

Ste. Genevieve County Commission Minutes

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023**

16<sup>TH</sup> Day of the July Term. The Commission Met Pursuant to Adjournment. Present were Presiding Commissioner Randy Ruzicka, Associate Commissioners Karen Stuppy and Mark Marberry along with Deputy County Clerk, Michele Gatzemeyer.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDING COMMISSIONER RUZICKA AT 8:00 A.M.

THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING THAT WAS HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2023 WERE READ. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SAID MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER STUPPY SECONDED THE MOTION. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY YEA. COMMISSIONER STUPPY YEA. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Scott Schmieder, R&B Foreman, appeared before the Commission to provide report for today's meeting. Following were the items reported:

\*Leased tractor (John Deere, Model 5115M) is expected to be returned sometime this fall when R&B Department no longer using the same. The 'County' will review 'Lease Program' @ time of 'Budget' in an effort to see if this is still feasible for the 'County' surrounding next year. As additional information becomes available; said detail to be reported.

\*Mr. Schmieder noted that R&B Department getting everything back together as it relates to 'Roads'; the 'goal' is to start asphaltting next week.

\*Commission advised Mr. Schmieder regarding 'inspections' to be completed next Monday, 8/28/2023 beginning at 2:00 P.M. Locations are: Bodine Road/Misplay Road.

\*Mr. Schmieder presented 'fuel tickets' for most recent fuel purchase needed by R&B Department. As previously noted, 'Low Bid' was awarded to MFA Oil. (Copies of 'Fuel Bid Requests' attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Commissioner Stuppy provided report from SEMO RPC Meeting that the Commission attended on Tuesday, 8/22/2023. Following were the items reported:

\*Josh Wilkerson w/DNR provided report.

\*Andy Meyer w/MoDOT provided report; all present congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

\*Chris Crocker w/MoDOT provided report. Provided detail on 'MINK' Conference; he also advised that 'Call Date' on TAP Grant is 24<sup>th</sup> of August.

\*MoDOT announced that Ste. Genevieve County was awarded 'BRO' Grant for 'Franklin Bridge' in St. Mary, MO.

\*Topic of Conversation surrounded 'Unfunded Needs Mandates' and its effect on the County.

\*There was discussion surrounding award announced by the Governor for amount of \$50 Million Dollars to be dedicated to 'Railroad Crossings'.

\*Matt w/MoDOT spoke on "I-57 Study; "412 Corridor"; Chester Bridge which is scheduled to start by end of month".

\*Jeremy Tanz w/SEMO RPC provided updated report on CDBG Funding; he advised that the 'plan' is to coordinate with DED Funding.

\*Announcement was made that DERA Grant Funding available; however, to qualify; the vehicle unit being applied for must be > than '2009. (Ste. Genevieve County has qualified for this 'Grant' in the past; however, at this time, we do not have a qualifying unit.)

\*Sandra Cabot reported on behalf of DED – Department of Economic Development.

\*Debbie w/Congressman Jason Smith's Office advised that Congressman Smith currently conducting 'Annual Farm Tour'.

\*FEMA looking into issues in Bollinger County who recently experienced flooding damage as a result of 'flash flooding'.

\*Passport Issues continue.

\*Josh Hawley Report from his office: Senator Hawley to visit Cape Girardeau; Office noted (2) legislative bills that Senator Hawley presented; & Senator Hawley's office spoke on recently introduced legislation better known as "Raising Tariffs on Imports from China" Act.

\*The Southeast Region expressed its concern surrounding 'Closure' of Tyson Chicken Plant in Dexter, MO. along with its effects on the economy in that area.

\*The 'Hot Topic' of Discussion at SEMO RPC Meeting was SB190. Ste. Genevieve County Commission emphasized that they will wait until the 'State of Missouri' takes action on making more clear determination of 'implementation' of said 'Bill'. Commissioner Marberry noted that, currently, laws would actually be 'broke' for implementation especially as it relates to the 'Hancock Amendment'.

Commissioner Stuppy noted that 'Report' from the Southeast MO Commissioner's Meeting was 'parallel' with that of SEMO RPC; however, one matter that was 'added' pertained to "Broadband Funding". The Commission did report that after conclusion of Southeast MO Regional Commissioner's Meeting; they were invited and attended a 'Tour' of the Iron County Courthouse that was recently refurbished through a 'Grant'. They also toured the 'Civil War Era – Iron County Jail'.

Local resident that resides on Toots Hill Lane appeared before the Commission in an effort to find out if any 'final' decisions had been made per the 'inspection' completed on said road by MoDOT & Ste. Genevieve County. Following was conversation that surrounded the same:

\*Issues date back to approximately 1969 at which time Interstate 55 was built. MoDOT had completed maintenance on said road but had suggested that the 'County of Ste. Genevieve' take over the same.

\*Commissioner Ruzicka advised that the road currently does not meet the 'criteria' for a 'County Road'.

\*Commissioner Ruzicka noted that it is currently in the 'Road Policy' for Ste. Genevieve County that we are NOT taking over any additional roads at this time as it has been determined that there is much maintenance to be completed on roads that the 'County' currently has. Unfortunately, the R&B Budget can only extend "so far"; the 'County' must take into consideration what it can afford.

\*Said road is 'Dead End' and only serves approximately (3) families; the 'County' must consider '*best use of Tax Dollars*'.

\*Resident has concern surrounding 'Patching' needed on portion of said road that is on MoDOT "Right of Way". Resident was provided with Chris Crocker's contact information. Mr. Crocker is Area Engineer with MoDOT.

Representative from the 'Daughters of the American Revolution' appeared before the Commission and informed the Commission that their organization is 'slightly' changing the location of 'Monument' that they received approval to install from the 'Commission' due to 'cost saving reasons'. The Commission reviewed the change proposed and 'agreed' that this would not create issues/problems.

Several representatives appeared on behalf of the Ste. Genevieve Art Guild. Review surrounded detail for new gutters that are scheduled to be installed on said building. Additional detail will be provided upon 'gutter project' completion.

Commissioner Stuppy provided report from Ste. Genevieve County Fair Board Meeting that she attended this week. There were only (2) items reported:

\*Letters of Interest for persons to serve on Fair Board in process of being submitted.

\*Financial Report to be provided most likely after next 'Fair Board' Meeting with results compiled after recent Ste. Genevieve County Fair. The Fair Board is waiting on one additional 'payment' from vendor before all figures can be finalized.

Accounts Payable for Date 8/24/2023 in the amount of \$427,018.85 were reviewed and approved for payment by the Commission.

### **ADJOURN**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stuppy to adjourn @ 12:25 P.M. Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the Motion.

Ordered that the Commission adjourn until 8/28/2023.

SUBMITTED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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PRESIDING COMMISSIONER