



## Christian County Commission

Notice is hereby given that the Christian County Commission met in regular session at:  
The Historic Christian County Courthouse  
100 W. Church Street, Room 100  
Ozark, Missouri, 65721  
On **July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:25 a.m.**

### MEETING MINUTES

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived	Adjourned
Hosea Bilyeu	Western Commissioner	Present	9:25 a.m.	10:34 a.m.
Ralph Phillips	Presiding Commissioner	Present	9:25 a.m.	10:34 a.m.
Mike Robertson	Eastern Commissioner	Absent		
Madi Hires	Executive Administrative Assistant	Present	9:25 a.m.	10:34 a.m.

Attendees: Treasurer Karen Matthews, Resource Management Director Todd Wiesehan, Sheriff Brad Cole, Alicia Chaves, Jolene Cunningham, Captain Koch, Captain Seiner, Lieutenant Davis

A quorum was established. Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included Christian County Commission's agenda for today, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as published, Christian County Commission's regular session minutes dated July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and County Commission's closed session minutes per RSMo 610.021.17 (Auditor Communications) dated July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There are no financials. Western Commissioner Bilyeu so moved. Presiding Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Phillips. Nay: None. Absent: Robertson. Abstain: None.

The Commission met to discuss the historic gazebo in regards to reservations. The gazebo has been first come first serve for sometime and with increased interest the Commission felt it was in the best interest of the County to keep reservations so those interested in using it can plan accordingly. Presiding Commissioner Phillips suggesting contacting County Counselor Housley in regards to a reservation agreement or a process of how to control utilization of the space. Ms. Hires added that she had reached out to Housley and was awaiting a response in regards to the agreement. Western Commissioner Bilyeu noted that the gazebo is a resource for the County (citizens of the County), although owned by the County once it is refurbished by the Historic River District there will be added interest in use. Moving forward it would be best to understand any liability issues and discuss the right of refusal. Presiding Commissioner Phillips agreed and noted the Commission Office would remain the point of contact for any reservations of the space and we will await further communication from Counselor Housley before proceeding. No action was taken.

The Commission stood in recess until 9:45 a.m.

The Commission met with Resource Management Director Todd Wiesehan who is the CARES Act Committee Chairperson. Mr. Wiesehan presented several applications which included the following offices/departments/entities: CCA-008 Christian County Building and Maintenance Department

(\$33,288.43), CCA-019 The Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (\$238,424.97), CCA-032 Christian County Collector's Office (\$5,641.00), CCA-035 Christian County Sheriff's Office (\$682,972.15) and 7 applications, including one previously suspended regarding communications with a cumulative cost of approximately \$3.4 million (CCA-009, CCA-013, CCA-014, CCA-17, CCA-018, CCA-020 and CCA-023).

CCA-017 from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office application had an original request of \$548,451.15. The request is to hire temporary assistant prosecuting attorneys and investigators to help with the backlog of cases from when the courts were closed. The application was adjusted to help hire 3 assistant prosecutors, 2 investigators as well as expenses for laptops, monitors, licenses etc.

CCA-035 from the Sheriff's Office is request for reimbursement on wages of front-line workers. Western Commissioner Bilyeu asked if these were additional wages? Director Wiesehan explained that by the treasury guidelines front line workers directly impacted by the pandemic, who can justify 60% of their position is now related to COVID-19 can request reimbursement. Presiding Commissioner Phillips inquired about budgeted expenses, giving the school district as an example, asking if they would be considered front-line workers during this pandemic? Director Wiesehan stated that was a good question, at this point the committee has not determined schools being eligible for these CARES funds. Discussion continued. Both Commissioners agreed this application should be suspended until Eastern Commissioner Robertson returns.

Applications CCA-009 (CC Sheriff's Office), CCA-013 (CC Emergency Services), CCA-014 (Billings Police Department), CCA-17 (Highlandville Police Department), CCA-018 (Clever Police Department), CCA-020 (Sparta Police Department) and CCA-023 (Ozark Police Department) were discussed next. The CARES Act Committee found these 7 applications to be not eligible for CARES Act Funds as they do not believe it would be wise to commit this level of funding to projects which would place the County and applying entities at such great risk of having to pay back funds that were inappropriately used under the CARES Act.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion. Western Commissioner Bilyeu moved to accept the recommendations by the Committee to find the listed applications approved: CCA-008, CCA-019, CCA-032; as well as the listed applications found not eligible: CCA-009, CCA-013, CCA-014, CCA-17, CCA-018, CCA-020, CCA-023) and the listed application suspended: CCA-035. Presiding Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu added that he wanted to ensure any applications suspended are first come first serve to ensure consistency and equal opportunity given to those requesting funding.

Sheriff Brad Cole stated that as there is talk of preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of this pandemic, while understanding and respecting the Committee's decision he does not agree with it. The request on application CCA-009 would allow the County to communicate with a number of agencies across the state. The request is not to upgrade an existing communications system but rather to add a system that would enable effective communication to help ensure timely response to the needs of the citizens of this County. All current equipment would remain in use.

Aye: Bilyeu, Phillips. Nay: None. Absent: Robertson. Abstain: None.

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Director Wiesehan added that there is an active application from the Christian County Health Department for payroll expenses over \$250,000.00. He asked the Commission to formally state that at least this amount would be allocated for those expenses to help the Health Department. Western Commissioner Bilyeu inquired if these funds would be used for the additional personnel the Health Department is currently needing. Director Wiesehan answered yes. Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to authorize the amount of \$250,000.00 to be dedicated to the needs of the County Health Department. Western Commissioner Bilyeu so moved. Presiding Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion.


Aye: Bilyeu, Phillips. Nay: None. Absent: Robertson. Abstain: None.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to remove the items scheduled for the Sheriff's Office and reschedule them due to time conflicts. Western Commissioner Bilyeu so moved. Presiding Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Phillips. Nay: None. Absent: Robertson. Abstain: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

  
Date: 7-27-20  
Hosea Bilyeu  
Western Commissioner

  
Date: 7/27/2020  
Ralph Phillips  
Presiding Commissioner

ABSENT  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Robertson  
Eastern Commissioner