

## **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 St. Room 100

Ozark, Missouri, 65721

## on the 31st day of October 2024 at 10:00 a.m. MEETING MINUTES

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived	Adjau	rned
Hosea Bilyeu	Western Commissioner	Present	10:00 a.m.	11:11	a.m.
Bradley A. Jackson	Eastern Commissioner	Present	10:00 a.m.	11:11	a.m.
Lynn Morris	Presiding Commissioner	Present	10:00 a.m.	11:11	a.m.
Madi Raines	Minutes Secretary	Absent			
Ashley Hannah	Minutes Secretary	Present	10:00 a.m.	11:11	a.m.

Attendees: County Clerk Paula Brumfield, Employee Services Director Amber Bryant, Melissa Bilyeu, Jeremy Burns, Mitchel Urner

Michelle Brown, Rachel Campbell, Debbie Criswell, Dana Criswell, Trevor Croley, Anna Evans, Nicholas Holladay, Gretchen Garrity, John Garrity, Reggie Micham, Tory Pegram, Demi Rains, Deborah Spindle, Bart Wheeler

10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.

Items to be removed from the consent agenda:

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included Christian County Commission's agenda for today October 31, 2024, as posted, Christian County Commission's regular session minutes dated October 09, 2024; Christian County Commission's closed session minutes per RSMo 610.021.3 (personnel) dated October 09, 2024; and financials as follows: Blair Mitchell having online banking access with Ozark Bank (Treasurer's Office), Nixa Area Chamber of Commerce \$660, Clever Chamber of Commerce \$200, Ozark Chamber of Commerce \$1,200. Western Commissioner Bilyeu so moved. Eastern Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Jackson, Morris. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The Commission met with Employee Services Director Amber Bryant and Croley Insurance, Michelle Brown and Trevor Croley to discuss the 2025 Health Insurance Renewal. Croley proposed Christian County renew with United Health Care (UHC) with the option to continue to negotiate prices with UHC. UHC will not offer a rate-cap renewal for the upcoming year. Guardian, vision and dental, will provide the same existing rates – these will be bid the summer of 2025. No vote by the Commission is needed for Guardian since it is voluntary to the employees. Discussion was held.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to proceed. Eastern Commissioner Jackson so moved. Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Jackson, Morris. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The Commission met with Show Me Christian County (SMCC) representatives Rachel Campbell and Anna Evans to discuss the 2025 funding request. SMCC is requesting funding of \$50,000. Eastern Commissioner Jackson would like to eventually see the County reduce funding. Western Commission Bilyeu would like SMCC to give a more detailed report with how money has been spent.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to proceed. Eastern Commissioner Jackson so moved. Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Jackson, Morris. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The Commission discussed the rental lease for E-911. The rental cost has not been increased in several years and has not been charged for their phone line usage. The current lease is \$1,820 per month and will be increased to \$2,300 per month. The lease will automatically renew January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, unless a 90-day notice is provided.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to proceed. Western Commissioner Bilyeu so moved. Eastern Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Jackson, Morris. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The Commission discussed the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2025. Auditor Dent provided information supporting a 2.5% increase for each employee. The COLA will be generated by sales tax. Auditor Dent will do another calculation to see if 3% is feasible.

Presiding Commissioner Morris entertained a motion to proceed, Commissioner Jackson seconded so moved. Western Commissioner Bilyeu seconded the motion.

Aye: Bilyeu, Jackson, Morris. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The Commission discussed the 2025 Holiday schedule. The schedule for Christian County's offices to be closed for 2025 is based on the Supreme Court's holiday schedule. The Commission would like to mirror the Court's holiday schedule and modify to potentially add additional dates. No motion to accept the Supreme Court's schedule. The Commission will create a holiday schedule mirroring the dates of the Supreme Court along with the day after Thanksgiving and the day after Christmas for 2025. This proposed schedule will be presented in the November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Commission meeting.

The Commission discussed the resent resignation of the Library Board Trustee at the Nixa location. Applications will be accepted beginning November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and closed on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Interviews will be conducted November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, through December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Each Commissioner will interview applicants separately. Commission will present their decision on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The Commission discussed the election hearing on the Courthouse grounds. Electioneering is allowed on the Courthouse grounds and inside the Courthouse but cannot be done on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, in front of the County Clerk's office, only the front door of the Courthouse. Election signs are prohibited to be placed in the ground due to not being an open public forum. Further discussion will be held on a future date.

The Commission had a brief discussion concerning communications. The regular Commission meeting for November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, may be moved to November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, due to the rezoning meeting presented by Planning and Zoning. No reservations are granted for the gazebo on the Courthouse lawn, it is first come, first serve. Senator Hawley will be speaking regarding his current campaign on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Date: 11-21-2024

Hosea Bilyeu Western Commissioner Lynn Morris
Presiding Commissioner

Date: (1-21-2024

Bradley A. Jackson Eastern Commissioner