

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 23rd day of January 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Presiding Commissioner, Lynn Morris	County Auditor, Amy Dent
Eastern Commissioner, Bradley Jackson	Highway Administrator Miranda Beadles
Western Commissioner, Hosea Bilyeu	Captain Mark LaRose
Commission Executive Assistant, Tammy Nuckolls	HR Benefits Coordinator, Krista Raleigh
Sheriff, Brad Cole	Captain, Rocky Seiner,
County Clerk, Paula Brumfield	

A quorum was established at 9:00 am.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes approval of today's agenda, and approval of regular session minutes from January 17, 2022.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda as stated. Western Commissioner Bilyeu made the motion, Eastern Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion but obtained from the vote for I was absent on the 17th pertaining to the minutes. Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Western Commissioner Bilyeu
Motion passed.

The Commissioners met to Discuss and Possibly Vote on the Distribution of a 3% Marijuana Tax. April 4th ballot.

-Presiding Commissioner Morris has spoken with Adam Fax; we did a two-page order that we have to give to our county clerk that all three Commissioners will sign. Mr. Fax is waiting for Lynn to call him today or this evening, and we will have to work on the language.

-Sheriff's main concern is the language of it. I don't think the county wants to put something on the ballot that will not pass.

-Amy says that her stance is almost always going to be that increasing restricted revenues will decrease our financial flexibility in the future for the whole county, but that being said, this is a hill I am not going to die on.

-Presiding Commissioner Morris The most impact will yield on law enforcement.

-Eastern Commissioner Jackson thinks the biggest impact will be law enforcement. Consistency is a big key to the passage of this. Looking at a funding mechanism to take care of the needs of our jail is important. I would prefer it to be a law enforcement tool. We need to address issues and look at moving the jail out of downtown.

-Western Commissioner Bilyeu -If we would designate all of this to the sheriff's department, no question then limits how those funds can be used in perpetuity. This is true for any department, not just the Sheriff's department. There are so many uncertainties with this right now. There are too many unanswered questions to lock in the funds to anybody. If we put it into one fund, it restricts our flexibility. I am not ready to vote yes on earmarking these funds if it passes.

-Presiding Commissioner Morris said Travis Elliot, the general council, made a very strong statement that right now in St Louis is an organized effort to defeat any taxes put on any ballot in


Missouri this year. He didn't think it would be organized by April, and if you're going to put it on the ballot, you should put it on earlier than later. We want our language to be precise.

-Amy -We know we need a jail; we spend most of our maintenance on the jail, and we are statutorily required to operate a jail. So, if you feel that it needs to be earmarked for it to be passed, an option could be for maintenance, construction, and operations of Christian County Jail.

-Presiding Commissioner Morris would like all the Commissioners to come up with their ballot language and your ideas of what they would be comfortable supporting tomorrow and turn it in to Presiding Commissioner Morris.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 am.


Western Commissioner
Hosea Bilyeu


Presiding Commissioner
Lynn Morris
1/30/23


Eastern Commissioner
Bradley A. Jackson