a personal vendetta against me. Commissioner King said he didn't know. Commissioner Thompson stated he had seen a lot of vendettas out there. Commissioner Shahan said they needed to be clear on that. Mr. Curtis said there was a personal issue against him. Diana was going thru County payroll recording information off of the employees. Commissioner King said he did not remember that and won't lie to him. Mr. Curtis told Commissioner King he would not lie to him. He also asked why there was protection against Diana. Commissioner King said they were trying to protect everyone. It is what it is and need to get it straightened out.

Mr. Curtis said he wanted it straightened out now. If Diana comes back through our door, good help will be gone in two to three weeks. Commissioner Shahan said he was over reacting.

Commissioner King told Mr. Curtis that one half of the employees from Road and Bridge had come up to the office today in his defense. Nothing was said about Diana, just him. Mr. Curtis said he did not know that. Mr. Curtis told Commissioner Shahan that Diana said he was putting the squeeze on me. Commissioner Shahan told her he was going to put a list together. Commissioner King said they had been working on it. Commissioner Shahan said he wanted to finish the list. Then asked if they should do what the other Commission had done – "not a damn thing." Commissioner Thompson said "thank you – you made your point."

Mr. Curtis asked what he was going to do with his good operators gone. One for sure, then 2-3 will also be gone. We need more operators, not less.

Commissioner King said they could leave on their own. They weren't going to beg them. Mr. Curtis said he was putting out realistic stuff and this stuff is falling on deaf ears. Commissioner King said that things have happened and he would leave it at that. Mr. Curtis asked what it was. Commissioner King said it had nothing to do with Road and Bridge, but with the Elected Officials.

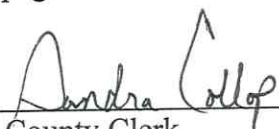

Commissioner Thompson said he felt comfortable having Mr. Curtis exercise his right to do what he thought was needed. Mr. Curtis said he had even given up his son to come into work. Commissioner King stated they knew his work ethic was not an issue. As far as salary exempt, they had to look into that. Commissioner Thompson stated he had been hired at that. Commissioner King said they didn't know the ins and outs of salary exempt.

Commissioner Thompson asked Mr. Curtis if he had any questions about returning to work on Friday. Mr. Curtis said it would not be a problem. He would be there. A lot of bullshit would have stopped if he had come to work on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. Mr. Curtis said he was not a lawyer. Commissioner King said he wasn't either. Mr. Curtis wanted to have been represented by a lawyer. He said he was going to move his chair over to Heather's desk to issue a formal grievance.

Commissioner Shahan told Mr. Thompson he would refer everyone to him from now on. He was done with Road and Bridge. Commissioner Thompson commented there was a lack of respect.

At 3:30 p.m., the Commission met with members of 4-H. Attending were Alexandria Creason, Grace Born, Carsten Reinbach, Taryn Morgenstern, Jaxon Love, Annalee Simpson, Kameron McGinnis, Justin Schutter, Mechelia Potter, and Jennifer Schutter, 4-H parent.

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The Commission signed a Proclamation to recognize October 6-12, 2019 as NATIONAL 4-H WEEK throughout Adair County, Missouri and encourage all of the citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact they have made and continue to make by empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime.

At 3:55 p.m., the Adair County Commission adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting be continued in emergency closed session, with closed records and closed votes as permitted by law, for consideration of the following items as authorized by section 610.021.1 of the Missouri statutes:

Discussion under Subsection 1 of the statute for "Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys. However, any minutes, vote or settlement agreement relating to legal actions, causes of actions or litigation involving a public governmental body or" ... and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any business not covered by the stated reason or reasons for the closed session is raised during the closed session, that such business will be postponed until this meeting is reopened to the public and the sign for a closed meeting is removed from the doors of the Commission office. Present at the meeting were Presiding Commissioner Shahan; Commissioner Thompson; Commissioner King; Ivan Schraeder, Schraeder Law Firm (telephonically); and Adair County Clerk, Sandra Collop. So motioned by Commissioner King and seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Presiding Commissioner Shahan concurred. All voted in favor of the motion at 3:55 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2019.

Closed session ended at 4:20 p.m.

The Adair County Commission adjourned at 4:20 p.m. on October 9, 2019.

The Adair County Courthouse will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2019 in observance of Columbus Day. The Adair County Commission will reconvene on Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

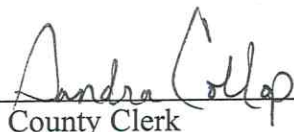
Unscheduled Public Walk-Ins and other Non-Agenda Items for Wednesday, October 9, 2019:

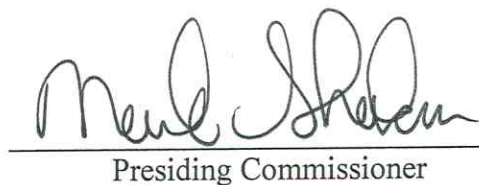
Isaiah Curtis – Talk with Commish

Jeff Scheel – Road

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IN REF. ORDER NO 10 Letter from SEMA officially closing Disaster FEMA-4238-DR-MO

Michael L. Pesot
Governor

Sandra K. Kertin
Director of Public Safety

STATE OF MISSOURI
STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: (573) 526-9234 Fax: (573) 526-9272
E-mail: mssema@sema.dps.mo.gov

October 2, 2019

RECEIVED
OCT 8 2019
ADAIR COUNTY CLERK

The Honorable Mark Thompson, Commissioner
Adair County
106 W. Washington Street
Lancaster, MO 63548

RE: FEMA-4238-DR-MO
FIPS# 001-99001-00

Dear Commissioner Thompson:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that FEMA officially closed the file for Adair County an applicant in FEMA-4238-DR-MO.

A copy of the closure letter is attached (TAB A).

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 44, Section 206.206 (b) (1) states, in part, that "The Regional Director will consider first appeals for public assistance -- related decisions under sub-part A through L of this part." (Excerpt attached, Tab B). If you choose to appeal this determination, you must submit your written appeal to the State Emergency Management Agency within (60) days after receipt of this notification. We will review your appeal, make our recommendation, and forward the appeal to FEMA for review and a final determination.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (573) 526-9114.

Sincerely,
Alan J. Peninger
Alan J. Peninger
Disaster Section Manager
Recovery Division

AJP: lhc
Attachments: as stated

EMSA
Missouri
A Statewide
Emergency
Agency

IN REF. ORDER NO 11 Proclamation for National 4-H Week October 6 -12, 2019

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION
ADAIR COUNTY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, supporting nearly six million youth across the country; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has helped youth in Adair County, Missouri to become confident, independent, resilient and compassionate leaders; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is delivered by Cooperative Extension -- a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people learn-by-doing through hands-on projects in the important areas of health, science, agriculture and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, National 4-H Week showcases the incredible ways that 4-H inspires kids to do and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Adair County, Missouri who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them; and

WHEREAS, 4-H's network of nearly 500,000 volunteers and 3,500 professionals provides caring and supportive mentoring to all 4-H'ers, helping them to grow into true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, Mark Shahan, William King, and Mark Thompson, Commissioners of Adair County, Missouri do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2019 as NATIONAL 4-H WEEK throughout Adair County, Missouri and encourage all of our citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact they have made and continue to make by empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime.

Mark Shahan
Mark Shahan
Presiding Commissioner

William King
William King
1st District Commissioner

Mark Thompson
Mark Thompson
2nd District Commissioner

NATIONAL
4-H WEEK
OCTOBER 6-12, 2019

ATTEST:

Sandra Collop
County Clerk

Mark Shahan
Presiding Commissioner
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