

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018
9TH DAY JANUARY REGULAR

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on January 23, 2018 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. Commissioner King and Commissioner Thompson were present. Presiding Commissioner Pickens was absent.

At 9:30 a.m., the Commission met with representatives of Nextera Energy Resources. Representatives included Jamie Gentile, Danell Herzig, and Danny Sheffler. They wanted to introduce themselves to the Commission. Mr. Herzig stated that Nextera had an interest in this area and wanted to approach the County first in order to be transparent. The company had identified a wind resource and was very interested in this area. They hoped that this would be the first of many times to meet and have discussions with the Commission.

Mr. Herzig said he has worked on projects in Missouri and Minnesota; and Nextera has contracts with other utilities in Missouri. They see customer demand in this area and their projects work well in agricultural communities.

The starting point would be to gather meteorological data for one year. This would be accomplished by constructing a 60 foot tower and using mobile equipment to gather data using sonar. They have recently built a wind farm in DeKalb County.

Discussion continued stating they have already completed FAA environmental studies to determine the ceiling height for the wind turbines. Tip height is 500 ft. from the ground. If they are much higher than this, it could interfere with radar or glide paths and give off false readings. They did not want to interfere with air space.

Next, they would assess customer interest in the area. When asked about diminishing land values, they said the Berkeley Study showed that values remained the same or increased. Nextera was looking at both sides of the issue and trying to promote renewables using math and science.

When they approached Clinton County, the community thought the tax revenues estimated from the project would not be there. As a result, they did not go forward with a wind project. They are estimating tax revenues for DeKalb County to be approximately 2.7 million dollars.

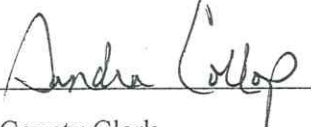

Nextera's main focus is wind. They do, however, have a solar project in process. Their need is to serve the public. They have 130 operating farms in the United States. They will be the owner and operator of the project for the life of the asset. They do not sell to foreign investors; they are not a "shell" company; and are ranked in the top fortune 200. They are the largest company you've never heard of and are exceptionally strong.

Nextera will be looking at the western corridor of Adair County in the same area that Trade Wind Energy had looked at in the past. They have already met with Putnam and Mercer Counties, and will be meeting with Sullivan County later today.

When asked about interference, they do have three or four wind farms in DeKalb County that have signal interferences. It is due more to movement than with speed of the turbine and are trying to solve the movement interference. It is a challenge they need to figure out.

The life of the wind turbine is 35 years. After that, it is refurbished which is re-powering the asset. The cost of each wind turbine is 2 million dollars.

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When asked about placement, the turbines are placed so they will not fall on someone's home. Also, be far enough away to deal with the noise and flicker factor.

When asked who else they should contact, the Commission suggested Kirksville Regional Economic Development Incorporated (KREDI). They said they stayed out of the city limits.

Commissioner Thompson discussed that possibility that cows will no longer cycle due to effects of the wind turbines. They have not seen any evidence and stated that 75% of the wind turbines are located on cattle ground across the country. Commissioner Thompson asked about the lactation process. They did not know, but encouraged him to read all the literature out there regarding the issue.

The Nextera representatives thanked the Commission for their time and will try to get back in touch with them in approximately one month.

At 10:40 a.m., the Elected Official's monthly meeting was held in the Commissioner's Suite of the Courthouse. Attending the meeting were Adair County 1st District Commissioner, Bill King; Adair County 2nd District Commissioner, Mark Thompson; Adair County Clerk, Sandra Collop; Adair County Recorder, Pat Shoush; Adair County Treasurer, Lori Smith; Adair County Circuit Clerk, Linda Decker; and Adair County Sheriff, Robert Hardwick. Those absent were Adair County Presiding Commissioner, Stanley Pickens; Adair County Prosecuting Attorney, Matt Wilson; Adair County Collector, Sonja Harden; Adair County Assessor, Donnie Waybill; Adair County Public Administrator, Rhonda Noe; and Adair County Coroner, Brian Noe.

Mrs. Smith discussed the possibility that someone had a certificate of deposit with the County's tax identification number. She reminded everyone that elected officials cannot engage in investments using County funds. The CD is held by Bank Midwest and was mailed to the Circuit Clerk's office. Commissioner King will contact Bank Midwest to determine who the CD belongs to.

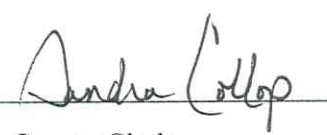
Mrs. Smith also stated that she has received tax revenues from the City of Kirksville from the Kraft Heinz expansion. However, the amount is not as much as indicated by the draft literature previously given to the County.

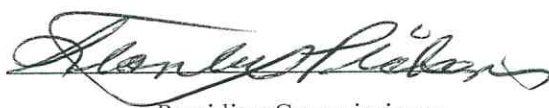
Mrs. Shoush had nothing to report.

Mrs. Decker has submitted \$100,000 in board bills to the State of Missouri for reimbursement. Renovation to the Division II courtroom will begin in the near future with area being reallocated for the Judge's bench. She announced that she will have an opponent in the 2018 election cycle. The opponent is an employee of the Juvenile Office. Mrs. Decker continues to wait for the last judgment from the September 19, 2017 Supreme Court hearing involving Judge Steele.

Sheriff Hardwick stated that Mrs. Decker's office does a great job submitting reimbursements to the State for board bills. The inmate population is currently down and he discussed the requirement for the County to pay for inmate medical conditions. Overall, women inmate population is high. New prisons may be built to compensate for this.

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Commissioner King stated that the Commission will be attending the County Commissioner's Annual Meeting (CCAM) in Columbia, Missouri, February 7-9, 2018.

Commissioner Thompson talked about how hard it was to work the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The County is back logged with repairing disasters. Recently, he attended a State board meeting that discussed the few bills that had actually passed the Missouri Senate. Over 5000 bills had been presented, but only 57 were passed. An obstructionist from St. Joseph, Senator Schaaf, was the problem.

Commissioner Thompson discussed SB611 that would place a cap on local taxes at 7.275%; maintenance of lettered roads being turned over to the Counties was no longer being considered; and the Salary Commission having the ability to increase the salary of the Presiding Commissioner and the Sheriff by 50%. The legislation includes that if opposed by the Salary Commission, the Circuit Judge will have the ability to override their decisions for the Sheriff, but not for the Presiding Commissioner.

Mrs. Smith asked about the mold problem in the storage unit at Road and Bridge. The Commission said there were air scrubbers in the building and it was better than it was.

Commissioner Thompson also spoke of legislation to pay full per diem for inmates; Ameren wanting a rate increase for customers before beginning a project; the gas tax raising from 17 cents to 27 cents; and the State trying to take local control away from Commissioners.

Commissioner Thompson also discussed the possibility of reinstating cell phone reimbursement to elected officials; meeting with Nextera Energy Resources for a possible wind farm in Adair County; and Ameren beginning to close coal fired plants.

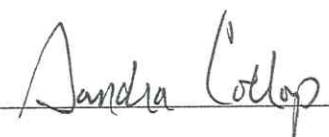
Mrs. Collop stated that the 2018 Public Hearing for the Adair County Budget will be held tomorrow from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's suite. Also, that each elected official to complete the 2017 Annual Report of Compensation Received by County Officials. It is due in the County Clerk's office on or before February 15, 2018.

The Adair County Commission adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on January 23, 2018

Unscheduled Public Walk-Ins and other Non-Agenda Items for Tuesday, January 23, 2018:

None

ATTEST:


County Clerk


Presiding Commissioner