

TERM OF COMMISSION: January Session of the January 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 Emergency Mgmt/Joint Comm. Chad Martin
Director Human Resources Jenna Redel
Director Purchasing Melinda Bobbitt
Director Resource Management Stan Shawver
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

New Adjourned Term

Resource Management

- 1. Plat Acceptance: Sappington Point. S7-T46N-R12W. A-2. David and Linda Sappington, owners. David T. Butcher, surveyor.**

Stan Shawver said Sappington Point is located on State Route MM, approximately three miles to the east of the City of Ashland. The proposed lot is 2.03 acres in size and zone A-R (Agriculture-Residential). This property received a variance for the minimum lot size with an on-site wastewater system under variance 2019-005, which was heard and approved by the Boone County Board of Adjustment in September 2019.

- 2. Plat Acceptance: Graham. S26-T49N-R14W. A-2. Larry Forest and Linda Lee, owners. Kevin M. Schweikert, surveyor.**

Stan Shawver said Graham is located at the end of Graham Road, approximately 4 miles to

the northeast of Rocheport. The proposal is composed of two lots. The proposed lots are 6.51 and 5.0 acres in size, each with an existing dwelling unit present. The property is zone A-2 (Agriculture) and is surrounded by A-2 zoning.

3. Plat Acceptance: The Estates Plat 1. S11-T47N-R13W. A-2P. Joanna M. Wilson Trust, owner. Jay Alan Gebhardt, surveyor.

Stan Shawver said The Estates Plat 1 is located approximately 1,000 feet to the east of the City of Columbia, across High Point Lane and ½ mile south of State Route K. The properties making up The Estates are zone A-2P (Planned Agriculture) that went into effect in July 2019.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

All Plats Done On One Order

Commissioner Parry moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby receive and accept the following subdivision plats and authorizes the Presiding Commissioner to sign them:

- Sappington Point. S7-T46N-R12W. A-2. David and Linda Sappington, owners. David T. Butcher, surveyor.
- Graham. S26-T49N-R14W. A-2. Larry Forest and Linda Lee, owners. Kevin M. Schweikert, surveyor.
- The Estates Plat 1. S11-T47N-R13W. A-2P. Joanna M. Wilson Trust, owner. Jay Alan Gebhardt, surveyor.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #9-2020**

Purchasing

4. First Reading; Contract Amendment Five: 66/2010 – Radio Consulting Services

Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo:

Contract 66/2010 – Radio Consulting Services was approved by Commission for award to David O. Dunford on August 26, 2014, commission order 402-2014.

This amendment renews the contract for the period January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 for the following:

Professional Services at \$60.00/hour, not to exceed \$95,000 per contract period.
Reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$18,000 per contract period.

Invoices will be paid from department 2704 – Radio Network Operations,
account 71101 – Professional Services.

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.

Emergency Management Operations

5. First Reading; Outdoor Warning Siren Placement Agreements with the following:

- **City of Centralia**
- **City of Hallsville**
- **Hallsville School District**

Chad Martin explained these agreements were for placements of outdoor warning sirens and there will be three sirens in Centralia, one in Hallsville, and one in the Hallsville School District. These are for the fiscal year 2019 sirens that have been being discussed for quite some time. These agreements were made up with the Counselor's Office to help formalize specifics for agreements going further. These are five of the six sirens for 2019 and for 2020 there will be eight sirens.

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.

6. First Reading; Right of Use Permit: City of Columbia, Vandiver Drive

Chad Martin explained this is the same premise as the last item but a different method as the City of Columbia has a formal process for right of use permits. City and County Legal worked together to come to an agreement on placement. This is actually a replacement for an outdated siren that exists already on Vandiver Drive.

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.

Joint Communications

7. First Reading; 911 Simulator Equipment Agreement Amendment: Moberly Area Community College

Chad Martin said this is to amend and extend the previous agreement Boone County had with Moberly Area Community College to provide the equipment at their facility to conduct emergency telecommunicator training. This agreement extends the reimbursement the County makes to MACC on a per class basis and puts the agreement on a calendar year so it matches the County budget.

Commissioner Parry asked if Martin knew how many of the graduates the County has been able to hire.

Martin said one has just been released from training today. They do have a good success rate out of the program.

There were no more 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.

Human Resources

8. First & Second Reading; Request to Hire Above the Flexible Hiring Limit: Position 623, Control Room Officer

Jenna Redel said the Sheriff's Department is requesting to hire a former court employee into a Control Room Officer position and they are requesting \$17.55 per hour, which is higher than the FHL, retroactive to yesterday. He started and there was some confusion between the Department and the new employee about the starting pay rate and, once that was figured out,

the Sheriff's Department submitted this request to HR.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Thompson moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the request to hire above the Flexible Hiring Maximum for position number 623, Control Room Officer, and does hereby authorize an appropriation equivalent to \$17.55 an hour for the salary of said position.

It is further ordered the Boone County Commissioners are hereby authorized to sign the attached Request to Hire Above Flexible Hiring Maximum Form.

Commissioner Parry seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #10-2020**

9. First Reading; Request to add Part-Time Personal Property Clerk, Assessor's Office

Jenna Redel said the Assessor's Office is looking to add a part-time Personal Property Clerk to the office. It would be non-benefitted and a maximum of 1,000 hours per year. An employee recently retired from that position and after a 30-day break in service, would like to come back to the County part-time. The office is also going to be eliminating one of their cartographer positions, so this would actually result in a net savings of \$27,833. The Assessor advised his office has seen almost a threefold increase in the number of personal property declarations they process.

Commissioner Parry asked if the Commission could get more information on this before Thursday. He can't read the budget impact statement that was provided and asked if there was a job description for the position.

Redel said it is identical to the old position. Her understanding is that this employee's specialty is working with the mobile home parks and she will continue to do that. She will get a better blow up of the budget impact statement and get it to the Commission before Thursday. The statement shows the currently budgeted amount for the cartographer position and what will be budgeted for this new position.

Commissioner Thompson asked why the cartographer position was no longer needed.

Redel said that position has been vacant since about 2007. When the last person in that position retired and moved to a part-time position, the office retained that position. So, it has been budgeted for but not filled since then and they believe they have an increase in the workload for the personal property declaration processing but not a need for cartography.

Commissioner Thompson wanted clarification the Commission would not see the cartographer position come back.

Redel said no. From her understanding it is a permanent elimination of that position.

There were no more 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.

County Counselor

10. Second Reading; Parking Lot Lease: Boone County and Tom and Isabel Rife (1st read 1-2-20)

Commissioner Parry moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the attached Parking Lot Lease and Right of First Refusal

agreement between Boone County and Tom and Isabel Rife.

Terms of the agreement are stipulated in the attached Agreement. It is further ordered the Presiding Commissioner is hereby authorized to sign said Agreement.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #11-2020**

Sheriff's Department

11. Public Hearing & Second Reading; Budget Amendment: Establish budget for HMV Enforcement Grant (1st read 12-26-19)

Commissioner Atwill opened the public hearing.

There was no one present to address this item.

Commissioner Atwill closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Thompson moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby acknowledge the following budget amendment from the Sheriff's Department to establish a budget for the funds awarded in the HMV Enforcement Grant for the period of 10/1/2019 through 09/30/2020.

Department	Account	Department Name	Account Name	Decrease \$	Increase \$
1251	91300	Sheriff	Mach & Equip		4,568
1251	3411	Sheriff	Federal Grant Reimb		4,568
					9,136

Commissioner Parry seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #12-2020**

Commission

12. First & Second Reading; Board Appointment: Daniel Mings, Planning & Zoning Commission

Commissioner Parry moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby appoint the following:

Name	Board	Period
Daniel Mings	Planning & Zoning Commission	January 7, 2020 thru December 31, 2023

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #13-2020**

13. Public Comment

Brian Beckstrom was present to address the Commission.

Beckstrom said he was present to express concern over the refugee resettlement consent letter. He felt the Commission was very quick to follow up on it and no time was given for public comment. He wished that there had been some time for consideration rather than to just continue doing it. Boone County is taking a large number of people in through the program and he feels that will be a burden for at least a time while they are receiving assistance. He is worried about his own people in the community that are already here and

need help. This is a taxpayer funded program and the money should be spent on the betterment of Boone County citizens. He doesn't want to import poverty into Boone County until the schools are improved and the homeless veterans are helped.

Commissioner Atwill said this proposal came to the Commission a couple of months ago. It was a reaction to the Governor's position. It was known that the effect of a county approval had limited value if the Governor didn't approve it. It was a coincidence that it was signed in close proximity to when the state's was approved. There is very good information through the federal government on the difference in the status of refugees versus other people who illegally come into the county.

Beckstrom said he definitely understands and agrees there is a big difference.

Commissioner Atwill said the reality is that this didn't change anything. This process has been going on for a long time. The federal involvement requiring cities, states, and counties to make it known whether they were willing to accept refugees is what happened. There is a fairly significant network that involves charitable organizations that support the people who qualify as refugees.

Commissioner Thompson said this process started in Boone County because of the Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City. About two decades ago, there was a lot of work going on across the country about the refugee crisis because so many countries were in political turmoil and it was very dangerous for people to stay in their own countries. There were some governmental organizations that worked on the issues in Missouri, but in central Missouri it was the Diocese of Jefferson City and through them, Boone County became involved. For many years it was the Diocese of Jefferson City that lead the efforts and provided those social service safety nets. There is a very precise definition for refugees in the UN. Most of those people coming out of refugee camps across the world do not have a say in where they get to go. A lot of the work that continues is not governmentally driven. A lot of it is coming from churches and church members. A lot of it is coming from Catholic Charities.

Beckstrom said he understands that a lot of it is coming from churches, but the churches will not be funding them in the long run, and they could potentially become a burden. The taxpayer funded programs should be going towards the citizens of Missouri and Boone County. He doesn't feel that they are adding anything to the community. There is a lot of legal immigration that makes the community just as vibrant he would assume.

Commissioner Thompson said refugees are legal. They are coming in legally.

Beckstrom said yes, he means people that applied legally to come to the United States, not ones that were brought here. There is a reason the President put this up there for a vote and consideration by each county, it was done so people could have a say in it, and this is his say.

Commissioner Thompson thanked Beckstrom for coming to present his opinion.

Commissioner Parry said the Commission did discuss this quite a bit before it was signed off on. One of the things that made him comfortable with it was the fact that it had been vetted pretty exhaustively by the Governor's staff. The amount of work in the community that Catholic Charities and Christian Fellowship and other churches do is amazing. These refugees coming in get in and start working to get what they want and need. A family Commissioner Parry's wife has been working with bought a home within 18 months of being in this county. Looking at the normal poverty in this county, it is bewildering to see that in some cases families are on their fourth and fifth generation of families living in public housing. Public housing was originally designed to be transitional and help people get back up on their feet. There is a very different work ethic with some of the refugees coming in. They contribute a lot to their communities and they really are enriching them.

Beckstrom said he has nothing against refugees at all and if they could be funded without taxpayer programs, it would be fine. Commissioner Parry mentioned one of his concerns: how to get American citizens out of intergenerational poverty.

Commissioner Thompson said these people coming here are coming to a country where they do not know the language and might be completely alone in some cases and have deadlines as to when they have to get things done. They may be doing it with some support, but they are getting extraordinary things done within those first six months of being here and they are buying houses and filling jobs that are hard to fill and, in the process, they are enriching their communities.

Lesley Beckstrom was present to address the Commission.

Beckstrom said one thing that bothers her is that the number of refugees coming in doesn't seem to be known. Commissioner Parry said last year it was 15 and they read it was 118. The citizens don't seem to have a say in what happens. Catholic Charities is making a profit, so that is their incentive to do this. It bothers her when people say their work ethic is great and they bring so much to the community when the citizens in Columbia or Boone County have great work ethic and could bring good to the community if they had these same options. These people coming in are vastly different in they way they look at things, etc. and it is being forced on the Boone County citizens. The excuse made that this has been going for years doesn't hold with her. The Commission needs to do their job and let the citizens know what is going on.

Commissioner Atwill said the Commission did do their job. The order that was passed was published and on an agenda. It was a matter of public notice that the order was going to be passed. There was an opportunity for the public to attend at that time. Under the federal guidelines at the moment, the maximum number of refugees that can enter the United States is 30,000 per year. Boone County grows at a rate of about 2,000 new citizens per year and has for the last 20 years. Even if the number of refugees were 118 people, that is about ½ of a percent of the regular growth of Boone County, so it is not as though the County is being flooded with refugees. Everyone should be a little bit sensitive to the fact that most people can look to their own ancestry to see that someone in their own family immigrated to the United States.

The Commission thanked Brian Beckstrom and Lesley Beckstrom for coming today.

There were no more comments from the Commission.

14. Commission Reports

None

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Attest:




Brianna L. Lennon
Clerk of the County Commission



Daniel K. Atwill
Presiding Commissioner



Fred J. Parry
District I Commissioner



Janet M. Thompson
District II Commissioner