

TERM OF COMMISSION: May Session of the May Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center
Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin
Deputy County Clerk Shawna Victor

The meeting was called to order at 9:28 a.m.

Subject: Second Reading and Public Hearing for Law Enforcement Funding Ballot Issue

Sheriff Ted Boehm was present on behalf of this item.

Sheriff Boehm stated this issue has been reviewed by several different groups of people in the community and consultants have been brought in also. They have reviewed the operations at the Sheriff's Department and architects have evaluated future needs at the jail. He believes a conclusion has been made to present their proposal to the voters of Boone County and let them decide.

Commissioner Stamper moved to impose a county-wide law enforcement sales tax pursuant to the provisions of 67.582 RSMo., 2000, as amended, in the amount of one eighth of one percent on all sales made in said County which are subject to taxation under the provisions of sections 144.010 to 145.525, RSMo., for the purpose of providing law enforcement services for Boone County. Pursuant to the provisions of 144.032 and by this order the Commission further imposes the one eighth of one percent sales tax upon all sales of metered water services, electricity, electrical current and natural, artificial or propane gas, wood, coal, or home heating oil for domestic use only. The tax authorized by this order shall be in addition to any and all other sales taxes currently authorized. All revenue received by the county from the tax authorized under the provisions of Section 67.582 RSMo. shall be deposited in a special trust fund and shall be used solely for providing law enforcement services for the County for so long as the tax shall remain in effect. Revenue placed in the special trust fund may be utilized for any purpose that is authorized by statute for the law enforcement sales tax imposed under 67.582 RSMo., as amended. Expenditures may be made from the fund for any law enforcement function of the County and only be limited by any statutory limits on the utilization of said tax. The imposition of this tax shall be effective only after approval of a majority of the qualified voters casting a ballot at the election called by the County. It is further ordered that the County Commission of said County hereby calls for an election to be held on Tuesday the 6th day of August 2002 for the purpose of submitting to the voters the proposition contained in the following notice of election and sample ballot.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the County of Boone that the County Commission of said County has called an election to be held in said County on Tuesday the 6th of August, 2002 from and between the hours of six o' clock a.m. and seven o' clock p.m. on said date to vote on the proposition contained in the following sample ballot:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
COUNTY OF BOONE, STATE OF MISSOURI
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH

PROPOSITION L

Shall the County of Boone impose a countywide law enforcement sales tax of 1/8 of 1% (one eighth of one percent) for the purposes of funding law enforcement services?

YES

NO

Instructions to voters: If you are in favor of the proposition, darken the oval opposite the word "YES". If you are opposed to the proposition, darken the oval opposite the word "NO".

The County Clerk of said County is hereby directed to conduct the election pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 115, as amended.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Elkin stated he knows that no one favors additional taxes but the County has had a number of studies done on this issue. The Sheriff had a consultant do a study, the County had a consultant do a study, and a Task Force made a recommendation on providing additional law enforcement services to the people of Boone County. There are situations out there, on certain occasions, where the coverage of deputies is insufficient to protect the people of Boone County. He cannot let this situation continue without trying to address the issue. In addition to this, there is going to be mechanisms put forward that will address alternatives to incarceration and other issues the Task Force identified to try to address the problem of the system. He believes this is needed and believes the people will see that this is a basic necessity for the County. He supports this issue.

Commissioner Stamper opened the floor for a public hearing.

There was no one wishing to speak.

Commissioner Stamper closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Stamper stated that everyone who has been involved with this issue, Sheriff Boehm, Wendy Noren, June Pitchford, and himself, would acknowledge this has been a long and sometimes difficult process but believes this is an example of government at work.

There is a history behind this issue. In the late 1980' s, the citizens of Boone County authorized a tax to modify and improve the Courthouse and the Jail. In doing so, the County built a facility north of the City limits, in the Prathersville area, that was a 160-bed facility. It was believed the life of that facility would be a 15-year life. In the mid 1990' s, six years after occupancy of the new jail facilities, there was census spikes and this was a population the County could not handle. In 1997, there was a group that reviewed this situation and the County made a decision to make a \$1 million modification to the existing structure. Ten new full-time corrections employees were added and modified the number of beds to 210, with a functional capacity of 195. Even with these additions, the County was still facing the situation of housing 20-30 prisoners per day out of county at a cost of approximately \$35 per person per day. The County was prepared to bring forward to the public a \$20 million capital proposal and significant law enforcement staffing issue. This proposal was pulled from the ballot. By removing this issue from the ballot, it forced the County to step back and look at the situation in a more detailed way.

In looking at the situation in a detailed way, the County found that a systematic approach is what has to happen to work on the situation. If the \$20 million proposal was acted upon, the additional beds would have been occupied. This issue has given the County the opportunity to look at the situation systematically and to look at and encourage alternatives to incarceration. This proposal is more progressive, leaner, more focused, and is a better package. This is a proposal that he believes reflects a lot of detail and work. This answers the enforcement needs, the computer system needs, and lets the County work on all the elements that the Task Force recommended. He believes this is a set in the right direction.

Sheriff Boehm stated since the \$20 million proposal last year, they have taken a step back and relooked at this issued. It was a bittersweet ordeal. A conclusion has been reached on this issue. He believes what is being proposed is a tight package and all expenditures are accounted for.

Commissioner Stamper stated the Commission' s job is to sit at the table and propose what they believe the best plans are for the progress of Boone County. It is put in the voters' hands and is their choice. He also believes this is a tight package and will serve the voters well. This is the least amount of tax that the County could propose and still make things work. He is proud of the work that Sheriff Boehm, Ms. Noren, Mrs. Pitchford, the Commission, and the Task Force did on this proposal issue.

There was no further discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 245-2002**

Subject: Report from Evaluation Committee for the Boone County Fairgrounds Proposals

Commissioner Elkin thanked the Committee for their hard work. Commissioner Elkin thanked Melinda Bobbitt, Purchasing Department Director, for helping the Committee get through the process. He learned a lot about the process. The members of the committee worked very well together. The members of the Evaluation Committee are as follows:

- John Bayte, Business Manager for a Local Carpenters Union
- Commissioner Skip Elkin
- Steve Erdel, Boone County National Bank
- Larry McBee, Chair of Boone County Board of Parks Commissioners
- Brian Neuner, UMB Bank
- Bondi Wood, active in youth activities, former fairgrounds task force member

Commissioner Elkin thanked the groups for submitting their proposals. He believes the Evaluation Committee would agree that the proposals were good. They believed, given the right financial climate, any one of these three groups could have come forward and proposed a quality project. Unfortunately, with the times and budget, this was not the case.

Commissioner Elkin explained how the evaluation process worked. Melinda Bobbitt set up the following evaluation system with a points system for each criterion in the proposal.

* Determination of Responsiveness

- I. Developer Information per Paragraph 3.3.2 (Experience and Reliability and Expertise of Personnel) 20 Points
- II. Schematics of Development per Paragraph 3.3.3 (Method of Performance) 20 Points
- III. Project Development Budget per Paragraph 3.3.4 (Method of Performance) 30 Points
- IV. Project Financials and Business Plan per Paragraph 3.3.5 (Method of Performance) 30 Points

This system allowed the Evaluation Committee to compare “apples to apples”.

Commissioner Elkin noted the Commission has been very firm on the financial structure of the facility and this was a big part of the Evaluation Committee’s decision.

The Evaluation Committee identified the group’s strengths and concerns on each proposal

and summarized this in a document. This document is submitted to the Public Record.

Bondi Wood stated the Evaluation Committee was dedicated, diligent, analytical, and they worked as a cohesive group. She noted Melinda Bobbitt kept the group on task. Commissioner Elkin's expertise and leadership helped the group. The presenters were professional and prepared. The crux of the matter was money.

In this current political and economic climate, as a group, the Committee did not feel it was appropriate to recommend any proposal that would require public funding. The Evaluation Committee is recommending to the Commission, Columbia Sports Ventures. The Committee does have concerns about the proposal from Columbia Sports Ventures. While the Committee trusts the Commission to carry this issue forward, the Committee has made their recommendation. It is now up to the Commission whether the recommendation is acted upon, altered, or decides not to accept the Committee's recommendation.

The following are the four concerns the Committee had about the proposal from Columbia Sports Ventures:

- Lack of local involvement.
- Focus on the City of Columbia rather than all of Boone County.
- Do not address how they will interact with traditional fair events.
- Appear overly ambitious in terms of size and scope of the project.

Commissioner Stamper stated Commissioner Miller is in St. Joseph, MO this morning.

Mrs. Wood noted in their summary the Committee has stated, "it would be accurate to say that our recommendation is lukewarm rather than enthusiastic."

Commissioner Stamper thanked the Committee for their work on the evaluation of each proposal. He noted this is a part of the Commission's vision for the Fairgrounds. He believes this community could utilize some type of facilitating entity that would help draw attention and activity to the Fairgrounds and help the County potentially create business growth in the community. He understands the Committee's concern about not wanting to lose the heritage or culture of the Boone County Fairgrounds. A part of the goal of the County purchasing the Fairgrounds was to ensure that the County's agricultural heritage was maintained and continued. The idea of having a place where a diverse age group of Boone County citizens recreating, learning, and growing as a community, where quality event can be hosted and draw a regional attendance, and a place where a large amount of land can be developed, is an exciting event the Commission has participated in. He believes this could be made to work. The proposals and review of those proposals is an important step in the process. The Commission will continue to be diligent in their process on this issue.

Commissioner Stamper requested Commissioner Elkin and Mrs. Bobbitt to organize a negotiating session and an opportunity for the Commission to visit further to discuss the recommendation.

Commissioner Stamper requested this be scheduled for a discussion item at the meeting on May 29, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Subject: Sheriff's Department – Authorize Presiding Commissioner to Sign Grant Application

Sheriff Boehm stated this is an application with the Missouri Division of Highway Safety. The Hazardous Moving Violation grant will pay for overtime, traffic enforcement activities and a radar unit. The DWI Checkpoint and Saturation grant will provide 2 Checkpoints and 3 Saturations between May and September and a mobile video camera to be used in those activities. The total grant money applying for is approximately \$21,000.

Commissioner Stamper moved to authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign a Grant Application for overtime for officers for hazardous moving violations and DWI checkpoints.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 246-2002**

Subject: Purchasing Department – First Reading of Bid 35-15MAY02 (Carpet Cleaning Services Term and Supply)

Melinda Bobbitt, Purchasing Department Director, was present on behalf of this item.

Melinda Bobbitt stated the Bid for Carpet Cleaning Services Term and Supply was issued on April 24, 2002 and closed May 15, 2002. Four bids were received. Upon completion of the bid evaluation, Facilities Maintenance and Purchasing recommend award to Aerodry. River City Janitorial Services offered the low bid but did not meet the minimum specification requiring the firm be certified by the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration.

The contract will run through December 31, 2002 and may be renewed for an additional four, one-year periods. The contract award is for \$10,350 from Department 6101 (Housekeeping), Account 60125 (Custodial/Janitorial Services). Original budget was \$11,000. At the time of the writing of this memo, May 21, 2002, \$33,883 remained in the account.

There was no comment on this issue.

Commissioner Stamper stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available meeting with an appropriate order for award per the recommendation of the Purchasing Department.

Subject: Public Works – Second Reading and Approval of Utility Relocation Agreement for Dee Woods Road Project

Commissioner Stamper moved to approve the Utility Relocation Agreement with AmerenUE.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 247-2002**

Subject: Planning and Zoning – Second Reading and Approval of Request to Rezone County-owned Property

Stan Shawver, Director of Planning and Building Inspections, was present on behalf of this item.

Stan Shawver stated the Commission directed that a rezoning application be prepared for County owned land in the Prathersville area. There is approximately 327 acres of land. There is a variety of existing zonings, A-2 (Agriculture) to C-GP (Planned Commercial). The idea is to have the zoning more accurately reflect how the land is being used and future land uses. A rezoning request has been prepared requesting that all County owned land in that area be rezoned to M-L (Light Industrial).

Commissioner Stamper moved to authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the Rezoning Application for County owned property.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 248-2002**

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Stamper

Letter from Farm Bureau

Commissioner Stamper stated he attended the Farm Bureau meeting on May 20, 2002. They discussed the nature of their work on Storm Water and the Stream Buffer issues. Farm Bureau forwarded the County a letter regarding their concerns with the Storm Water and Stream Buffer issues. The County replied to Farm Bureau assuring them that any changes to the Stream Buffer issue would require a change in the County's land-use regulations. If this did happen, there would be a series of public hearings in the townships of Boone County. Also, the County invited Farm Bureau to work with staff in preparing the draft regulations.

City of Columbia/Boone County Community Partnership

Commissioner Stamper stated Community Partnership continues to struggle with funding. They have gone from a budget in 2002 of approximately \$900,000 to approximately less than \$400,000 in 2003.

Columbia Area United Way Board of Directors

Commissioner Stamper stated he would circulate the documents regarding allocation of funds to different agencies for Commissioner Elkin and Commissioner Miller's review.

Public Safety Joint Communications Committee

Commissioner Stamper stated the Public Safety Joint Communications Committee held a meeting this past week. They discussed the Medical Priority Dispatch. They received an update on the Wireless 911 issue and how this is affecting the community, GIS Mapping, and other priorities. A draft budget was submitted for this year. It reflects a small decrease from the previous period. They also discussed Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Planning and authorized the Highway Patrol to use certain Joint Communications frequencies. Mr. Dawson is retiring from the committee.

Commissioner Elkin

CATSO

Commissioner Elkin stated he attended the CATSO meeting last Thursday. One item they discussed was the processes of working on the Tier II I-70 Evaluation Study. There will be some worksessions and public hearings to narrow the decision. He does not have specific dates yet. The Committee voted 7-1 to go with the previously recommended Northeast Loop near Wellington Estates. This will have the most impact on housing.

Extension Council

Commissioner Elkin stated he met with the Extension Council. They selected the Town and Country diner site. They discussed programming and how Extension Council can better communicate with local organizations. They discussed the possibility of reduced funding via the State.

Commissioner Stamper asked how the Extension Council ended up with State cuts. Commissioner Elkin stated the cuts were deep to begin with but tentatively were added back into the funding. They were proposing to have drastic cuts at one time.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Attest:

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner