

TERM OF COMMISSION: July Session of the April Adjourned Term

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

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Kenneth M. Pearson
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin
Deputy County Clerk Josh Norberg

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Juvenile Justice Center

Pete Schmersahl, Juvenile Justice Center, and Kathy Lloyd, Court Administrator, were present on behalf of the following items.

1. Application for Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG)

Mr. Schmersahl stated this is a yearly grant. He is requesting Commission approval to seek this grant in the amount of \$18,935 with a local match of 10%. This grant is used for the art teacher and the music teacher at the Juvenile Justice Center. Drug tests are also paid out of this grant. Mr. Schmersahl stated he also wants to use this grant this year to help fund the Leadership RAP program.

Commissioner Miller asked who has been funding Leadership RAP.

Mr. Schmersahl stated it has been a contract of \$250 per class.

Ms. Lloyd stated the Extension Council had been supporting it. Ron Higginbotham is retiring, and so they will be contracting with him to continue to provide the leadership of that program after he retires. There are usually three presenters for the program and two will still be funded through the Extension Council.

Commissioner Elkin asked if the amount that the County pays will stay the same.

Ms. Lloyd stated we will continue to pay the \$250 out of the budget. The grant will supplement that to pay for Mr. Higginbotham's services because he will no longer be paid through the Extension Council.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) application.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 3-0 **Order 330-2008**

2. Application for Title II Grant

Mr. Schmersahl stated this is the third and final year of this grant process. The first two years were used to start and enhance a substance abuse program. This year, the grant will be used for the same purpose. The money will be used for training the staff of the Juvenile programs in cognitive behavioral therapy. Using this approach is a nationwide trend in that it is a theory or delivery system that works with the kids in instruction and feedback, and uses role play. He stated they are trying to get a “train the trainer” so it can be a sustained program. A trainer will come and train key staff in the approach, and then they will be able to train other staff. The money will also be used to maintain substance abuse treatment that isn’t covered by Medicaid or outside insurance.

Commissioner Pearson asked what will happen next year when the grant runs out.

Mr. Schmersahl stated next year will start a new grant cycle. He stated next year, they hope to be seeking some other kind of funding. This after-care reentry program should be sustainable after this current grant is used to start it up.

Ms. Lloyd stated most of the services will be Medicaid covered. The cognitive behavioral therapy approach, once trained, is something that can be maintained in-house.

Commissioner Pearson stated there should be minimal cost.

Ms. Lloyd stated other than the training costs that would be absorbed in the normal budget, there shouldn’t be much cost.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the Title II Grant application.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 3-0 **Order 331-2008**

Health Department

Kris Vellema, Health Department, was present on behalf of this item.

3. Order for Abatement – 1800 Prathersville Road, Lot 96, Columbia

Ms. Vellema stated this is a weed nuisance. The bid for mowing this is \$80.

Commissioner Elkin asked if the property was vacant.

Ms. Vellema stated it is vacant. This property has been abated in the past.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the Presiding Commissioner to sign the attached Finding of Public Nuisance and Order for Abatement of a public nuisance located at 1800 Prathersville Road, Lot 96, Columbia.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 3-0 **Order 332-2008**

Court Administrator

Kathy Lloyd, Court Administrator, was present on behalf of this item.

4. Budget Amendment for the Fostering Court Improvement JCIP Sub-Grant (first reading)

Ms. Lloyd stated they are a pilot site for a program called Fostering Court Improvement. The funds were awarded on a reimbursable basis, so this budget amendment is needed to cover the costs. She stated they are creating a parent orientation program that introduces parents to the court process and also talks to them about the things they need to do in order to reunify successfully with their children. Parents will be ordered to participate in this program when their children are adjudicated as abused or neglected.

Commissioner Pearson stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

Public Works

Derin Campbell, Public Works, was present on behalf of these items.

5. Trails West Engineering Services (first reading)

Mr. Campbell stated this in an engineering design contract to have preliminary engineering done. They are designating the problems and designing solutions to fix them.

Commissioner Pearson stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

6. Country Hill Subdivision Storm Sewer Improvements (first reading)

Mr. Campbell stated this is the same concept as the previous contract. The preliminary study has been done and this contract allows the design work to be done.

Commissioner Pearson stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with an appropriate order for approval.

Miscellaneous

7. Authorize Use of Commission Chambers

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the use of the Commission Chambers on July 8, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. for a Jay Nixon for Governor press conference.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 3-0 **Order 333-2008**

8. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Miller reported on the following:

Smart Growth Coalition: Commissioner Miller stated Smart Growth had a program on growth management and it was a precursor to a program that will be a half-day seminar on growth management planning.

Commissioner Pearson reported on the following:

Extension Council: Commissioner Pearson stated the Extension Council is working through their budget process. Their costs are going up and the County is the primary source of funds. They were hoping to get some more money. They are going to present what they would like, and also prepare for what they will do without more money.

9. Public Comment

John Stone

Mr. Stone stated he recently read an article in the newspaper about a man named Farrel Pride. There is a 40 acre tract of land that separates him and Mr. Pride. Ten years ago he put \$240,000 into the house that he bought there. He stated to see the property change so drastically with the cars that Mr. Pride keeps out there, it is like he is saying he does not care anything about anyone out there. Mr. Stone stated he would like to read a letter written by himself and his wife.

“I write in reference to a situation I have become aware of concerning one of our neighbors. My husband and I live in Boone County south of Sturgeon and Route B. We have been at our present address for approximately 10 years after buying property and building a home. Our home is located near a man by the name of Farrel Pride. My husband and I have become concerned regarding an article we read in a local newspaper in which Mr. Pride stated that he was planning to start a village on his property, which is closely located to us. We are very opposed to having anything like he is proposing in or near Boone County, and to think it could be here, that it might be in such close proximity to our home is unacceptable. Please do not allow this to develop. We have been disturbed by the multiple cars and vehicles he is parking on his newest property on Route B. The idea that this could expand in any way is very troubling. We wanted to express our displeasure at such a turn of events to our quite, rural location that could be changed in such a drastic way. Please be aware that our family and our neighbors are adamantly opposed to this. We are strongly opposed to developments such as Mr. Pride is requesting, and we wish for you in any way necessary to prevent such developments from occurring. Thank you for hearing our concerns.”

Mr. Stone stated when he bought this place, he asked what sorts of things the neighbors could do. He stated he found out there are covenants recorded in the Boone County Recorder of Deeds that restrict the use of that property. He cannot use his land for the purposes he wants.

Mr. Stone stated there is no way that a person with the kind of background that Mr. Farrel has should have anything that even remotely relates to self-governance. It is so obvious that Mr. Pride does not care about him or any of the neighbors. When Mr. Pride went to prison, Mr. Stone started prison ministries to make sure he had religious services there. When he got out of prison, he had different religious views and he started his own religion. Mr. Stone stated he would not put anything past Mr. Pride.

Mr. Elkin stated a law was passed this year to not allow this to happen, but it was not retroactive. Mr. Pride submitted a petition earlier this year. According to the County Clerk, there are certain guidelines you have to follow before you can incorporate into a village. You have to have a specific number of residents who can be appointed as trustees of the village. Mr. Pride submitted

enough names, but there was no way for the Clerk to verify that those people lived on the property. Right now, the petition was denied by the Commission and that is the last we have heard of it.

Commissioner Pearson stated the original petition was rejected for some procedural issues and they brought it back after they amended it. The Clerk requested the Commission deny the petition because it did not meet all of the requirements.

Commissioner Miller stated the statutes require the Commission to appoint the first 5 trustees, and in order to be a trustee you have to be a registered voter.

Mr. Stone stated he thought if you have a felony record you are not allowed to vote.

Commissioner Pearson stated they are working to deny this. The new changes in the law will not become effective until August 28, 2008.

Mr. Stone says he appreciates that. He stated anyone who has property that they have worked for all their life would not want anything of this kind anywhere near Boone County.

Commissioner Pearson stated there are counties in the state that have had this happen since the original law was passed. In Camden County, they have had 5 or 7 villages incorporated. All of the counties have been challenging this.

Mr. Stone gave Commissioner Elkin his contact information so he can stay informed about what is happening.

Commissioner Elkin stated he has gotten quite a few neighbors that are adamantly opposed to this. He stated Mr. Pride has some active battles going on with the City of Sturgeon right now over a used car lot he wants to put out there. It appears that he has been bringing in cars onto his property, so the Health Department has been monitoring the situation.

Mr. Stone asked even without the covenants, wouldn't there be some zoning issues?

Commissioner Elkin stated you cannot run a commercial business on land zoned agricultural. If he is selling cars, he cannot do that on his property.

Commissioner Pearson stated the purpose of the people who are trying to set up these villages is to avoid the zoning laws. He asked Mr. Stone if he knows of any other activities that might be going on there.

Mr. Stone stated at this time it appears to only be the cars. He stated if there is anything else that looks bad, he will be the first one to report it.

Mr. Stone thanked the Commission for their time.

Commissioner Report

Commissioner Pearson stated he would like to be authorized to negotiate for the power facility to come up with an agreement with Audrain County as to the location and details of the facility.

Commissioner Elkin moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize the Presiding Commissioner to negotiate for a power generating facility in cooperation with Regional Economic Development, Inc. (REDI).

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 3-0 **Order 334-2008**

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Attest:

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Ken Pearson
Presiding Commissioner

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner