

TERM OF COMMISSION: . November Session of the October Adjourned Term

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

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commission Daniel Atwill
District I Commissioner Karen Miller
Director Resource Management Stan Shawver
Treasurer Nicole Galloway
Director Purchasing Melinda Bobbitt
Senior Accountant Jason Gibson
Director Community Children's Services Kelly Wallis
Deputy County Clerk Mike Yaquinto

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

Auditor

1. First reading; Budget Amendment to increase appropriations to purchase a replacement logging and recording system

Jason Gibson said this budget amendment is to increase appropriations for fund 2020 which is the old tariff tax for the 911 equipment. This new logging recorder will be replacing a 2009 version and it will be a redundant system. We will be purchasing two servers with the hope of moving one to the new facility, keeping the redundant system and have them both operating.

There were no comments or questions.

Commissioner Atwill said there will be a Public Hearing and second reading after the mandatory 10 day waiting period for budget amendments.

Purchasing

2. First reading; Bid Award 19-15JUL14 – Logging and Recording System for Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications

Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo:

The Request for Proposal for *19-15JUL14 – Logging and Recording System for Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications* closed on July 15, 2014. Nine proposal responses were received.

The evaluation committee consisted of the following from Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications:

Joe Piper, Acting Operations Manager
Scott Patterson, System Support Analyst

The evaluation committee recommends award to Dictation Sales & Service, Inc. (DSS Corp) of Southfield, Michigan per their attached Evaluation Report.

Total cost of contract is \$170,365.00 and will be paid from department 2020 – E-911 Emergency Telephone, account 92300- Replacement Machinery & Equipment.

There were no comments or questions.

Commissioner Atwill 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 appropriate order for approval.

3. Second reading; Amendment Number Two –26-05JUL11 – Electronic Payment Processing for the Boone County Recorder (1st read 11-6-14)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Contract Amendment Number Two for 26-05JUL11 – Electronic Payment Processing for the Boone County Recorder.

The terms of this amendment are stipulated in the attached Contract Amendment Number Two. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Contract Amendment Number Two.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #516-2014**

4. Second reading; Sole Source Approval – 116-123116SS – (2) Standard Evidence.com Licenses: 3 years for the Prosecuting Attorney (1st read 11-6-14)

Commissioner Atwill moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve Sole Source Contract 116-123116SS for the purchase of two Standard Evidence.com licenses for the Prosecuting Attorney from Taser International of Scottsdale, AZ.

The terms of the Sole Source Contract are stipulated in the attached Purchase Agreement. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Sole Source Fact Sheet and Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #517-2014**

Community Children's Services

5. First reading; Budget Amendment for funding to enter into 23 contracts to serve children and families in Boone County

Kelly Wallis said the amount stated in the budget amendment is the amount currently authorized by the Board. The amount is an estimate at this point because there are still contracts to be negotiated, but it is a very close estimate of what is anticipated to be the amount for the contracts that will be entered into at the end of the year.

Commissioner Miller asked if all the contracts are out.

Ms. Wallis said the majority of contracts are out to agencies. We are currently working on details for a few contracts. When the contracts are returned to us, they will be put on the Commission agenda for approval.

There will no further comments or questions.

Commissioner Atwill said there will be a Public Hearing and second reading after the mandatory 10 day waiting period for budget amendments.

6. Public Hearing and Second reading; Budget Amendment to cover contracts with Rainbow House (1st read 10-30-14)

Commissioner Atwill opened the Public Hearing and asked if there is anyone present that would like to speak on this issue. There were no speakers and Commissioner Atwill closed the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone

does hereby acknowledge the following budget amendment for Community Children’s Services to cover contracts with Rainbow House.

Department	Account	Department Name	Account Name	Decrease \$	Increase \$
2161	71106	Funding Opportunities – Statutory Eligible Services	Contracted Services		73,292

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #518-2014**

7. Second reading; Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Transitional Living Program Services (1st read 10-30-14)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Purchase Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Transitional Living Program Services. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #519-2014**

8. Second reading; Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Emergency Shelter Services (1st read 10-30-14)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Purchase Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Children's Emergency Shelter Services. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #520-2014**

9. Second reading; Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Children's Emergency Shelter Services (1st read 10-30-14)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Purchase Agreement between Boone County and Child Abuse and Neglect Emergency Shelter, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow House for Emergency Shelter Services. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #521-2014**

Treasurer

10. Second reading: Supplemental Cooperative Agreement, Manchester Heights Sewer Project (1st read 11-6-14)

Nicole Galloway said that since the first reading, there has been approval from all the parties that will be required to sign the document. The draft did not change and it is now in final format. All signatures will be secured by tomorrow so then we can advertise for bids on the Sewer Project for the Manchester Heights NID.

There were no comments or questions.

Commissioner Atwill moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Supplemental Cooperative Agreement for the Manchester Heights Sewer Project made and entered into by the County of Boone and Boone County Regional Sewer District.

It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Supplemental Cooperative Agreement.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #522-2014**

Resource Management

11. Second reading; Cooperative Agreement with Village of Pierpont on Road & Bridge Improvement/Repair (1st read 11-6-14)

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached agreement to effectuate the Application-Based Funding from the County to the Village of Pierpont as contemplated in County's policies on distributing road sales tax revenue and road property tax revenues. The terms and conditions of Commission Orders 249-2011, 264-2012 and 609-2012 are incorporated into this

agreement by reference.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #523-2014**

12. Second reading; Closure of a section of Myers Lane in Southern Boone County (1st read 11-6-14)

Stan Shawver said there was a Public Hearing conducted on this road closure last Thursday and on recommendation by the County Highway Administrator, this unused and non-maintained portion of Myers Lane should be closed. Property owners within 1,000 feet were notified and a public notice ran in the Columbia Tribune and South County Journal. Two people spoke at the Public Hearing in support of this request. A Commission Order has been prepared for your approval.

There were no comments or questions.

Commissioner Atwill moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the closure of a section of Myers Lane located in the NE ¼ of Section 29, Township 47 North, Range 12 West. Said closure is ordered in accordance with the provisions of the Boone County Roadway Regulations Section 1.8.1, **Highway Closure by Order of County Commission**. This section of Myers Lane is not publicly maintained and closing this section will not deny access to any property owner to a public road. In accordance with Boone County Roadway Regulations Section 1.8.4, **Highway Closure Not to Effect Title to Real Estate**, said closure will not effect title of real estate.

The Commission further directs that property owners may install appropriate traffic control barriers to impede traffic from access to the closed section of roadway yet still provide

access to adjoining property owners. The Commission directs that an appropriate sign be installed indicating that the road has been closed.

A map showing the closed section of road and the location of the traffic control barriers is attached to this order.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #524-2014**

Commission

13. 1st & 2nd reading; OEM expenses for the month of October, 2014

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the Boone County portion of the October 2014 expenses for the Office of Emergency Management in the amount of \$14,328.79.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #525-2014**

14. 1st & 2nd reading; Approve invoice from Midwest Electronic Systems, Inc. for repair work at the CMEC

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached invoice by Midwest Electronic Systems, Inc. for repairs to the 24 hour monitoring fire alarm system in the amount of \$40.00.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #526-2014**

15. 1st & 2nd reading; Organizational Use of the Government Center Chambers by the Boone County Democratic Central Committee for November 15, 2014

Commissioner Atwill moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the Organizational Use of the Government Center Chambers by the Boone County Democratic Central Committee for November 15, 2014 from 10:45 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #527-2014**

16. 1st & 2nd reading; Organizational Use of the Courthouse Plaza and Chambers by the Arthritis Foundation for December 13, 2014

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the Organizational Use of the Government Center Chambers and Courthouse Plaza by the Arthritis Foundation for December 13, 2014 from 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #528-2014**

17. 1st & 2nd reading; Accept resignation of Don Stamper as Executive Director, Hinkson Stakeholders Committee and appoint Jim Loveless as Executive Director

Commissioner Miller said that the agenda item is misrepresented and this is for the Hinkson

Creek Stakeholder Committee, not the Executive Director position.

Commissioner Miller moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby accept the resignation of Don Stamper, former Executive Director of the Central Mo Development Council and the Columbia Home Builders Association. It is affirmed the other stakeholder partners City of Columbia and University of Missouri concur with the appointment of Jim Loveless, the new Executive Director to serve as the development community representative to the Hinkson Creek Stakeholder committee.

Commissioner Atwill seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2 to 0. **Order #529-2014**

18. Public Comment

Commissioner Atwill opened the meeting to Public Comment.

Fred Parry said he is here today to comment on the placement of a plaque over the ichthus religious symbol on the Persian Gulf War Memorial that is on Courthouse grounds. The public needs some clarity on how that decision was made. It is uncertain if that decision was by County Commission or a unilateral decision by one member of the Commission that is directly responsible for the grounds. The public would like some clarity on how the decision was made.

Mr. Parry said he respectfully requests the re-consideration of the decision, if it was a County Commission decision, to cover this religious symbol. He believes there may have been an over interpretation of the Establishment Clause where it specifically refers to freedom of religion versus freedom from religion. Out of respect to the families of these two fallen soldiers, it is the hope that the County would honor their desire to remove the plaque

and the religious symbol be visible to the public.

It is our understanding that this action was taken as a result of an inquiry from an organization in Washington D.C. that expressed some concern. It was only one query and based on that one query, the County decided to cover the religious symbol. Should the County receive a legal challenge, they would find great support from the citizens of Boone County to stand up to that legal challenge and explore the full extent of what might be the consequences.

It is the hope that the County Commission will decide to reverse their decision. While it may subject the citizens of Boone County to litigation that could have easily been avoided, it would also send a message to the generations of men and women who have chosen to step forward and defend the rights of their fellow countrymen. This should not be merely a financial decision from our elected officials, it should be one on the principle of simply doing what is right on behalf of those that can no longer speak for themselves.

Mr. Parry said he would like anyone in the audience that is here today in support of removing the plaque that is covering the ichthus symbol to please stand up and make themselves known. Mr. Parry thanked the Commission for their time today.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Parry for speaking on this issue today.

Jim Coy said he retired as a full Colonel from the military. He served during the Persian Gulf War with the 3rd Group Army Special Forces. He was involved in the operation that liberated Kuwait City. His family has served this nation in uniform. They have fought, died and bled. Along with his two brothers, they have served in uniform for 93 years. He would also like to respectfully ask that the Commission consider the request to restore the Persian Gulf War Memorial to its original condition. If there is a legal concern, he would ask the Commission to seek support from the American Center for Law & Justice, the Becket

Foundation or the Liberty Foundation.

In 1992, he was asked by the Connor family to travel to Syracuse N.Y. to speak at the memorial service for Lt. Patrick Connor. Prior to that visit, he went to Arlington National Cemetery to visit the grave and you can see on the gravestone the ichthus symbol. I believe the family also requested the symbol be on the Memorial here in the Plaza. The Connor family was concerned, maybe even angered initially by the changing of the marker, but since, has just asked that it be restored. Many veterans, organizations and the people in the community would support the Commission if they decided to remove the plaque.

In conclusion, there are some words from two who also served, one a POW in WWII and the second a POW in Viet Nam. During the 7 years as a POW in Viet Nam, Col Fred Cherry said to me that when hope would begin to fade away, it was my faith and only my faith that endured. Hope and faith are closely related.

Willis Meier, who was a POW in Germany during WWII said we have an obligation, not just an obligation, but a sacred obligation to remember those who fought and died on foreign battlefields and never returned home.

Mr. Coy said as a veteran, at the very least, this would seem to be defacing sacred ground, sacred soil. I would be very thankful as would many people in the community if the marker would be restored. If there is a legal path that needs to be taken, there are people who would stand behind the Commission if the decision was made to restore the memorial.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Coy for speaking today.

Dale Roberts said he grew up in Boone County and then went to serve in the military; four years in the Air Force and six years in the Navy. After the military, upon returning to Boone County, he served eight years as Judge Advocate to the American Legion Post 202 here in

Columbia. The group that sent this letter sends out thousands of these types of letters each year. That has been confirmed. They rarely, if ever sue. The same letter was sent to the State Capitol in Jefferson City because displayed on the east side of the Capitol Building are the 10 Commandments. The State wrote back and said that the Capitol Building may be built on a bluff, but our policy is not and the Commandments will stay. They never heard from this group again.

When government entities back down, word gets around and then other people will make challenges knowing that the government will back down and they will get what they want. There are many cases that support this issue, some being “In God We Trust” on our coinage, Christmas Trees in the Courthouse Square, Pledge of Allegiance and others. The Supreme Court has addressed this. There are standard tests that are used. One leading case, *County of Allegheny versus the ACLU*, decided by the Supreme Court, which banned a nativity scene which had a sign on it which said Donated by the Roman Catholic Church, Glory to God in the Highest. The court said that was offensive, but let the Menorah and Christmas tree stay. Citing the *Lemon* case, the test refers to whether the government intends to convey a meaning of endorsement or disapproval of religion. One can argue that the symbol on the monument was not intended by Boone County or whoever paid for it, to endorse or disprove of religion.

As mentioned earlier, the Americans United for Separation of Church and State sends out thousands of these letters and to my knowledge, never sue. As the previous speaker said, the American Center for Law and Justice and Alliance for Defending Freedom litigates these types of case or helps with these cases. I won't speak for them, but I believe that the American Legion, VFW and other groups would stand beside the County if this went to litigation.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Roberts for speaking.

Steve Paulsell said for the past five years he has had the privilege and honor to be in the

company of hundreds, now thousands of war veterans from all over central Missouri and heard their stories, witnessed their humility and experienced their patriotism and learned that many of them have found God in a foxhole even having seen a pocket bible that stopped a bullet from piercing a soldiers heart in WWII.

We start all of our events with the Pledge of Allegiance and to be in a room with 70 war veterans from WWII, Korea and Viet Nam reciting the commitment to the county brings an entirely new intensity to the value of those words. In fact, the decibel level clearly increases with the words Under God. These very words are being deleted from the Pledge throughout this country due to political correctness. Our government is concerned with not offending people and the lawsuits that seem to be flying all over the place. He is offended by people who don't pull over for funerals but deals with it. He is also offended by the rapper Little Wayne who seems to be offended by the American flag. Even sometimes offended by Democrats, but has funded a lot of campaigns and voted for a lot of them. This county, to a large degree, is built on principle and understanding that everybody has a right to their feelings, but we are not always going to agree on everything.

The monument that stands on the Courthouse lawn is to salute the memory of those that have given the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf and in some cases have fought along side some of the very veterans that I have had the opportunity to meet. While I can't speak to the spirituality of every veteran in our community, my experiences over the past five years tells me that the vast, vast majority believe in the fundamental philosophy of those who started this great country, that God indeed has been at work here from the beginning. I have spent a lot of time in Washington D.C. and Gods presence in our nation's history is well documented from the top of the Washington Monument to the graves at Arlington Cemetery. Why shouldn't it be here.

Perhaps this is the time when this community is experiencing a resurgence of patriotism and support for our veterans and military. We should drive a stake in the ground and say not

here, not on our watch, not here. Maybe this is where we do it and the community at large will be behind and supportive of anything that had to be done in defense of that right, that freedom. We need to stop the erosion that is occurring across this country and we can do our part right here to do that.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Paulsell for speaking on this issue.

Rick Rowden said he has read some articles concerning this issue today. The term “taking the state” or keeping state out of religion or vice versa or however it is phrased, sometimes they become non personal entities. Really, religion is a group of like minded people to some degree, a state or in this case, a county.

As some who have spoken earlier have said they do not belong to a group and wanted to express their personal thoughts and opinions. One group that I want to represent today is my children and my grandchildren. Because when we talk about the county, it is easy to put that as something that is just a building and not made up of people. The decision that the Commission has made has impacted people. It grieves me to think that in a few years my grandson or granddaughter will come down here to the County building and maybe bring their children and look at a memorial that really is not what was present several years ago, not what was approved or paid for. In fact, for my grandchildren, we or the people that made this decision have changed the history of our community and that saddens me to a great extent because I want my children to grow up in the America, the County that I grew up in and that the freedoms still exist in our community as well as our nation.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Rowden for speaking.

Sharon Paulsell said she is speaking from the heart. She is just a mom, a mom of a U.S. Army Special Forces Green Beret who has been deployed three times to Iraq and has spent five years in that country. Had that been my sons name on that memorial and you have done

what you have done...you see my emotion and I don't have to say anything else. I think it is a disgrace. I think it was approved....I haven't done any research and just seeing what I have seen on Facebook and the Tribune. That memorial was approved and the names are there and the plaque needs to go away immediately.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Paulsell for speaking on this issue today.

Lynn Acton said she is greatly concerned that a group from Washington D.C. would have such a long arm that would reach to Columbia, MO and change a memorial that is so personal to us. She feels this should be a decision made by the veterans and the families of the veterans and not by unknown people. We don't know their names, only that they want it done and the Commission reacting and covering up a symbol that has a meaning to a lot of people who chose to put this up over 20 years ago. It was approved and paid for back then. It is a little disconcerting to have Washington D.C. or a group dictating to Columbia, MO what we have at our courthouse. We hope the Commission will take another look at this because it may start out as something small, but it might just continue. We want our freedom that our veterans fought and died for. One of the freedoms is to have that symbol on the memorial. She really hopes that the Commission rethinks this and does not let Washington D.C. influence the decisions we make here. Let' think this out for ourselves.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Acton for her thoughts today.

Justin Wright said his family has roots to Mr. Hall who founded Hallsville. He agrees with all those that have spoken before him and has personal relationships with a few of them and he asks that the Commission do what they are requesting.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Wright for his comments.

Jennifer Bukowsky said she is an attorney here in Columbia and agrees with the sentiment

here that the Commission would receive support from the community should the symbol on the monument be challenged. This monument was approved at the time and remained there for quite some time. She does not agree that there is a suit where they can prevail should a lawsuit be filed against Boone County. The county also needs to take into consideration, due to the strong feelings of the community members about this issue, should they choose not to remove the plaque that also could lead to litigation. That needs to be considered as well.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Bukowsky for speaking today.

Cindy Mutrux said she walked into this room today and sees symbols that define us. There is an American flag, an eagle and the County symbol. Now we have covered up a Christian symbol for two men that gave their life for us. They wrote a blank check for us and yet we are covering that up. This is a disgrace. My son also served in the U.S. Army. I call myself a lucky mom. He came home alive. He is now an attorney in St. Louis and I am very proud of him and we should be proud of these men displayed on this monument and we need to represent them and if that means showing a fish symbol then let's represent them that way.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Mutrux for speaking.

Debra Hickam said she is a Patriot Guard Ride Captain here in Columbia. She has laid to rest so many of our sons and fathers. She is also a Gold Star grandmother. She has two children whose father fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice for us to have the flags, eagles and other symbols. She totally supports what everyone is telling the Commission today. This is very emotional because she has lost and knows how hard it is for everyone to see something change because someone does not agree. It hurts.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Hickam for speaking today.

Larry Atterberry said that he hopes everyone enjoys their job, salaries and freedom and

whoever made this decision, he hopes they are happy because he is mad as hell about it and hopes the Commission will reconsider.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Atterberry for speaking.

There were no other speakers at this time.

Commissioner Miller said she wanted to listen and that there is some research that everybody needs to do. The decision was not made lightly and also made in a way that we may have been asked to put things on our Courthouse Square that none of us would be happy with in light of keeping this symbol and getting something else. I am not sure that is the best solution and would like to wait for some of the lawsuits that are being litigated to be finalized to see where we really stand before we make any other determination.

Commissioner Miller said she knows how everyone feels. She values her faith very much and those veterans and the people who have fought. She also has family members who have fought. We Commissioners have a fiduciary responsibility to the County and it is managing risk. At this point, we felt this was the best way to manage this risk.

Commissioner Atwill said he too has served four years in the U.S. Military and is very proud of that service as well as our military. The timing of this event needs to be mentioned. Some months ago, we as your County Commission, were obligated to deal with a significant lawsuit. This project came along about the time we had approved \$250,000 in expenditures for a lawsuit that our citizens will see very little benefit. That was an important event at the time this was under consideration.

Commissioner Atwill agrees with Commissioner Miller in that there are ramifications from this that may not be readily apparent and perhaps the best avenue for us at this time, since we are a three member Commission, is to have another open discussion when all three members

are present with the view of re-considering and getting out the information that covers both sides of this issue. It is a difficult one, although it should not be. There are consequences from actions that we take. We should have another hearing in the future when all members are present. Commissioner Thompson is presently out of town. We will give serious consideration to what was said today and all that may be said at the next hearing. You have impressed upon us your sincere concerns and we take that very seriously.

Commissioner Miller said we need to put some timelines together of what is happening that could affect us here locally.

Commissioner Atwill said it is fair to point out that this issue has been litigated in a number of states and the results have been in all directions. This can quite easily go to the United States Supreme Court at an expense to this County if we chose to go that route. It could be in the range of \$400,000 to \$500,000, money not readily available. We have to keep that in mind. It is easy to say we will find the money somewhere else, but it is hard to do. So, what we will do is have another hearing, right here, with all three Commissioners, and give this reconsideration.

Fred Parry asked if a group of citizens or an individual citizen would be willing to take this case on behalf of the County Commission, would they entertain that request or does the Commission feel that they need to use County Counsel to defend the County.

Commissioner Atwill said a case like this would not be defended by our counselor. These are specialized areas of the law and it is not something we can do not having had prior experience in this area of the law. Someone had mentioned there are organizations that defend these types of cases. I did not know that and would like to look into that and see what their conditions and requirements are to get involved in a case and how far they go. Something tells me that these things don't come without a cost. We will find out. So, Fred, yes, it would be helpful but I can't tell you what the answer is.

Fred Parry asked if the decision to cover the symbol was made by the entire County Commission.

Commissioner Atwill said this decision fell under the Buildings and Grounds Management issue. We were all informed of it. We knew what was happening. We tacitly agreed.

Mr. Parry asked if there was a formal vote.

Commissioner Atwill said there was no formal vote.

Justin Wright asked if the plaque can be removed now and talk about it later.

Commissioner Atwill said they will not do that.

Jim Coy asked when the next hearing will occur and how will we be notified.

Commissioner Atwill said it will be published just like all the other meeting agendas.

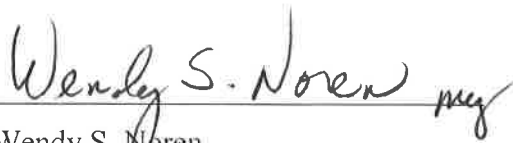
There were no further comments or questions and Commissioner Atwill closed the Public Hearing.

19. Commissioner Reports

None

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Attest:


Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission



Daniel K. Atwill
Presiding Commissioner



Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner



Janet M. Thompson
District II Commissioner