

TERM OF COMMISSION: May Session of the April Adjourned Term

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

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Dan Atwill  
District I Commissioner Fred Parry  
District II Commissioner Janet Thompson  
Director Community Services Kelly Wallis  
Director Purchasing Melinda Bobbitt  
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

### **Purchasing**

#### **1. First reading; Cooperative Contract: 1071615 – Networking Equipment, Software, and Services**

Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo:

Information Technology requests permission to utilize the TIPS cooperative term and supply contract *1071615* with Mobile Wireless LLC of Plano, Texas to provide Networking Equipment, Software and Services on an as needed basis. This is a Term and Supply contract.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

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.

**2. First reading; Cooperative Contract: 170203 – Security Systems Products and Services**

Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo:

Information Technology requests permission to utilize the TIPS cooperative term and supply contract *170203* with American Digital Security of Kansas City, Missouri to provide Security Systems Products and Services on an as needed basis. This is a Term and Supply contract.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

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. First reading; Bid Award Recommendation: 25-30APR18 – Simulcast Hardware and Miscellaneous Equipment**

Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo:

Request for Bid *25-30APR18 – Simulcast Hardware and Miscellaneous Equipment* closed on April 30, 2018. Five bids were received. Dave Dunford, our Radio Consultant, recommends award to Orolia USA, Inc., d/b/a Spectracom Corporation for offering the lowest and best bid. Total contract amount is \$16,800 and will be paid from department 4102 – ECC Backup Center, account 71231 – Owner Costs. \$589,000 is budgeted for 2018.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

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.

**4. Second reading; Cooperative Contract: MODOT Contract #3-160513TV – Street Sweepers – 2014 Stewart-Amos Starfire S-4XL (1<sup>st</sup> read 5-15-18)**

Commissioner Parry moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the utilization of the City of Columbia cooperative contract 25/2018 to purchase trap rock from Capital Sand Company, Inc.

The terms of the Cooperative Contract are stipulated in the attached Purchase Agreement. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #268-2018**

**5. Second reading; Cooperative Contract 58/2018-Trap Rock – Term and Supply (1<sup>st</sup> read 5-15-18)**

Commissioner Thompson moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the utilization of the City of Columbia cooperative contract 25/2018 to purchase trap rock from Capital Sand Company, Inc.

The terms of the Cooperative Contract are stipulated in the attached Purchase Agreement. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Purchase Agreement.

Commissioner Parry seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #269-2018**

## **Commission**

### **6. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> reading; Approve Closed Session authorized per RSMo Sec 610.021 (1) at 2:00pm on May 22, 2018**

Commissioner Parry moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby authorize a closed meeting on Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Conference Room 338 of the Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center at 801 E. Walnut, Columbia, Missouri, as authorized by RSMo 610.021(1), to discuss legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #270-2018**

### **7. Proclamation recognizing Stepping Up Day of Action May 2018**

Commissioner Thompson made the following statement:

This is a momentous occasion. This recognizes not only the work done over the last three years, but the last twenty plus years of collaboration in working together in ways to enhance the lives of those in our community, many of whom suffer from mental illness, many of whom are affected by other circumstances in

their lives that create barriers to complete success. Your work, and especially your work together makes the difference and makes this a place that we can all be proud of. I think the last few years you have really worked hard to increase the amount of respect and opportunities for those people that are most vulnerable and for that, I thank you. NACo has designated May 16<sup>th</sup> as Stepping Day of Action and they asked that we do something to celebrate the last three years.

Commissioner Thompson read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS,** counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

**WHEREAS,** Boone County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of their residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Association of Counties, The Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation started *Stepping Up* to encourage public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails; and

**WHEREAS,** Boone County joined *Stepping Up* on May 21, 2015 to show its commitment to working on this issue locally; and

**WHEREAS,** since committing to *Stepping Up* in 2015, partners within Boone County have made great strides in addressing the prevalence of mental illness in jails by focusing on early interventions to avoid initial contact with the criminal justice system; assessments and case management to ensure effective treatment of mental illness while involved with the criminal justice system; and supervision and follow-up services following criminal justice involvement in order to avoid recidivism; and

**WHEREAS,** *Stepping Up* held a Day of Action on May 16, 2018, for counties to hold an event or participate in local activities to share with constituents the progress they have made in addressing the prevalence of people who have mental illnesses in their jails; raise public awareness and understanding of this important issue; and emphasize their commitment to creating data-driven, systems-level changes to policy and practice to achieve their *Stepping Up* goals.

**THEREFORE,** the Boone County Commission does hereby proclaim May 17, 2018 as the Boone County *Stepping Up* Day of Action and encourages all county officials, employees and residents to participate in or show support of those organizations and programs striving to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in county jails in Boone County and around the nation.

Commissioner Parry moved on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby recognize Stepping Up Day of Action, May 17, 2018.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Atwill wanted to make a statement before the motion was carried. He stated that the work that Commissioner Thompson has put into this program over the last few years is really amazing. She has committed herself completely to this cause.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #271-2018**

Mike Trapp made the following statement:

This has been a great initiative. I have worked in the social services field in Columbia for the last twelve years. Whether it is a substance use disorder or mental health, 60 percent of people who have one have the other. It is the people who have the most barriers who use the most resources and run in to the most trouble. There are people out there whose lives are worse than jail. Sometimes working for people, you end up working in another direction and that is a valuable resource that serves a purpose. Being a policy maker has been very different than helping people directly. As a policy maker to try and see what we can do with our systems, you realize that for every system of why things are the way they are, it is not by accident.

Change comes hard. There are times when things come in play and then you have to

push really hard. It is hard to get things on the community's agenda and to pull together resources. Commissioner Thompson has done an exemplary job of recognizing that there have been people engaged in a struggle at all levels for a long time. She came up with this model which is about collaboration, bringing people together, and resource mapping. We have robust services in Boone County and we are blessed, but the system is fragmented. This model gets to the root of that problem. First, we identify the gaps and then marshal our resources so that we can make things easier for the people with the most barriers. We have to keep getting better at this, but you all have done great things and I look forward to continuing to partner in the future.

Steve Hollis made the following statement:

We couldn't praise Commissioner Thompson's leadership enough. The efforts that we have made around chronic homelessness and veteran homelessness have a lot of intersectionality. I wanted to praise Katie Burnham-Wilkins for being such a fearless leader in that area, and she has really helped me a lot with lifting that issue up. What we have done here is flipped the model on its head and identified the most at risk people and try to put them in housing first. Many of these people are people that cycle in and out of jail. In the last two years, we have housed over 200 homeless people through our coordinated entry process.

We are also part of Missouri Balance of State Continuum of Care. We are one of the few urban areas in the Balance of State. We have helped the Balance of State put this process forward as required by HUDD and I think, positioning us well for the Balance of State to bring in those HUDD dollars which are substantial. That is a huge part of our homelessness efforts that touches on this population, again, with a lot of intersectionality. I'm really looking forward to merging these efforts through our data management tool that Kelly has worked so hard on to see who our high

utilizers in criminal justice and homelessness services are. Hopefully someday also pulling health care providers and really getting in those three sectors to see who is using the most of our resources so we can reduce costs.

Phil Steinhaus made the following statement:

I appreciate being here today. At Columbia Housing Authority, we do housing, and we know that when people don't have housing and are out on the streets, they are much more likely to make bad choices and end up using drugs, going to jail, etc. So, we administer two specialty voucher programs. One is Shelter Plus Care, which is for homeless persons with disabilities. Secondly, the Housing Authority is part of the Functional Zero Task Force and we are working to end chronic homelessness as well as chronic veteran homelessness. We have 118 Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers for homeless veterans with Patriot Place Apartments. Patriot Place Apartments uses the Housing First model, which means they go into Patriot Place without very much screening, and then we work with them to try and address any mental health, substance abuse, any issues they may have.

We are very committed, and we provide a lot of different services. We provide more housing to homeless people than anyone else in the community. We are glad to partner and collaborate with other agencies here. When you give people the support services they need, they are much more likely to make good choices rather than bad ones. But, if they don't know how they are going to eat that weekend, or who is going to take care of their kids, or where they are going to sleep that night, they sometimes make bad choices. Thank you very much.

Janet Schisser made the following statement:



I have been involved with the emergency winter shelter that works with clients to keep them off the streets in the winter for a long time. The first few years of working there, I was impressed with the number of resources we had but frustrated with the silos of those resources. It has been such a gift to me over the last three years to see how the collaboration has grown and to make some progress in helping this population of the chronically ill and homeless. I am delighted with the progress we are making on having a true connection.

Commissioner Thompson said Deacon Janet reached out to the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri and obtained grant funding. This grant was just one of the things done in the last three years to help with resource mapping to create something that could ultimately maybe be an app for an officer to look at when they find someone on the street at 2:00 am, so rather than taking them to the jail, they can see what resources are available for example. So, thank you for your efforts on behalf of this population to energize the church.

Janet Schisser said thank you. The collaboration among the faith communities has been tremendous from day one and this will facilitate collaboration throughout.

Meckenzie Hays made the following statement:

The Department of Corrections is very fortunate to have a supportive leadership that has allowed us to expand what we can do with the mental health population, not only here in Boone County, but in the state of Missouri as well. Our work with the treatment courts has been huge and having Commissioner Clevenger on board has turned things around and expanded our options. Her willingness to make changes, try new things, and bring more and more people into treatment court so they have another opportunity has been great. I think everyone has a calling, and the intersection between Criminal Justice and Mental Health has

been mine. We can make a change here, and so I thank Janet for getting us all involved and showing what can be done.

Carisa Kessler made the following statement:

I think one of the things that I have benefited from the most was the addition of our Source Specialist. That position is one that Janet and Kelly worked really hard to make happen. What that position is able to do is connect individuals who are homeless or are at-risk of homelessness to social security and disability benefits, which is then used for obtaining independent housing. We have been able to use that person with the Functional Zero Task Force and linking them with a lot of other homeless services in the community. The other thing I have noticed is, as others have already stated, is the breaking down of the silos that did exist. It has been amazing just what I have learned about what has been in the community that I didn't know about before and I have been in this field for 12 years. Seeing a lot of minds come together to make good plans and follow through has been great.

Steven A. Smith made the following statement:

Thank you for your support. While it's not the largest in dollars compared to some other sources that we have, the timing and the purpose of the funds that you have provided has helped us open doors to many people, particularly as it relates to alternative sentencing courts. We work with many people with multiple barriers and the vast majority do have legal history. Most have fallen through the crack of society and are not open to traditional school structure. The fund provided have helped us get them in training programs that I call an injection of hope because most of them had not had any sustained success in their whole life. So, they go through this week-long program where they are shown examples of

people like them that they can relate to that shows them they can do this. So, partially due to that and our other programs, our recidivism rate runs about 1/3 of the state and national averages. If you take the wages of people who complete our programs and stick with it and add them together, it exceeds our annual operating budget. Our funding is 60 percent federal, 20 percent state, 10 percent local, and 10 percent donations and fundraising. It is a relatively quick and good return on investment. We really appreciate all that you all do and the focus that you put in these and allowing everyone in this community to collaborate. We all have limited resources and the more we collaborate, it makes those dollars go further.

Rusty Antel made the following statement:

Janet has been relentless in her efforts with this thing as well as focused. She had the ability to focus on the big picture which is key. The problem will never go away, and it hasn't gotten any better. But, we are much better equipped today to deal with it and to help people who need services. We don't have everything covered and there are new challenges. In the last year, we have seen a huge increase in cases coming out of group homes and mental health treatment facilities. That is a problem that 5 years ago or 20 years ago, we never saw, and it is a big challenge for the courts. I think our biggest accomplishment would be the mental health court staffing meeting that occurs every other Wednesday. It has kept everyone's focus on the cases in the jail to make sure those people don't get forgotten.

Commissioner Thompson said thank you, because you are the one who wondered if this would work. Iowa is doing this, and it has reduced their jail population by half. I don't think we have seen that kind of number differential yet, but it is certainly has us keeping our eyes on it. We are making sure that things are proceeding, that there is representation from the jail, representation from the prosecutor's office and from the public defender, and the

mental health staff at the jail so we can really keep our eyes on those people. So, thank you for having that idea. It has made a huge difference in how we deal with people.

Kelly Wallis made the following statement:

Janet has been a fearless leader. She will do what needs to be done to get people to wake up and get movement from them. Without that fearless leadership none of this would be happening. I get to be in the fortunate position of working with all of these great people here today and the funding that we have available in the county has been a big part of that. This momentum that we have going is a win-win effort. It's a win for the tax payers because for better or for worse, these are individuals who are cycling through our jail and who are living on our streets, are our people. This is enabling us to use our resources in a better way. So, we are having more efficient use of tax payer dollars, but we are also getting better outcomes for individuals, and we are increasing the safety of our community. So, it is a win-win all around. We are bringing in more resources to the county, whether that is state or federal. We have been recognized as a county and we are being invited to participate in things to make us better at no cost to us because they see what we are doing and that we have a momentum going.

Commissioner Thompson said thank you everybody. What is happening in Boone County is a testament to your work, your passion, and your dedication.

Commissioner Parry said one of the great things about living in Boone County is the amazing amount of collaboration and we see this over, and over, and over again in our community, but this is probably one of the shining examples of agencies working together with a common goal. It makes Boone County an incredible place to live. So, thank you all for your dedication.

Commissioner Atwill said there are two big parts of this that I see. One is the humanity part, which you are really hammering on. The other is the cost savings and the public doesn't know about this. This is terribly important that they do know though. You can't imagine the challenges we face with respect to the cost of operating a jail. And if we can keep people out of the jail, we've saved the taxpayers.

There were no more comments or questions.

**8. Public Comment**

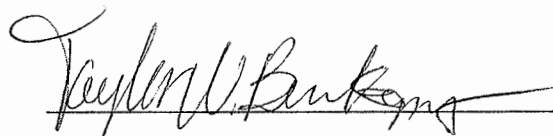
None

**9. Commission Reports**

None

The meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Attest:



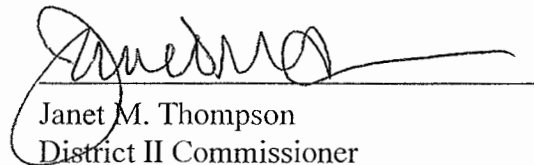
Taylor W. Burks  
Clerk of the County Commission



Daniel K. Atwill  
Presiding Commissioner



Fred J. Parry  
District I Commissioner



Janet M. Thompson  
District II Commissioner