

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014

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Mr. Schraeder said that if it was allowed in the past, it couldn't be changed before the Judicial Finance Committee review. If there was an audit note raised, that would help. Mrs. Patterson said there were no official findings yet.

Mr. Schraeder said as soon as possible they should set up a meeting to get answers so the commission will know what they want to challenge and whether they want to move forward.

Mrs. Patterson asked if Judge Steele was breaking any rules or laws due to the Circuit Clerk not being allowed to run her own office in Adair County. They are allowed in Lewis and Knox counties. Why are we paying the Court Administrator for services that the Circuit Clerk already does? She informed Mr. Schrader that on January 7th, Judge Westoff and Judge Swaim, acting as Court en banc, filed to overturn the ruling.

Mr. Schraeder informed the commission that they could take that fight, but until we knew what to fight we couldn't know how much was being saved compared to the expense.

Mr. Adams stated that they were looking at it long term to save money. If he revised his budget through negotiations, then they had saved money without additional fees.

Mr. Schrader said that Mr. Leonatti had stated they would like to handle it locally to resolve the issue.

Mr. Adams said they were going over the budgets with Associate Circuit Judge Swaim and Circuit Clerk Linda Decker and comparing them to the one presented by Mr. Holt. They wanted to see if it was padded or just hastily put together. He also wanted to know why it had been changed to where Adair County was housing them and everything was running through us. Can we give it back to them in which we only give them the maintenance of effort and they take care of themselves?

Mr. Schraeder said he thought it had to be county operated, but would check on it.

Presiding Commissioner Pickens said that Judge Steele had been hand delivered a sunshine request in regards to phone records and was given until today with no response. They had received information that Mr. Leonatti had blocked the request. Mr. Schrader said he would like to see the response.

Mr. Schraeder said that if they don't comply with a sunshine request, they could take them to court. If they win, then the other party would have to pay a fine. If they lost, then they would have to pay attorney fees for the other party.

Mr. Adams stated that they could contact the newspaper or TV and let the media know that their requests are not being met.

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ATTEST:


County Clerk


Presiding Commissioner