

**TERM OF COMMISSION:** May Session of the May Adjourned Term

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Boone County Government Center Commission Chambers

**PRESENT WERE:** Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper  
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller  
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt  
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Malaby  
County Counselor John Patton

The regular meeting of the County Commission was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Commissioner Miller introduced Ronald Smull, Attorney and Chairman of the Boone Retirement Center Planning and Development Committee

Mr. Smull stated Boone Retirement Center Board members are President Patty Brock, Juanelle Byler, Marie Glaise, Dr. David Edens, Commissioner Miller, Myrtle Rapp, and Charles Huenefeldt. Mr. Smull recognized the presence of former board members.

Dr. Ruth Brent, Ph.D., Environmental Design Department Chair, University of Missouri and Dr. Benjamin Schwarz, Ph.D., Department of Environmental Design made a presentation, using slides, on the inadequacies of the current facility. Problems include a lack of activity space, an institutional atmosphere, inadequate room lighting, a multi-level structure, and a lack of space. Dr. Brent and Dr. Schwarz indicated the environment of the facility is not adequate, efficient or pleasant for use by either residents or personnel.

Doug Schumann, Research Director and Economist, George Gallup Organization, made a presentation, using overhead projections, regarding the feasibility of a new facility, addressing aspects such as location, cost and features, such as security, privacy and tranquillity, which are desired by potential residents.

Dr. Lynn Mitchell, MD, Boone Retirement Center Medical Director addressed quality of life issues.

Patrick Rackers, Boone Retirement Center Executive Director summarized plans for a new facility. Boone Retirement Facility requests the County fund the purchase of land for a new facility. The County would retain ownership of the old facility. The proposed facility would be constructed in two phases. The first would be a 122 bed skilled nursing facility, adult day care services and 25 retirement apartments. The second would add retirement apartments or residential care units.

Treasurer Kay Murray summarized the debt service on the current building. The remaining balance is \$443,000. The last payment is scheduled for May, 1999. There is \$234,000 cash on hand. Boone Retirement Center will need to make payments or a 1 cent or 2 cent tax will need to be collected. This matter must be dealt with in moving forward. The contract provides that if Boone Retirement Center cannot meet the payment of \$113,000 per year, the County has to levy a tax. There is enough revenue now, but the County may have to levy a tax in a year or so.

Auditor June Pitchford indicated the County can probably afford to pay \$250,000 to \$500,000 for land for a new retirement facility, should the Commission decide to.

Commissioner Stamper called for public comment.

Numerous people spoke in support of building a new facility, citing reasons such as a need to improve the quality of life for residents of the Center and a need for space for personnel in which there is adequate equipment and where resident activities can take place. A list of individuals attending the hearing is on file in the office of the Boone County Clerk. Paul Albert, 2703 Parker, was the only individual who spoke in opposition to building a new center, stating the current center is fine. There are others which are much worse. The County should spend its money on more pressing matters.

Commissioner Stamper announced the Commission will conduct a work session on this issue tomorrow.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Attest:

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Don Stamper  
Presiding Commissioner

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Wendy S. Noren  
Clerk of the County Commission

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Karen M. Miller  
District I Commissioner

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Linda Vogt  
District II Commissioner