

## 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 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023, at 9:00 a.m.  
Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Presiding Commissioner, Lynn Morris	Nicholas Holladay
Eastern Commissioner, Bradley Jackson	Assessor, Danny Gray
Western Commissioner, Hosea Bilyeu	County Auditor, Amy Dent
Commission Executive Assistant, Tammy Nuckolls	Human Resources Director, Amber Bryant
Purchasing Agent, Kim Hopkins-Will	Executive Administrative Assistant, Alicia Chaves
IT Manager, Bill Rawlings	Sheriff, Brad Cole
Road Superintendent, Brent Young	Administrative Assistant, Sandy Liles

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, approval of regular session minutes from May 23rd, 2023, and approval of work-study session minutes from January 12, 2023, March 14, 2023, two sets of minutes from May 2, 2023, and May 22, 2023.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Eastern Commissioner Jackson made the motion; Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.  
Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Western Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Jackson  
Motion passed.

The Commissioners met with presenter Amber Bryant regarding policy updates. I am proposing an on-call policy. I want to add to the policy on the pay scale we created and add a policy for job descriptions. These things have happened throughout the year and need to be clarified or assessed. People must work their full 40 hours to be eligible for full benefits. We are adding retirement terms; you must give at least 30 days with no more than 90. I'm also asking that we change that employees who do not follow our policy and leave without giving notice or leave on unfaithful terms, they will not be paid any PTO. On the county-owned vehicles, I added some clarification on personal vehicle usage. I added a line that says county-owned vehicles must remain within the county limits unless the elected official has granted prior approval. We are talking about take-home vehicles. There should not be many vehicles going home. Amber will look into purchasing vehicle trackers through a grant and rewording the sentences. Vehicles under the Commission will be at the discretion of the Presiding Commissioner. If Presiding Commissioner is out, it will default to the Western or Eastern Commissioner. Absenteeism and tardiness, I would like you to vote and repeal the pandemic policy that is in place; CDC recommendations are very minimal right now. Right now, if anyone is out, they are supposed to contact HR as they are monitoring it. Amber feels we need to pull all the stickers and repeal the policy. Supervisors will now contact HR if someone is out for three or more days, Sheriff is for two or more.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve the HR policy updates. Western Commissioner Bilyeu made the motion, Eastern Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion providing that we sign off that last sentence from the county-owned vehicles; Amber will make that change.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Bradley Jackson  
Motion passed

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve repealing the pandemic policy. Eastern Commissioner Jackson made the motion, Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Bradley Jackson  
Motion passed

The Commissioners met with presenter Sheriff Brad Cole regarding the IGA Surplus Vehicles GCSO. This is an Intergovernmental Agreement between Christian and Greene County for the conveyance of used surplus property for law enforcement purposes. It's a yearly agreement we have. We use this agreement for the term of the year without having to come back to both Commissions. Price is established as fair market value.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve. Eastern Commissioner Jackson made the motion, Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Bradley Jackson  
Motion passed

The Commissioners met with presenter Bill Rawlings regarding Video/Live Stream for Commission Meetings. We have added to the electric quote of \$924.00 some more hardware, two more TVs, and HDMI cables. We will have a total of three TVs. The total cost would be \$8,392.98. We would only be able to utilize one camera at a time. We will have two microphones. Each camera has one input. We want to thank the Assessors office for their help with this.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion. Western Commissioner Bilyeu made the motion to approve the recommendation from our IT department for the live video stream for Commission meetings, and Eastern Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion.

Aye: Presiding Commissioner Lynn Morris, Commissioner Bilyeu, Eastern Commissioner Bradley Jackson  
Motion passed

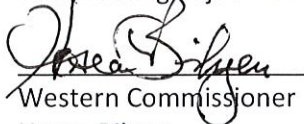
The Commissioners met regarding Communications – Meeting upstairs at 10:00 for the MOSWIN system.

The Commission meeting went into recess at 9:28


10:00 – Work-Study – MOSWIN Project (CC Emergency System) – Becky Bacon & Sheriff Brad Cole

This meeting will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Courthouse.

This meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

  
Western Commissioner  
Hosea Bilyeu  
6-6-2023  
Date

  
Presiding Commissioner  
Lynn Morris  
6/6/23  
Date

  
Eastern Commissioner  
Bradley A. Jackson  
6-6-2023  
Date

## Christian County Commission

Notice is hereby given that the Christian County Commission met for a work-study session at:  
The Historic Christian County Courtroom | 100 W. Church Street 2<sup>nd</sup> floor | Ozark, Missouri, 65721  
On the 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023, at 10:00 am  
Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Presiding Commissioner, Lynn Morris	Billings Mayor, Mickey Brown
Eastern Commissioner, Bradley Jackson	County Auditor, Amy Dent
Western Commissioner, Hosea Bilyeu	Billings PD, Logan Kash
Commission Executive Assistant Tammy Nuckolls	Sparta, Beckie Vessar
Purchasing Agent, Kim Hopkins-Will	Sheriff, Brad Cole
IT Manager, Bill Rawlings	CCE9 911, Becky Bacon
Sparta, SGT. Blackburn	TUSA, Dean Hart
CCES, Michael Lawton	Ozark, Chief Justin Arnold
Motorola, Jason Beiler	EMA Director, Phil Amtower
Nixa, Jim Liles	Motorola, Mike Hoag

Out of recess at 10:00

The Commissioners met to discuss the MOSWIN Project (CC Emergency System).

Becky Bacon - We received an 8.5-million-dollar federal appropriation that we received, and we are about 1.82 million dollars short on the infrastructure side. We are here to discuss how we can, as a community, fund the 1.82 million dollars and fund this project. We are here today to seek help and move forward. This includes Christian County Emergency Services, the Sheriff's office, EMA, prosecutors' office Nixa, Ozark, Sparta Clever, and Billings; all law enforcement agencies will profit from this and our citizens.

Presiding Commissioner Morris – A citizen asked him why it was so expensive. Can you use some of the equipment that you have, or will you need all new equipment? Every county around us has a new system.

Becky Bacon - We are still going to have the radio system that we currently have right now because that is what the fire is going to stay on. The towers that we have are going to be utilized. We have to have P25, we have to have MOSWIN, and Motorola equipment to make it work.

Sheriff Cole-Without the MOSWIN system, we have major communication issues. We have done a lot of hard work and allocated 8.5 million dollars for this project. As a county and municipality, we can come together to figure out some way to finalize this project.

Presiding Commissioner Morris – this is a tremendous public safety issue. This new system will take care of any dead spots up and down the hills in Christian County.

Becky Bacon – We will have better coverage because we're going to be using towers that MOSWIN already has. We will always have dead spots when using radios. The city of Ozark doesn't have a problem with coverage most of the time. When you start looking at the sheriff moving around the country, there are some places where he will still have some spots, but they will have repeaters in the cars that they can hit out on to get better coverage. Even our fire departments in this 8.5 million dollar have the infrastructure in there for them to have interoperability with us. If we were to have a major incident like the Jasper County tornado, they would be able to talk with the PDs on the scene. They will have those in their command vehicles; it also has some infrastructure for the fire department to let them have the capability of still being able to communicate.

Presiding Commissioner Morris – Somehow, we have to figure out how to provide this for first responders, law enforcement, and the public.

Becky Bacon – It's important for the safety of our law enforcement and the fire people that we have out there and for our citizens to have the best of the best. We are a first-class county with a lot at stake in this. If we don't move now, it will cost more later. Moving forward, our plan is to let all of our service providers have access to the MOSWIN systems.

Phill Amtower – I think it's important to know that MOSWIN was started by the state of Missouri several years ago. If Justin goes to KC, I can get on the radio and talk to him any where in the state of Missouri. MOSWIN has invested a lot of money and infrastructure in setting this system up. This is the whole state, not just southwestern Missouri.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – On this 1.82 million left of the 8.45 million dollars, The ask is surely not falling on the county commission to try to provide this 1.82 million. Where is the City of Ozark? I understand the Chief is here. Where is his supervisor? Where is the city administrator?

Justin Arnold – I am here on behalf of them.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – Also, the City of Nixa, these municipalities that are going to be utilizing the system should have skin in the game.

Becky Bacon – I have asked everyone to come to the meeting to be here to discuss and bring everything to the table. The quicker we can get this project off the ground, the faster we can get this radio system up and going.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – All of our ARPA money is on paper, spent, and has been allocated. So, we don't have 1.82 million dollars. The two big cities ought to be coming to the table with something.

Amy Dent – I suggest that this be handled similarly to the regional broadband initiative. Where there is an agreement, and the cost is divided according to population.

Sheriff Cole – We have gone over several different options. Justin came up with the population breakdown, which makes the most sense.

Becky Bacon – We have those numbers, but I didn't bring those today. The population is the most equitable way to go about things, especially for cities like Billings and Sparta because their population is less. It divides and conquers based on the population of that area.

Sheriff Cole – Christian County 911 board, collectively, will come together and allocate an amount of money towards the project from our capital improvement fund.

Phil Amtower – We are enhancing our towers and putting in new equipment. Is there anything else like internet access, river gages, or something out of the box?

Becky Bacon – When we built our towers, we set it up so we would not allow any other business on them because we had interference. That's why we moved our equipment onto our towers so we wouldn't have that interference from that 4 g, 5g. That is something we have discussed, and we could look at it, but from the board's perspective, that could be on the table right now. We will still have the equipment that we currently run now for the fire department on the tower, and our loading is at high capacity.

Dean Hart – I didn't think your towers would hold the new system. So we ran a structural through those, we pulled some equipment off, and it passed, but they're right at the peak. They won't hold anything else.

Sheriff Cole – These towers and all this equipment also service the county road department radio systems. We have an MOU with them for them to have radio functionality.

Micky Brown – Has any of the property tax been allocated?

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – We only receive 1% of the property tax bill. It's already been allocated.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – Amy, share from your perspective a little bit about the reporting requirements if the county participates in something of this magnitude. Do we become the primary reporter, or do they?

Amy Dent – I understand that 911 will be handling the reporting allocations.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – Will funds be available to us in the next budget year, interest earned on ARPA Funds? Would our situation be a little different in next year's budget?

Amy Dent – If I have hard numbers, it can be.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – We have never indicated a commitment or obligation in this process. We have always said we would look at the numbers.

Becky Bacon - MOSWIN requires everything we have listed to be able to talk on their system.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu - Please send the list to Tammy so she can send it to us three Commissioners. Sheriff, do you have money in your budget for what we are discussing here?

Sheriff Cole – No, not in this budget year.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – Who will make up the difference between the 8.45 and 10.27?

Who is going to make up that difference? We need numbers that we can look at. I'm assuming you hope to do this sooner than later.

Becky Bacon – We want to get this out of the box. We have signed a contract, but the contract is dependent on finding the funding. We have some prices locked in; if we don't get busy, there could be a chance that we could lose where we sit right now.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – On this 8.450 grant, is there a stipulation that this must be used by a specific date?

Sheriff Cole - It was allocated for the federal government's budget year, which is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

This is the largest county allocation for any project like this ever in the United States.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – I figured out that it will be 20.50 per resident. That put the City of Ozark and Nixa at half a million dollars.

Becky Bacon – I didn't get any ARPA funds. I am asking on behalf of Christian County Emergency Services for you to help us with this to move forward. The 17 million you got incorporates me in that.

Justin Arnold - I am the chair of the 911 board. We need to remember that all citizens are citizens of Christian County, whether they're in a city or an unincorporated area. The 911 board is committed to putting skin in the game organizationally. As a board, we will make strategic decisions to put us in a position where it's much more affordable. The number of a half million for some of these bigger cities that's probably not going to be what it is because we are putting skin in the game as a board and organization. When we do the numbers, you will be looking at a couple hundred thousand for some of the bigger cities and the county.

Sheriff Cole – The amount that the county would have to put in is around 400 thousand dollars has been collecting interest off of the ARPA money well over that amount. You aren't dipping into any ARPA money; you're basically using interest money.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – I don't know if that's 100% an accurate statement because we know that we allocated funds on three bridges, and over time, we haven't started those bridge projects. We anticipate cost overruns on those bridges, which we would need to use those funds for.

Sheriff Cole – What you have on paper does not include interest.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – True, but I have never seen a project of that magnitude preparing a bridge come in on budget or below budget.

Amy Dent – The issue with using the ARPA interest is that there is a deadline for spending, and given that, the majority of these projects have not been started. There is a good chance we will still have bills after the deadlines. The ARPA interest needs to be saved so we can finish projects. If you get me a number, we have other avenues; I will find a way to piece it together without touching ARPA.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – I think we have done as much of this study session as possible until we get the breakdown of the numbers for the different entities and get a specific ask.

Sheriff Cole – You have 5, 7, or 8 entities in the room right now. I think the population breakdown is a good way to do this.

Justin Arnold – I think we need to make reasonable acknowledgment or compensation for the fact that the prosecuting attorney's office, juvenile office, and EMA will also be using these radios. There is no necessary way to attach a population to those offices other than just a set amount. I do think the population is the fairest way to do it.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – I agree. It may end up being \$16 per person.

Justin Arnold – That's not taking into account the initial investment that I do believe my counterparts on the 911 board are going to make initially even further down.

Sheriff Cole – You have school districts that can also figure into this.

Justin Arnold – I think that between the Sheriff, Becky, Phil, myself, and whoever else on the board, we can come up with an equitable way for all organizations, all municipalities, to be able to move forward on this, and everyone pays their fair share to make sure that our future is solidified with this.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – it could be possible to take the entities that are not population driven. Take the ones that the population doesn't make sense for them. See what commitment they are willing to make towards this and then what's left, do the population for the rest of it. Then that will leave us a smaller number to run the numbers on, which will help Billings, Sparta, and others. It is always easier once you have things on paper and you can adjust things.

Presiding Commissioner Morris – Maybe Becky and the Sheriff devise a working plan for all these different possibilities of money. See what your total is.

Motorola – We met with Becky and whittled the number down quite a bit.

Becky Bacon – Our legal counsel; we are prevailing wages, which brought the cost of the project up because, under state law, he required that we have prevailing wages in this project. That was 25%. Todd was adamant that it had to be prevailing wages.

Presiding Commissioner Morris – It looks to me that it was 3.4 million, and now it's 10 million.

Becky Bacon – This was 3.5 million dollars when we first looked at this a couple of years ago, and it continues to increase. We are locked, but only for a certain amount of time.

Eastern Commissioner Jackson – How long do you need to bring us some numbers? Can we have a meeting Thursday morning? Is there enough time to have the school districts invited as well?

Western Commissioner Bilyeu - Next meeting – we need commitments from all these entities. Once we have commitments, then we set up a final study session.

Jimmy Liles - We need to make this happen. This is something I was fighting back when I was chief. We have the opportunity of a lifetime. There is a commitment that has to be made by each entity. The first step we need to see is the commitment from every entity. Our timeline to get this money spent within this federal budget year. Is that even possible?

Sheriff Cole – The money allocated from the federal government has nothing to do with what we are talking about today. It has everything to do with the equipment that will be purchased and utilized by all these agencies. Motorola can speak to this; I think they have that on the shelf waiting.

Becky Bacon – We can't take 8.5 million dollars if we don't have the 1.82 infrastructure even to be able to start the project. That's the hold-up. We get the commitment of 1.82 million dollars; we can start buying, etc. Time is of the essence. We are going to have to push that we need to begin this project asap, by the first of August. They are going to pay this out as we send them invoices. It is broken down in the contract as to how we pay them.

Western Commissioner Bilyeu – If you can find a date on the calendar that all these folks are available, then I am fine for a meeting at that time.


Becky Bacon - Let me put the numbers together, and I'll put a couple of dates out, and we can come back together just to talk about the numbers again, and we can move forward.

Adjourned at 11:14 am

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

  
Western Commissioner  
Hosea Bilyeu  
6-6-2023

  
Presiding Commissioner  
Lynn Morris

  
Eastern Commissioner  
Bradley A. Jackson