

TERM OF COMMISSION: September Session of the August 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 9:37 a.m.

Subject: Proclamation for Ataxia Awareness Day

Roger Cooley, 1609 Coco Court, Columbia, stated he appreciates the help the Commission has given with the bringing this disease to the public's attention. There are many people who have not heard of Ataxia and there are very few who have this neurological disorder.

Mr. Cooley noted Ataxia affects the nervous system. It can be hereditary. There is no distinction to the age or gender of people who have Ataxia.

Commissioner Elkin moved to adopt the following proclamation:

Whereas, Ataxia is an often fatal degenerative neurological disorder that affects balance, coordination, and speech and;

Whereas, Ataxia can strike anyone at any time, without regard to age, gender, race, or creed and;

Whereas, an estimated 150,000 individuals are affected by hereditary and sporadic ataxia in the United States and;

Whereas, it is very important to achieve increased awareness of these neurological disorders and;

Whereas, there is NO known cure, the only defense is research and prevention through education.

Now therefore, the Boone County Commission does hereby proclaim September 25, 2002 as **Ataxia Awareness Day** in Boone County and urges all citizens to honor and support those individuals with ataxia and their caregivers, in hope that a cure will soon be found.

Commissioner Stamper seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 408-2002**

Subject: Juvenile Justice Center – Second Reading and Public Hearing for Approval of Budget Amendment

Commissioner Stamper moved to approve the following budget amendment:

DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT AND TITLE	AMOUNT INCREASE
1243-03411: Judicial Grants and Contracts – Federal Grant Reimbursement	\$11,588.00
1243-10100: Judicial Grants and Contracts – Salary and Wages	\$10,740.00
1243-10200: Judicial Grants and Contracts – FICA	\$822.00
1243-10325: Judicial Grants and Contracts – Disability Insurance	\$26.00

Said budget amendment is to establish a budget for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant for October 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Stamper opened the floor for a public hearing.

There was no one wishing to speak on this budget amendment.

Commissioner Stamper closed the floor for a public hearing.

There was no discussion on the budget amendment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 410-2002**

Subject: Purchasing Department – Second Reading and Approval of Professional Services Contract (Consulting Services for an Affirmative Action Plan)

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

Melinda Bobbitt stated this is an agreement for consulting services for an Affirmative Action Plan with Julien Carter Consulting of Woodbury, Minnesota. Total cost of contract is \$3,000 to be paid from department 1115 (Human Resources), account 71110 (Outside Services).

Commissioner Elkin moved to approve the Professional Services Contract – Consulting Services for Affirmative Action Plan.

Commissioner Stamper seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 410-2002**

Subject: Public Works – Second Reading and Approval of Private Pay Chip and Seal

Commissioner Stamper moved to authorize the private pay chip and seal for Quarter Mile Road at an estimated cost of \$2,500 to be paid by Mr. Mike Teel.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 411-2002**

Subject: Collector's Office – Second Reading and Approval of Computer Programmer/Analyst Agreement

Patricia Lensmeyer stated she had no further comments on this issue.

Commissioner Elkin asked Commissioner Stamper if he received the memo from John Patton, County Counselor, regarding this issue. Commissioner Stamper stated he did receive the memo.

Commissioner Stamper stated he did not concur with everything Mr. Patton said in the memo. Commissioner Elkin stated he did not either.

Commissioner Stamper moved to approve the Computer Programmer/Analyst Agreement between Patricia S. Lensmeyer, Boone County Collector, and the Boone County Commission.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Stamper noted Mr. Patton thought the Commission was going to a degree of trouble and believed this issue was simpler than what was written in the agreement. The Commission had worked with the Collector on this agreement. He noted Mr. Patton did not find any legal deficiencies in the agreement, just that the issue was simpler than

the agreement.

Commissioner Elkin stated in ten years, when this Commission may or may not be here, people will understand this agreement.

There was no further discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 412-2002**

Subject: Planning and Building Inspections – First Reading to Name a Previously Unnamed Road

Ryland Rodes, Planning and Building Inspections Department, was present on behalf of this item.

Ryland Rodes stated this is a request to name an unnamed roadway that is currently privately owned and maintained, to CRITTER CROSSING ROAD. Said road being in Section 3, Township 45 North, Range 12 West; beginning on the west side of Raitt Road approximately 1,450 feet west of the intersection of North Mount Pleasant Road and Raitt Road and running in an westerly direction for approximately 3,400 feet.

Subject: Personnel Advisory Committee

Betty Dickneite, Personnel Advisory Committee Chair, was present on behalf of these items.

A. Recommendation of Short-Term Disability Policy

Betty Dickneite stated at the Personnel Advisory Committee meeting on September 12, Kay Murray brought forward suggestion for a Short-term Disability Plan from the Self Health Trust Committee to be added to the employee benefits package. At the September 12 meeting, it was recommended by the members of the Personnel Advisory Committee, who were present, to support this request. The estimate cost to the County would be \$10,000.00 per year. There was a suggestion that the Commission give favorable consideration to this request and refer it back to the Self Health Trust Committee for further evaluation and follow up.

Commissioner Stamper stated it is to his understanding that this will fill a gap between long term disability and when the disability event may happen. He noted some find it a struggle during the time of the disability event and the six month waiting period for long term disability to kick in.

Commissioner Stamper moved to request the suggestion for a Short-term Disability Plan be forwarded to the Self Health Trust Committee with a request the County implement a

Short-term Disability Policy Plan for Boone County.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 413-2002**

B. Recommendation to Amend Personnel Policy regarding Pay Issues

Mrs. Dickneite stated at the September 12 meeting of the Personnel Advisory Committee there was discussion of amending the Personnel Policies that pertain to dealing with the mid-point. There was a recommendation that “current personnel procedures be amended to allow individual officeholders to hire and promote existing employees up to the mid-point if they should desire to do so, without administrative approval, if fundable.”

Mrs. Dickneite stated at the meeting, there was a split vote of 8 Yes votes, 6 No votes, and 1 absent from the vote. This recommendation would allow officeholders to hire or promote existing employees up to the mid-point of that pay range. Currently, the policy allows there is authority give to hire up to 90% of mid-point and if an officeholder wants to go above the 90%, there is a review process which involves the Auditor, Human Resources, and Liaison Commissioner to Human Resources. Also, under the current policy, if one is hired above mid-point, the County Commission has to approve the hiring.

This recommendation is to allow for the hiring and promoting between 80-100% of mid-point to be at the discretion of the officeholder.

Commissioner Stamper stated he briefed the Commission on the September 12 meeting and it was the Commission’s preference that this come forward as a report today. There are potential financial impacts that will need to be reviewed. He requested this be referred to a worksession with Mrs. Dickneite and the Auditor. He noted not all Commissioners are present today and believes this should be discussed by all Commissioners.

There was no further discussion on this issue.

Subject: Human Resources – Consultant’s Recommendation regarding Job Reclassification in Assessor’s Office

Betty Dickneite, Human Resources Director, was present on behalf of this item.

Mrs. Dickneite stated she received a letter from Rick McRoy, the consultant that did the County’s pay study, with Public Sector Personnel Consultants. As part of the County’s process for this year, the County requested officeholders and department heads if they had any concerns about the positions that were reviewed as part of the pay study. The

Assessor brought forward two concerns of two positions that were classified as Office Specialists. The County requested the consultant to review those two positions and has made a recommendation to reclassify those two positions from Office Specialist to Personal Property Clerks. The consultant is recommending this change be effective June 6, 2002, which is the date of the request that was brought forward by the Assessor.

Mrs. Dickneite stated the Office Specialist position is a Range 15 job classification and the Personal Property Clerk is a Range 21 job classification.

Commissioner Stamper stated the Commission had a discussion about this recommendation last week with the Human Resources Director, Tom Schauwecker, Boone County Assessor, and June Pitchford, Boone County Auditor. This recommendation relates to a variety of other positions within County government as well. He noted in this situation, there was a draft document submitted by the consultant in June 2001. Mr. Schauwecker challenged the consultant in writing on the final document of the County's Plan, reflected in two different ways. The consultant responded with clarification in the Plan.

There is also a degree of confusion about how the County is using the Office Specialist position. The Commission has requested the Classification Committee convene tomorrow to discuss this issue of hiring people into an entry level position with a transition period into another position. He believes there is an interest in this but has not been specifically addressed by the consultant. It was the Commission's feeling that in the Assessor's situation, there was an appeal filed to the consultant and the consultant had responded with a change of the classifications.

There was no further discussion on this issue.

Commissioner Stamper requested this item be held until notice is given after the meeting tomorrow.

Subject: Accept Resignation of Committee Member

Commissioner Stamper moved to accept the resignation of Mr. Stephen Kuhler from the Road and Bridge Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 415-2002**

Subject: Clerk's Office – Intergovernmental Services Agreement with Truman School for Public Administration for Polling Place Disability access Survey and

Public Information

Wendy S. Noren, Boone County Clerk, was present on behalf of this item.

Wendy Noren stated the Elderly and Handicapped Citizens Voting Rights Act, which was passed in 1986, required all polling places to be made accessible to people with disabilities except if certain things were followed. One could receive an exemption if a state or local government did a survey of all polling places. The Chief Election Official could grant the exemption, which would be the Secretary of State in Missouri. The Secretary of State's office did this from 1986 to 1993. Between 1993 and 2001, the Secretary of State's office took the position that they would not be doing this. In 1999, a new bill was filed because of state inaction, not just in Missouri, was going to make it mandatory to remove the exemption from the original bill.

Ms. Noren stated she was part of a national task force that worked with disability groups to work out some of the problems. One of the problems was that the surveys that states were doing did not provide the information necessary. The task force, along with disability groups, a list of what should be included in every survey. This is a very detailed survey. The federal agency responsible for the architectural guidelines for meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, worked on the development of the survey. This survey was supposed to be in a format that poll workers could use on Election Day. When this survey was tested, it is impossible for the poll workers to deal with.

Funds were budgeted this year to have this survey completed so this information would be on file before 2004 to receive an exemption. This survey was scheduled to be done before the end of the year with a portion of the survey to be done on Election Day.

In August, Ms. Noren stated she received a telephone call from someone who was doing research at the Truman School. They were trying to do a research study on finding correlation between absentee voting and disabled voting. This was an intellectual study, in which they would be taking pictures of polling places. Ms. Noren requested a meeting with them because if the Truman School was out doing this research why this research would not be done in a joint manner. The research needs of the Truman School and Ms. Noren will both be met and they believed this would be beneficial to the disabled community. Out of this grew the concept of the Truman School doing the polling place survey, in addition to the survey the Truman School would be taking digital photographs of polling places and developing a web page. The web page will allow a voter, when they look up their registration on the County Clerk's files will be able to look at the polling place and review the results of the disability survey. Even though there is a "disabled access" sign does not mean all disabled persons will be able to access the polling place. The actual measurements, pictures of the parking area so people will be able to know if they can actually use their polling place.

Commissioner Stamper asked Ms. Noren if there is a possibility that there will be some polling places that cannot be used. Ms. Noren stated she knows there is at least one polling place, Woodland Ville that will never be accessible. This will have to be closed down but there is nothing else in this area.

She stated Missouri has a unique law, which allows for another piece of exemption and the alternatives that are provided. This is why public information on these polling places is crucial to people with disabilities. She can assign a disabled voter to any polling place that is accessible but too often the voter does not know that the polling place is not accessible until they get to the poll. At that point, it is too late for her to reassign the voter because paperwork and their ballot style have to be moved around.

Ms. Noren stated the Truman School contacted her last Friday on what they felt they could accomplish before November. They would like to begin the research and this is why this is being rushed. She does have the money budgeted for the survey. She would take the money for the Truman School's proposal of \$4,500 to do this and it would be linked to the Clerk's information. The Truman School would build a data base, which would belong to Ms. Noren, and it would be formatted to be able to be edited. The Truman School will also be doing GIS research projects. Ms. Noren will begin developing map overlays of transportation routes to polling places. The project will not end but they are unsure of the number that will be completed before the November election. The time it will take to do the survey for the polling places is unknown and will not be known until they reach the polling place.

Ms. Noren is requesting to get the Truman School started on their project and come back to the Commission within the next week or so with a finalized agreement. During her meeting yesterday with the Truman School, they still had some issues with what should be written where about who the money is paid to and several different issues at the Truman School. She noted the Truman School and the disability groups are excited to see this work being done.

Ms. Noren stated as of last week, the Election Reform Bill came back to life, based on the problems in Florida. There was a lot of activity on this bill. Last Wednesday, everything shut down and to her understanding is they are close to reaching an agreement. Thursday, the U.S. House voted 365-20 to return the bill to be voted on by October 1. That bill contains \$100,000,000.00 to upgrade polling places to make them accessible.

She discussed the inaccessibility of Woodlandville and some of the other accessibility problems with polling places. She is unsure of the portion of the \$100,000,000.00 that will be received by Boone County but knows the people who are ready, who have completed their surveys, most have not completed their surveys, which have identified needs and have proposals prepared. They want this money to move quickly. In the last version she saw, they authorized GSA to begin moving this money out in 120 days.

Ms. Noren stated she has \$3,500 in General Revenue but is holding \$500 per discussions with Centers for Independent Living as far as them helping identify a solution for some of these problems. She may need to do some minor consulting work with the Center for Independent Living.

Commissioner Stamper asked Ms. Noren if her request today is to authorize the County Clerk and the Truman School of Public Affairs to proceed with the project as outlined and recommended by the County Clerk at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00. Ms. Noren noted the \$3,000.00 is from General Revenue, the agreement will be for \$4,500.00. The balance would cover the web site development and photographs. The \$3,000.00 is for the basic survey, which is a legal requirement. There is also funding in the Election Services Fund to do programs for disabled voters, so the balance would be coming from this fund.

Commissioner Elkin stated he believe this is a worth while project and everyone should have the opportunity to vote.

There was no further discussion on this issue.

Commissioner Stamper moved to authorize the County Clerk and Truman School of Public Affairs to proceed with the project outlined as follows with a maximum cost of \$3,000 to General Revenue:

1. Complete a detailed survey of the 65 polling places used in the County. The survey will measure physical characteristics of the polling places including parking lot materials, accessible parking facilities, pathways, curbs and curb cuts, entrances, interior doorways, lighting and many other features. This information is critical to disabled voters in determining whether or not to attempt to vote at the polling place. This survey data is a required element to receive exemption from the polling places accessibility requirements under federal law.
2. Identify what needs to be done to improve the accessibility of any polling place including paving parking long, installation of permanent or temporary ramps, electronic door openers, curb cuts, improved lighting, threshold mats, and signage. Identify other rooms within public buildings that may be more accessible than the room we are currently allowed to utilize.
3. Provide digital photos of parking lots, accessible parking spaces, pathways to entrance, entrance doors, interior doors and pathways and polling area.
4. Prepare a database of the survey data and utilize digitized photographs to create a web page for each polling place. Voters would be able to link to the web site for their polling place directly from our web site that provides them polling place information. Disabled voters could utilize the information to determine if the poll was accessible for them. They could also provide feedback on specific polling places.
5. The Truman School will have access to all data and they will utilize the data in

additional studies and GIS projects including overlaying public transportation routes to polls, and determining priority areas for improvement.

6. The County will own all data and the system will eventually be updateable from our polling place database and then link directly to our polling place files. It does not appear that they will need access to anything on our computer system; we will merely pass the polling place to the appropriate place on their web site.
7. They will start the project as soon and possible and attempt to complete the initial survey and web site in time for use in the November election.
8. We estimate the survey costs will be about 45.00 per polling place. The photos, database and web development will bring the total project costs to 4,500.00. In my 2002 general revenue, I budgeted 3000 for the survey. The balance of the funding would come from my election services fund.

A finalized agreement shall be drafted and presented to the Commission for approval

Commissioner Elkin seconded the motion.

There was no discussion and no public comment.

The motion passed 2-0. **Order 415-2002**

Subject: Treasurer's Office – First Reading of Resolution with Wells Fargo Brokerage Services

Kay Murray, Boone County Treasurer, was present on behalf of this item.

Kay Murray stated this is a resolution with Wells Fargo Brokerage Services, which needs the Presiding Commissioner's signature.

There was no discussion on this issue.

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

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Stamper

Kansas City Free Clinic Trip

Commissioner Stamper stated he toured the Kansas City Free Clinic last week. This clinic has been in existence for almost 30 years and they provide free health care for people in

Kansas City. The clinic is not a federally funded community health center, there are two of those funded clinic in Kansas City. This clinic provides care to approximately 25,000 per year and it is all done with a volunteer staff. This clinic is tied to the local AIDS prevention and treatment facilities. He toured the clinic to see the floor plans and how the health care is administered. They recently built a new building on Broadway in Kansas City.

Commissioner Elkin asked where the clinic receives their funding. Commissioner Stamper stated the labor is volunteer but there are a number of city and county grants. There are federal grants for the AIDS program. There is a Title III Clinic for the HIV/AIDS program. The clinic does have fundraisers every year.

Health Facility Update

Commissioner Stamper stated there will be a meeting again soon with the architects for the new Health Facility. They believe the designs will soon be narrowed down. They are expecting construction documents to be received in December or January and have the bidding process begin.

Percent for Art Project

Commissioner Stamper stated he has received a notice that the Percent for Art Project has selected Hugh Merrill from Kansas City for the Health Department Art Project.

Notice of Three Payments from SEMA

Commissioner Stamper noted the County has received three payments from State Emergency Management Agency for flood damage in Boone County earlier this year in the amounts of \$1,401.30, \$35,345.74, and \$17,925.62. These payments will be forwarded to the Public Works Department budget.

Missouri Sunshine Law

Commissioner Stamper stated the Attorney General's Office has sent a new book for the Sunshine Law and this will remain in the Commission Chambers.

Make a Difference Day

Commissioner Stamper stated the Governor, through the Community Services Commission, has designated October 26 as Make a Difference Day.

Notice of Voluntary Annexation

Commissioner Stamper stated the County has received notice of a voluntary annexation of

15 acres owned by Nicholas and Diane Peckham, located approximately 250 west of the intersection of State Route K and Gateway Boulevard.

Commissioner Elkin

Boone County Regional Sewer District

Commissioner Elkin stated he attended the Boone County Regional Sewer District meeting last week. The Sewer District has hired a consultant to work on the Master Plan.

He noted yesterday he attended a meeting with Tom Ratermann, Dennis Stith and the Department of Natural Resources about eastern Columbia. Hinkson Creek is on the 303D list. According to the Planning Department at DNR, there can be absolutely no development or degradation of Hinkson Creek. This could have a serious impact on any development in that area, including golf courses on the eastern half of Columbia. They believe this should be brought to the attention of the public but DNR believes this is a very complex issue with EPA regulations and most do not know about this. He believes DNR should have an informational meeting with developers, the City, the County, and others who have interests on the eastern portion of the City and the County, in the Hinkson Creek drainage basin. Richard Laux of the DNR discussed this issue with Commissioner Elkin, Mr. Ratermann and Mr. Stith.

Commissioner Stamper noted an address on Masonic Drive should be changed from 32 to 3. Jim McNabb, JCIC Director, and Stan Shawver, Director of Planning and Zoning, should be informed of this change.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner