

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014
17TH DAY JANUARY ADJOURNED

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on March 17, 2014 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. All Commissioners were present.

The Commission discussed updates to the Road Maintenance Policy for 2014. Changes will be made and then reviewed.

Commissioner Adams moved to transfer \$181,250.00 from the Law Enforcement Services account (301-5-001-400.000) to the Law Enforcement General account (801-4-000-700.200). This amount will cover salaries and other expenses through the end of the second quarter of FY 2014. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion will all in favor.

At the request of Sheriff Hardwick, the Commission met with Associate Circuit Judge, Kristie Swaim; Linda Gentry of the Circuit Clerk's Office; Sheriff Hardwick and members of the Sheriff's Department which included John Axsom, Senior Detention Officer; Bill King, Operations Section Chief; and Deputy, Tracey Salsberry.

Mr. King explained that the Sheriff's Department was trying to reduce operating costs in the jail. He said board bills were being waived or reduced which could affect the time an offender would spend in jail. Mrs. Gentry stated that if Mr. King was referring to the Circuit level, those decisions were made by Judge Steele.

Mr. King stated that earlier the County had bondsmen who worked with a bond schedule. Sheriff Hardwick thought if we had a bond fee schedule offenders would not be sitting in jail racking up a big board bill.

Judge Swaim stated that she could only speak about her court. She arraigned people daily and as soon as possible. When she first took office, a cash only bond was implemented to try to stop a "two hour revolving door". In 2003, she put together a bond schedule to have a consistent basis and has shared this schedule with other counties.

Commissioner Thompson stated the cap on bond amounts is not set by the State of Missouri. The legislature determines the levels charged for bonds and a new bill was now up for consideration dealing with these levels.

The Law Restitution Fund was also discussed. Sheriff Hardwick stated the amount generated from this fund was decreasing. Mr. King said the County was having to take care of inmates longer. It was suggested that the Commission discuss this situation with other counties. Judge Swaim said there had been a meeting in years past regarding bonding requirements. In some cases there were no options other than the inmate to sit in jail as some do not have the means to pay. Some "bracelets" were also being used, but this wasn't always a viable option.

Mr. Axsom stated that the overall expenses of the jail needed to be cut. Out of 1038 inmates, the amount billed for housing fees (board bills) was \$522,000. Only \$191,000 was actually collected which is a 36% return. There was discussion that a repayment program needed to be set up for collecting board bills, but Sheriff Hardwick said the State of Missouri didn't want to keep track of the payments.

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ATTEST: *Dandra Collop* *Stanley Puckett*
County Clerk Presiding Commissioner