

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 the 6th day of September 2022, at 9:00 a.m.
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Presiding Commissioner Ralph Phillips	County Clerk, Kay Brown
Eastern Commissioner Lynn Morris	Resource Management Director Todd Wiesehan
Western Commissioner Hosea Bilyeu	Ozark PD, Justin Arnold
Commission Executive Assistant Tammy Nuckolls	City of Ozark, Tim Aucla
Highway Administrator Miranda Beadles	EMA Asst. Director, Bandi Kolbe
City of Ozark Mayor Brad Jackson	Circuit Clerk, Barb Stillings
County Auditor Amy Dent	Circuit Clerk, Danielle Alfred
HR Generalist Krista Raleigh	Light the Way, James, and Michelle
Purchasing Agent Kim Hopkins-Will	Light the Way, Amy Acker
Treasurer, Karen Matthews	Light the Way, Doug Dougan
Light the Way, John Wilson	Light the Way, Danny Black
OSRD, Jerry Countryman	Shawn Harris
Ozark Police Chief Arnold	City of Ozark, Tim A.
County Sheriff, Brad Cole	Light the Way, Nate May
Jail, Captain Floyd	CCES, Michael Lawton
Chief Deputy Payroll, Paula Brumfield	

A quorum was established at 9:00 am.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes approval of today's agenda.

Eastern Commissioner Morris made the motion to approve. Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Phillips, Western Commissioner Bilyeu, and Eastern Commissioner Morris.

Motion passed

The Commissioners met with presenter Miranda Beadles, Highway Administrator, regarding a MoDOT Project J7P3433 Hwy 60 Railroad Crossings. MoDOT has been working in the Billings area to make those railroad crossings safer. One of the crossings, Lambeth Rd on the north side of 60, will be a closed crossing. You have a warranty deed in front of you for the right of way at Lambeth. The signature page has been modified, saying that we are accepting on behalf of Billings special and that they will be maintaining the new right away.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained the motion to approve the project as presented, Western Commissioner Bilyeu made the motion, Eastern Commissioner Morris seconded the motion.

Aye: Western Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Morris, and Presiding Commissioner Phillips

Motion passed.

The commissioners met with Miranda Beadles regarding Ozark Special Road District – Amendment

to Sales Tax IGA. Ozark special contacted Miranda and previously approved an intergovernmental agreement allowing them to upgrade the box culvert at McCauley for this year. With a total sales tax of one hundred thousand dollars. They want to switch that project back to Willow and Hemlock, same cost share and no funding changes. They are requesting that we amend IGA, just the scope of work from Macauley to Willow and Hemlock. They think that they will have it completed by November 1st.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to approve the IGA as presented.
Eastern Commissioner Morris so moved; Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.
Aye: Presiding Commissioner Phillips, Eastern Commissioner Morris, and Western Commissioner Bilyeu
Motion passed.

The Commissioners met with presenter Miranda Beadles regarding the Bridge Investment Program Grant – Order to submit a grant application to FHWA. We would like to go after a federal bridge grant for the construction of three bridges that are currently earmarked through the ARPA funding. The grant needs to be submitted by Thursday, September 8th. This allows us to submit for that grant through the grant website. One of the requirements is that if we are awarded the grant, we will maintain the bridges, which is logical. This is for Hawkins, Green, and Red Bridge construction. It is the Competitive Bridge Investment Program Grant. The total possible for the grant would be 12.1 million. We are requesting 8.22. Hopefully, we will know the outcome of the grant by next summer.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to approve. Western Commissioner Bilyeu moved; Eastern Commissioner Morris seconded the motion.
Aye: Presiding Commissioner Phillips, Eastern Commissioner Morris, and Western Commissioner Bilyeu
Motion Approved

The Commissioners met with presenter John Wilson regarding Light the Way Music Festival. Proposing to obtain a festival license as the state requires in the state of Missouri on land just north of Finley Park on private property. The biggest challenge is going to be the parking. We can put 150 cars on an acre. We have nine acres to put cars on, with an additional forty acres we could use. We can utilize Finley Park, shuttle people to the festival, and use the Career Center for additional parking. There is plenty of parking. We will be alerting the neighbors and communicating with them in advance. Concerns about structure -everything we are bringing out is all mobile. We will provide a blueprint to anyone that will need one. Vendors will follow all health and other guidelines. If it rains, the event will be postponed and rescheduled. If it starts raining during the event, we will keep an eye on the weather. The governor usually comes to the festival, and we welcome the Commissioners and officials to attend. Plan B for parking would be to use the additional forty acres, if that is not an option, we have Finley Park, and if that is not an option, we can utilize the Career Center. We are partners with global Churches in the area, and we will use their paved parking lot and shuttle service if we must. John Wilson will need to fill out an access permit, and a payment bond will also be required. A question on the insurance, the amount that the Commission is seeing printed, including in the last copy you gave us, is still referencing two million in general liability insurance. The August 18th letter recommended that we have it updated when the time comes. He is referencing three million sixty-five thousand nine hundred fifty-two dollars. Currently, the festival carries a 4-million-dollar coverage, a limit of two million for occurrence and four million for general aggregates. With event insurance, you cannot get it for a minimum of 6 months. Any final paperwork that the Commissioners sign will be updated with the correct insurance amount. John will look more into the parking and meet with the Police Chief to discuss logistics. The festival starts Friday, July 7th at 4 pm, the music stops at 11 pm, and the festival ends on July 8th. The festival will be at 2320 N. Riverside Rd, Ozark, Mo. 65721.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion to approve the addendum as presented. Eastern Commissioner Morris so moved to approve, contingent on the fact that they continue to work with all the authorities to make the concert run smoothly, Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Phillips, Eastern Commissioner Morris, and Western Commissioner Bilyeu

Motion Carried

The Commissioners met with presenter Amy Dent and Barb Stillings regarding the County Tax ID item. This is a follow-up to get everything on record. The commission sent a letter to Judge Johnson questioning that the 38th circuit court acquired an independent tax ID# from the county based on some issues that we have had with accounts being opened and the bank not following proper procedure, requiring commission approval to open bank accounts, etc. This started in 2019 with a directive from the Commission to use our tax ID# to follow the guidelines, and during the past audit, it was discovered that almost a million dollars in an account under the county's tax ID number that we had no idea about. This is unacceptable. All the money is accounted for. It violates the contract that we put into the banking institution. We do not have to allow our tax ID# to be used by anyone other than the county by statute. We will make our decisions based on this. We must be 100% compliant. What will we do as a commission as far as allowing our tax ID# to be used without our knowledge? Do we want to continue this path, or do we want to set a deadline for when we can come up with a solution? It needs to be addressed, so it does not become unethical. There needs to be a fail-proof check and balance on the court's end. We are a step short of making a final decision. Other than that, we continue to ask Judge Johnson and the courts to put together a plan that will prevent this from ever happening in the future. The Commission must approve any use of the county Tax ID#. The courts will need to provide us with their final analysis of this issue, and we will take this up on November 1st at 8:30 am.

Presiding Commissioner Phillips entertained a motion that we ask for this response by November 1st. Western Commissioner Bilyeu entertained a motion that we ask the circuit court to provide us with a final analysis of the issue for us from their perspective by November 1st. Eastern Commissioner Morris seconded the motion.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Phillips, Eastern Commissioner Morris, and Western Commissioner Bilyeu

Motion Approved

The Commissioners met with presenter Karen Matthews and Barb Stillings regarding Juror Payment Procedures/Court Funds on a cost-effective and time-effective payment system. Rapid Financial Solutions would be an effective way to go. Jurors would get paid on a card instead of receiving a check. Karen will schedule a meeting with Danielle to come up with a solution by October 30th.

Seeing no further business Presiding Commissioner Phillips adjourned the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 am



Western Commissioner
Hosea Bilyeu

9-20-22

Presiding Commissioner
Ralph Phillips



Eastern Commissioner
Lynn Morris