

Monday, January 12, 2015

# **Christian County Commission**

January Term

~ Minutes ~

8:50 AM

The Christian County Courthouse

### I. <u>Convene</u>

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 AM by Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ray Weter	Presiding Commissioner	Present	8:50 AM
Bill Barnett	Western Commissioner	Present	8:50 AM
Vacant Position	Eastern Commissoner	Excused	
Cheryl Mitchell	Assistant	Present	8:50 AM
Julia Maples	Administrative Assistant	Present	8:50 AM
Norma Ryan	Chief Deputy County Clerk	Present	8:50 AM

### II. <u>Agenda</u>

#### Motion/Vote - 8:50 AM Christian County Commission

Discussion - Approve Agenda

The meeting was attended by Commission Secretary Cheryl Mitchell, and Jim Billedo.

Commissioner Weter entertained a motion to approve the agenda for January 12,2015

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Barnett, Western Commissioner
SECONDER:	Ray Weter, Presiding Commissioner
AYES:	Ray Weter, Bill Barnett

#### Motion/Vote - 8:55 AM Kay Brown-County Clerk

Minutes & Financials Approval - Approve Minutes & Financials The meeting was attended by Commission Secretary Cheryl Mitchell and Jim Billedo.

The Commission met to approve any minutes or financials.

There are no minutes or financials to approve.

#### Motion/Vote - 9:00 AM Travis Tindall N-Form Architecture

Discussion - Renovation Discussion The meeting was attended by Commission Secretary Cheryl Mitchell and Jim Billedo.

Mr. Tindall contacted the commission regarding renovations that might need to be done on the Justice Center.

The meeting is being rescheduled to Thursday, January 15, at 10:00 am.

Commissioner Weter entertained a motion to reschedule the meeting.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]	
MOVER:	Bill Barnett, Western Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Ray Weter, Presiding Commissioner	
AYES:	Ray Weter, Bill Barnett	

#### Motion/Vote - 10:00 AM Carson Elliff-Attorney

Discussion - Stonehollow N.I.D.

The meeting was attended by Commission Secretary Julia Maples, Karen Matthews, Todd Weisehan, Jim Billedo and Lacey Hart.

The Commission met with Carson Elliff regarding the Stonehollow NID. Carson said Ozark Bank is the successful bidder. We have the order for the temporary note for \$360,000. We will sign the document today and have the money paid to Guaranty banks Thursday and the remainder given to the county. Ozark Bank will wire direct to Guaranty Bank to pay them off. The balance of the money goes to the county. Bill ask if the Stonehollow homeowners are ok with this. John Hatch indicated to Carson in an email that they are to proceed. Julia asked if Ozark Bank is wiring the payoff to Guaranty and the balance will go to the county. Karen asked about Ozark Bank wanting a copy of our audit because they are going to bid. She was a little confused about the situation. Carson is not surprised. Karen did get the information for them and emailed it to them. Bill asked if Darcy could come back on them. Carson said since they have no Homeowner Association and he has the email from the homeowner, he doesn't see how. Ray wants a motion to approve correcting the date. Ray entertained a motion to approve the financing for the Stonehollow NID. Ray amended the motion to read we will get a copy of the email sent to Mr. Elliff from the homeowner that they are satisfied with the terms. Karen asked about the balance. Carson said when we get the new money to put it in with the existing money.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Barnett, Western Commissioner
SECONDER:	Ray Weter, Presiding Commissioner
AYES:	Ray Weter, Bill Barnett

### Motion/Vote - 11:00 AM Christian County Commission

Discussion - Selection Process for Task Force Committee Discussion The meeting was attended by Commission Secretary Cheryl Mitchell, John Dollarhite, 911 Director Rance Duffy, Jim Billedo ,Amelia Wigdon, Community Publisher, Sheriff Joey Kyle, and Lynn Kempen. Patrick Kempen arrived late.

The Commission met to discuss the selection process for the Task Force Committee. Ray said for the audience clarification they decided to form the task force and solicit people who want to serve. They have to date a list of 25 people. He wants to discuss how to make this broad based and how they can make it representative of all parts of the county. He doesn't want the commissioners to hand pick the task force. He thought they would get people from all sides of the county. He thinks they should involve the county

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offices that are affected by this and those offices would be the Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Circuit Clerk and someone from the courts. We ought to ask those offices to consider getting on or consider the names that are on there and make some suggestions. How many picks do each of these offices get and how many picks do the individual commissioners get and what is the size of the committee. Bill said they have discussed and thrown it out there several times. He can't remember how many they picked years ago for that committee. The commission will make a selection by February 15th. Ray asked for input from Sheriff Kyle. He said look over each persons resume and vote yes or no until you get the number you want. John Dollarhite said it needs to be an odd number. He heard citizens and he would like to see a good mix. Sheriff said it would be good to see what kind of representation you get. Lynn is concerned with the sheriff, pa, and commission picking the people because they want to pick people that wanted the utility tax. Ray said they can be sure it won't be overloaded. He thinks the commissioners should have an opportunity to pick who is going to represent the county. Lynn said if you get so many people to pick you can pick the ones for the tax. Bill said the people contacting him, he hasn't asked what their opinion is. Sheriff said the purpose of the committee is to decide how we are going to do it, not if we are going to do it. The decision going forward is how it is going to be done. We are going to have to do something. Let the citizens say what we need to go forward. Rance said what was presented in November was not anywhere near what we need. He would like the opportunity to present his needs so they can say have you thought of this or that. Lynn said it is a given that they will be addressing each of them with regards to what the needs are. Sheriff Kyle has been talking to Judy Dollarhite about what needs to be done. She can represent the critical viewpoint. John thinks there should be 13-15 and no one with any connections with the elected officials. He would like to have citizens that would like to help and voice what they think needs to be done. They should be able to tour and interview the people involved. Are they necessary or are they just whining. They have been told that there are no jury boxes and that doesn't meet statute. That seems like a simple solution. Ray said what he wants to find out is how are we going to accommodate the new circuit judge. John said you are saying it is a done deal and this is the way it is going to be done. John said until we get the economy back, the citizens have tightened our belts. The citizens need to know why, what is it going to cost and how are we going to afford it. Sheriff said we don't have the accommodations to meet the demands. John said if there is that much growth, there is already growth in taxes. Sheriff said that is where you are wrong. The sales tax is 1/2 of what the surrounding counties have. John said he understands that we are a bedroom community and we do need to spend local. John said when you have a development you get the tax money. Ray said that money doesn't come to the county. John asked if the county is only running on sales tax. Sheriff said that is correct. John said we need to be more business friendly. Sheriff said the people have to spend the money here before businesses will come here. John asked why property tax is not going to the county. Ray said what you are talking about there, people have voted for those taxes. John said he is not for or against. He is saying the group needs to look at what is coming and they are going to need to understand and get the people to understand how to get funds. That is an educational thing that the committee is going to need to understand. Ray said they are

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going to have to talk to the group involved so they can understand their needs. John said if the property taxes are not helping in the funding of the county they need to understand that. If the sales tax is the only way the county gets the money. Ray said last year they had an opportunity to levy a tax, they chose not to so the opportunity went away. Ray said maybe we cut our own throat. The same thing is going to happen in 2016 with the use tax and the out of state tax.

If we don't act on those things successfully they are gone. The commission doesn't have too many things to do to find revenue. Those would be good things for the committee to consider. He would ask that we start out by understanding that he doesn't know what would happen if in 2017 if we said we don't have the money. Lynn said the discussion in November only addressed 911. We need to see what the needs are before we act. John said there has to be some wants and needs. We already know that the government is spending way above their means. Sheriff said that is an unfair comparison. In the last 6 years those have been reduced to a trickle. The problem is when the mandates stay in place and the money is no longer coming down there is no more but we still need to provide the same service. The problem is exacerbated by the growth in the economy. John thinks the municipality thing is a big issue. Sheriff said you have to determine whether it is state or local. Ray said he thinks what is going on here today is what his fear is going to happen with this task force. We are going to get so far out that the task force lose focus on what is needed. Patrick said we have a machine and it is not working right. If it is broken you need to find out what needs fixed. The committee needs to find the problem first and then figure out the solution. Ray said he respectfully disagrees. Patrick disagrees and the Sheriff agrees with Ray. We know what the problem is, we are getting a judge and we don't have the means to house them. What the problem is a tax base issue. Lynn ask if the solution is building a new 911 facility or using an existing structure. Sheriff said they are all going all different ways. Ray said he would like to put together a group of citizens and everyone come up with a workable solution. John said the one thing that has been answered is that you need to get the people educated where the tax money goes. The committee needs to understand first and then they can advise. John said he feels they need 13-15 people. If you have less you won't get a good representation. Sheriff said you have to break down the committee into groups. Ray said the committee is going to have to structure and organize. He thinks the commissioner themselves should be able to pick x number. Ray gets one, Bill gets one, Rance gets one, Joey gets one. Ray ask Joey if he would want to pick an individual. Joey said he would be interested in how it was going to be done instead of picking one. He is satisfied with the methodology. Bill asked if they have a meeting with all the people that have signed up and let them vote. Ray asked if they took everyone on the list and tell them to pick 15 people among you and come back to the commission with the recommendation. Joey said they should be registered voters and should live in the county. John said set a date and anyone expressed an interest and that group will choose. The only thing that needs to be made is the number of people on the committee. It would be a caucusing situation. Ray said he is comfortable with 15 and not any more. Rance said the only thing is when that closes the commission can pick the chair. Bill said we are trying to keep it out of our hands. Rance said they have to have a

facilitator. Ray said the commission job is to lay out the objectives and turn them loose. Jim asked at the very start couldn't one of them go in with them and tell them one will lead and once they pick that someone, walk away. That way you are not picking anyone you are just facilitating getting this started. Joey said you are going to have a chaperone. Either the commission or a group need to pick a facilitator to keep them on track and point them in the right direction. It is just someone to keep the committee on track. They will set up the tours, the presenters and make sure they don't go on a wild tangent. A facilitator that is associated with the county. Ray wants to revisit this every Monday and decide on the number today. Voting committee members he is comfortable with 15. Ray entertained a motion to have the task force consisting of 15 Christian county voting residents geographically pertinent.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Barnett, Western Commissioner
SECONDER:	Ray Weter, Presiding Commissioner
AYES:	Ray Weter, Bill Barnett

Motion/Vote - Christian County Commission Discussion - One or More Commissioners May be Attending OACAC Advisory Board Meeting

## III. <u>Adjournment</u>

The meeting was closed at 11:52 AM The Commission is adjourned until Thursday, January 15, 2015.

Presiding Commissioner, Ray Weter

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Western Commissioner, Bill Barnett