

Ste. Genevieve County Commission Minutes

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024**

20<sup>th</sup> Day of the January 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 8:15 A.M.

THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING THAT WAS HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024 WERE READ. COMMISSIONER STUPPY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SAID MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY SECONDED THE MOTION. COMMISSIONER STUPPY YEA. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY 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:

\*R&B items no longer needed being listed on Purple Wave Auction Site. It is projected that items will be 'live' on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Additional detail to follow as it becomes available.

\*Mr. Schmieder researching potential for obtaining 'Dump Bed' to be installed on 'recently purchased Duelly Truck'.

\*Mr. Schmieder noted that he is continuing to search for 'Bucket Truck'.

\*Mr. Schmieder noted that 'Pipes' being placed on Colony Church Road.

\*Mr. Schmieder noted that there is plan to work on Cindy Lane/Cedar Trail next week.

Commissioner Marberry noted that he is researching the 'potential' for utilizing 'railroad cars' for possible bridge projects.

Commission received several calls from residents inquiring about Bloomsdale Community Center Location. Presiding Commissioner Ruzicka noted that this matter involves 'Contracts' and would be 'Closed Session Topic' pursuant to RSMo 610.021(2). Commissioner Ruzicka noted that the 'County' does not own the Bloomsdale facility and is currently involved in 'lease agreement' surrounding the same. Commissioner Ruzicka advised that if any decisions are made by the Commission' said detail will be provided.

Review of State Auditor's Report provided as it pertains to the **PREVIOUS PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, ROBIN NAEGER**. The State Auditor's Report indicated the following:

\*It was noted by State Auditor's Office that their 'Rating' regarding Mrs. Naeger's Handling of Duties was a '**POOR RATING**' based on the following findings upon completion of the Audit they performed. Following notes of importance were provided:

\*Annual Settlement – *"The former Public Administrator did not file annual settlements timely."*

\*Disbursements – *"The former Public Administrator did not retain adequate supporting documentation for disbursements."*

\*Bank Reconciliations – *“The former Public Administrator did not prepare or maintain accurate bank reconciliations for ward accounts.”*

\*Electronic Data Security – *“Controls over the Public Administrator’s computers are not sufficient.”* (Entire Missouri State Auditor’s Report, Report No. 2024-022 can be located in Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

The Commission reviewed ‘Meal Per Diem’ as noted in the ‘Employee Policy Manual’. The ‘current’ information shows that the ‘Per Meal Allowance’ is \$20 per Meal with a ‘Total Allowance’ of \$35/Day. Upon close review by the Commission, Commissioner Marberry made a ‘Motion’ to increase the ‘Meal Per Diem Allowance’ to reflect the following: Amount per ‘Meal’ Allowance increased to \$25 per Meal with the ‘Daily Total Allowance’ to remain @ \$35 Per Day. Commissioner Stuppy seconded the ‘Motion’. Commissioner Marberry yea. Commissioner Stuppy yea. All in favor. Motion passed. (Employee Manual corrected accordingly.)

Local constituent called into the ‘Commission’ as it pertains to ‘Rumor’ relating to Bloomsdale Community Center Facility. Commissioner Ruzicka noted that said matter involves ‘Contracts’; thus, it should be discussed in ‘Closed Session Setting’. Commissioner Ruzicka wanted to note the following ‘Points of Interest’ that are available for reporting:

\*Bloomsdale Operation – Very Expensive – with the ‘County’ being in a ‘Lease Agreement’ on said facility; not the ‘owners’.

\*Sales Tax Revenues are DOWN; this is where revenue is generated to operate the Community Center along with all of its ‘facilities’.

\*County Commission has to be stewards of ‘Tax Payer Dollars’ and must look at ENTIRE ‘County Budget’ with best way to facilitate the same. The ‘County’ MUST WORK WITHIN OUR BUDGET’!

\*The Commission noted that no final decisions have been made; Additional detail to be provided as it becomes available.

The Commission is proceeding with ‘Invitation to Bid’ for ‘Masonry Repair/Tuckpointing and masonry maintenance to the Community Center. ‘On-Site’ Pre-Bid Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3/28/2024 with ‘Sealed Bid Opening’ to be held @ 10:00 A.M. on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. (Copy of referenced ‘Invitation to Bid’ attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Notice to Proceed for ‘Design Engineering’ for TAP Grant (Transportation Alternatives Program) for S H Smith & Company Engineers approved with confirmation signature by Presiding Commissioner Ruzicka. Said ‘Grant’, which has been previously reported, applies to ‘Sidewalks’ around perimeter of Ste. Genevieve Courthouse as well as sidewalks along Highway 61 from ‘M’ Road Entrance to Parkwood Drive. (Copy of ‘Notice to Proceed’ attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Local constituent contacted Commission to express concern over ‘D’ Highway; this is MoDOT issue.

Commissioner Stuppy provided report from Community Services Forum Meeting that she attended on Wednesday, 3/13/2024. Following were 'Points of Interest' noted:

- \*Commissioner Stuppy appointed as 'Treasurer' of Community Services Forum.
- \*Commissioner Stuppy provided report on behalf of 'County of Ste. Genevieve'.
- \*Forum noted that it is that time of year for 'Membership Dues'.
- \*April 27<sup>th</sup> – Drug Take Back Event scheduled @ Bloomsdale Family Clinic as well as the Ste. Genevieve County Fire House.
- \*Guest Speaker was Aaron Smith – Tourism Director who spoke about Solar Eclipse, Tourism Marketing Plan.
- \*May 9<sup>th</sup> – Job Fair Seminar slated.
- \*Bretton Stephens w/SGCMH 'New Vision Program' awarded 'Champion Award', which is a 'Statewide Award'. This was noted as a huge honor!
- \*Felix Meyer – Emergency Management Director – reported on latest updates as it pertains to the '911' Towers as projected for construction for Ste. Genevieve County as well as 'Earthquake Summit' that is scheduled for 3/21/2024.
- \*April 18<sup>th</sup> – Center for Life Banquet scheduled.
- \*Dr. Pautler reviewed that SGCMH changing 'Patient Portal'.
- \*Friends Foundation – They noted that they will be sponsoring 'Golf Tournament'.
- \*Job Centers – Mobile Clinic to be held; Ste. Genevieve Library to be location.
- \*Young Mothers Support Group – They announced that they will be hosting their annual 'Easter Egg Hunt' on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- \*Parkwood Meadows – They will be hosting event on 5/18/24 for 'Event' on Alzheimer's.
- \*Aging Matters – Provided update.
- \*Community Counseling – In operation for (50) years – They are doing rebranding – Report provided.
- \*New Vision – Provided Report.
- \*Ste. Genevieve County Health Department – Jenny Mueller provided report.
- \*Brad Arnold – Provided Community Center Report.
- \*St. Vincent de Paul – Provided Update – Providing 'In-Home' Visits to those persons 'in need'.
- \*Next Meeting for Community Counseling scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Linda Wagner appeared before the Commission and requested that along with the Commission; Conference Call be made to Rick Francis, State Representative.

\*HB1746 – Relates to Solar Energy Assessment. Mrs. Wagner provided explanation; Mr. Francis noted that he was aware of said 'Bill'. It was noted that when 'Utilities' go before the Public Service Commission; they wish to use a different 'timeline' rather than what they are presenting in HB1746. (Copy of HB 1746 attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

\*Mrs. Wagner noted to State Representative Francis that this contradicts what 'Original Assessment' was designed to provide in the "80's"; creates issues surrounding 'Equity' Values. In addition, Mrs. Wagner reviewed 'House Joint Rule 878' with Mr. Francis as well; Mr. Francis advised that he would remain in contact with Mrs. Wagner regarding these (2) issues.

Local resident that resides on Brushy Creek Road inquired about 'Paving' of said road; The Commission noted that they are understanding of 'Dust' problems on said road along with many other within the 'County'; however, the 'Budget' for '2024 has already been completed. Budgeting already allocated with the primary focus for this year's budget being 'Maintenance of existing roads'. Currently, there are no allowances for 'New Paving'.

Accounts Payable for Date 3/14/2024 in the amount of \$69,230.43 were reviewed and approved for payment by the Commission.

**ADJOURN**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stuppy to adjourn @ 12:00 P.M. Commissioner Marberry seconded the Motion.

Ordered that the Commission adjourn until 3/18/2024.

SUBMITTED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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PRESIDING COMMISSIONER