ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021 10TH DAY OCTOBER REGULAR

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on October 26, 2021, in the Courthouse at Kirksville. Commissioner Thompson and Commissioner King were present the entire day. Presiding Commissioner Shahan was present until 12:00 p.m.

At 10:30 a.m., the Elected Official's monthly meeting was held in the Adair County Annex to practice social distancing due to the coronavirus. Attending the meeting were Adair County Presiding Commissioner, Mark Shahan; Adair County 1st District Commissioner, Bill King; Adair County 2nd District Commissioner, Mark Thompson; Adair County Clerk, Sandra Collop; Adair County Treasurer, Lori Smith; Adair County Assessor, Kent Bryant; Adair County Public Administrator, Rhonda Noe; Adair County Circuit Clerk, Linda Decker; and Adair County Prosecuting Attorney, Matt Wilson. Absent were Adair County Collector, Sonja Harden; Adair County Sheriff, Eldon Grissom; Adair County Recorder, Pat Shoush; and Adair County Coroner, Brian Noe. Also present was Site Superintendent for CTS, Tim Shikles.

Mr. Shikles gave an update on the progress of the Courthouse renovation. He stated that heaters should arrive the third week of November and windows should arrive by the first week in December. The hardener used on the outside of the building is currently being applied as wind conditions permit. Piping within the building is being installed and will be insulated after the piping is complete. Mrs. Decker noted that the elevator is not working.

The Commission announced that the Courthouse will be closed to the public beginning November 1, 2021, except for the Division 3 Courtroom on the west side bottom floor. It will remain open until Mrs. Decker, Adair County Circuit Clerk, can move her office.

Mr. Wilson was concerned about the electricity being shut off which is supposed to start around the second week of November. He stated that information needed to be filed electronically and that would be a problem. The electricity will be shut off for two days when it is shut off and will begin in the Division 3 Courtroom. Mr. Wilson said it would be breaking the law if it was shut down for two days. We need a plan. We have a statutorily obligation and we will be in trouble with the Feds. Mr. Shikles said he had trouble with circuits not being labeled correctly but would do whatever was necessary to make things run smooth. Presiding Commissioner Shahan asked if we needed to pre-wire the server so it would not be affected. As the Circuit Clerk is on a different system, Office of State Courts Administration (OSCA), Commissioner Thompson asked how much influence Mr. Wilson or Mrs. Decker had with them. Mr. Wilson did not have any and Mrs. Decker said they were not cooperating with her. Ashley Young at the City of Kirksville will be contacted to discuss rental of the Cenveo building.

Commissioner Thompson said he attended a meeting in Jefferson City regarding Senate Bill 53, an increase in pay for Sheriffs. He said the County Commissioner's Association of Missouri (CCAM) had hired lawyers to help with the litigation. They felt the bill did not address its original purpose, was not constitutional done properly, and that Elected Official's salaries could not be changed midterm. It was noted that some counties may lose deputies due to increased costs for the Sheriffs. Other county elected official organizations also wanted more money.

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The Salary Commission was then discussed. The Salary Commission will meet at 10:00 a.m. on November 8, 2021. Mrs. Decker will place an ad in the newspaper.

Ms. Smith stated that some counties will begin increased salary payments to the Sheriffs July 1 at the same time as the Prosecuting Attorneys and Judges, some January 1 with a new budget year, and others not until the next term of the Sheriff. She stated that some counties may lose deputies/vehicles due to the increase in salary. It would bankrupt our County Employee Retirement Fund (CERF) if that organization were allowed to tack onto the benefits. Many felt lawmakers voted for the bill only to make them look like they are supporting law enforcement and did not consider the ramifications.

Ms. Smith then discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The final ruling is not out yet, but the County could take 30% of the money and place into General Revenue. It could be used for increased costs to health insurance as it could be tied directly to COVID.

No one else had anything to report. The meeting ended at 11:20 a.m.

The Adair County Commission adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on October 26, 2021.

Unscheduled Public Walk-Ins and other Non-Agenda Items for Tuesday, October 26, 2021:

None

ATTEST.

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