

Ste. Genevieve County Commission Minutes

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

13TH Day of the April Term. The Commission Met Pursuant to Adjournment. Present were Presiding Commissioner Randy Ruzicka, Associate Commissioners Cory Ford 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, MAY 12, 2025 WERE READ. COMMISSIONER FORD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SAID MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING THAT WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 WERE READ. COMMISSIONER MARBERRY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SAID MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER FORD SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

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

- *R&B Department currently working on 'Brushy Creek Road' Project.
- *Fuel Bid Request processed for R&B Department. Bids requested; 'Low Bid' awarded to MFA Oil with the following pricing: "On-Road" Fuel Expense - \$2.762/gallon.
- *Mechanic for R&B Department currently working on additional projects for the 'County': He is working on 'Golf Cart' for Community Center & 'Recycling Truck' for Recycling Center.

Request forwarded to the Ste. Genevieve County Commission for annual SEMO RPC Dues. After careful consideration, Commissioner Ford made a 'Motion' to approve reimbursement of 'SEMO RPC Membership Dues for FY '2026 for an amount of \$6,536.05 as presented. Commissioner Marberry seconded the 'Motion'. Commissioner Ford yea. Commissioner Marberry yea. All in favor. Motion passed. (Copy of 'Dues Request' attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Request presented by Ste. Genevieve Library Director, Shawn Long, to the Ste. Genevieve County Commission for 'Letter of Support' as it relates to 'Grant' that Ste. Genevieve Library wishes to pursue in effort to obtain 'funding' for 'outdoor improvements' to increase 'outdoor usage' of Library for users. After careful consideration, the 'Commission' approved proceeding with 'Letter of Support' for development of an outdoor patio, and step/ramp porch access at the site of the Ste. Genevieve County Library location. (Letter of Support forwarded to Shawn Long, Library Director; Copy of the same attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Request for reappointment to the Ste. Genevieve Library District Board received by 'Board Member'. After careful review and consideration, Commissioner Marberry made a 'Motion' to approve the reappointment of Mr. Robert E. Bach to continue serving on the Ste. Genevieve Library District Board for an additional 4-Year Term with service to begin on 7/1/2025 and set to expire on 6/30/2029. Commissioner Ford seconded the 'Motion'. Commissioner Marberry yea. Commissioner Ford yea. All in favor. Motion passed. (Copy of Reappointment Letter 'sent'; Copy attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date.)

Commissioners reviewed requests for 'Reappointment' to the Community Center Board. Three persons submitted letters requesting reappointment. Commission review all requests carefully. The following 'Points' were noted:

- *As previously noted and as per updated 'By-Laws', Community Center Board was previously taken from a 9-Person Board to 7-Person Board with the 'By-Laws' stating that the 'Board' be reduced to 5-Person Board through 'Attrition'.

- *After lengthy review of the (3) Reappointment Letters received and much discussion, Commissioner Marberry made a 'Motion' to approve the 'Reappointment' of Ms. Teresa Donze McClure to the Community Center Board. Ms. McClure was appointed to fill vacancy of Mrs. Becky Bauman. Commissioner Ford seconded the 'Motion'. Commissioner Marberry yea. Commissioner Ford yea. All in favor. Motion passed. (Applicable copies attached to Commissioner Record Supplement for this Date.)

- *The Commission provided additional 'comments' regarding decision that was made. They wanted to note that Ms. McClure brings 'Energy'; the others have served lengthy terms; Commissioner Marberry noted that 'reorchestration' of Community Center being completed due to financial shortages. Fresh Ideas definitely helpful at this time.

A 'Motion' was made by Commissioner Marberry to 'Enter' into 'Emergency Closed Session' Meeting at 9:03 A.M. – pursuant to RSMo 610.021(3) – as it relates to 'Personnel'. Commissioner Ford seconded the 'Motion'. All in favor. Motion passed. Roll was Taken. Commissioner Ruzicka – Aye. Commissioner Marberry – Aye. Commissioner Ford – Aye.

A 'Motion' was made by Commissioner Ford to 'Exit' the 'Emergency Closed Session' Meeting at 9:25 A.M. – as it relates to 'Personnel'. Commissioner Marberry seconded the 'Motion'. All in favor. Motion passed. Roll was Taken. Commissioner Ruzicka – Aye. Commissioner Ford – Aye. Commissioner Marberry – Aye.

Linda Wagner, Assessor, met with the Commission. Review of upcoming meeting regarding SB190 completed. Suggestions on 'best practices' in facilitation of meeting scheduled with 'Taxing Entities' to be conducted @ 1:00 P.M. were as follows:

- *Input from 'Taxing Entities' considered 'helpful' in creating application process that would be unique to Ste. Genevieve County, MO.

- *How is 'Bond Debt' to Ste. Genevieve RII School District affected by SB190?

- *In consideration of 'reassessment years', it is believed that the 1st year constituents of Ste. Genevieve County would see a 'savings' would be '2027,

- *Base Year for 'savings' pertaining to SB190 for Ste. Genevieve County would be '2025.

*Ste. Genevieve County will potentially 'mimick/mirror' the 'Homestead Credit'; credit would strictly apply to 'residential' (Primary Residence up to (5) Acres.)

*It was noted that when facilitating meeting for 'Taxing Entities'; there should be a 'History' of why Ste. Genevieve County did not initiate SB190 immediately upon legislation being passed along w/'Explanation' of Details surrounding the same.

The next portion of 'Regularly Scheduled Meeting' included meeting with 'Taxing Entities' in large 'Courtroom'. List of Attendees at Meeting attached to Commission Record Supplement for this Date. Commissioner Ruzicka began meeting with explanation of SB190, facts surrounding SB190, and explanation as to why the 'County Commission' did not enact the legislation but, rather, legislation implemented in our 'County' due to 'Petition' that met appropriate Statutory Requirements, and was then placed on the Ballot and voted by the 'Voters of the County'.

*Commissioner Ruzicka noted that one of his primary concerns surrounds 'how' can 'County' have authority to determine what to do with 'Tax Rate' that is set by Boards such as the Ste. Genevieve RII School District Board, which is a Board whose members are voted on and 'elected' to office.

*Dr. Paul Taylor, Ste. Genevieve RII School District Superintendent, advised that he has 'budgetary' concerns. (He pointed out that while many school districts have a much higher 'Collection Rate Percentage'; Ste. Genevieve RII School District has a 63% 'Collection Rate'.) This makes 'Budget Preparation' very difficult. Commissioner Ruzicka questioned Dr. Taylor as to 'how' said legislation might affect their 'Bond Debt'?

*Additional input was provided as to how many persons involved felt that 'Expansion of Homestead Credit' could have been utilized for this situation.

*Meeting also facilitated to assist with development of 'Application Process' for Ste. Genevieve County with 'Ordinance' to apply. It was noted that 'credit' only to apply to Primary Residence and up to (5) acres.

*Implementation of Credit as it surrounds SB190 for Ste. Genevieve County has 'Base Year' of '2025 with credit to be implemented in '2026 (If credit applicable).

*Linda Wagner, Assessor, provided additional details surrounding 'dynamics' of credit along with various parameters affecting the same.

Additional explanation provided surrounding RSMo 144.054 – Reduction in Sales Tax Litigation.

Accounts Payable for Date 5/15/2025 in the amount of \$44,102.45 were reviewed and approved for payment by the Commission.

ADJOURN

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ford to adjourn @ 2:00 P.M. Commissioner Marberry seconded the Motion.

Ordered that the Commission adjourn until 5/19/2025.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

PRESIDING COMMISSIONER