

# Gasconade County Commission

August 26, 2021

## MINUTES

The Gasconade County Commission met with Presiding Commissioner Larry Miskel at the Courthouse beginning with Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance: Commissioner Jerry Lairmore, Present; Commissioner Jim Holland, Present; Presiding Commissioner Larry Miskel, Present.

## PRIOR MINUTES

Commissioner Jerry Lairmore made a motion to approve prior commission minutes dated 8/19/2021 8:30 AM. Commissioner Jim Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Jerry Lairmore (Yes), Jim Holland (Yes), Larry Miskel (Yes).

## WARRANTS FOR PAYMENT - 117525 through 117548

Commissioner Jerry Lairmore made a motion to approve the following items:  
WARRANTS FOR PAYMENT 117525 through 117548  
Commissioner Jim Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Jerry Lairmore (Yes), Jim Holland (Yes), Larry Miskel (Yes).

## ROAD CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

Commissioner Lairmore said the county roads are very dry and could use a shower of rain; Commissioner Holland is still hearing about the windrows taking up too much room on the sides of the roads and a couple other issues. He also mentioned that Binks Excavating has started work on the Frene Creek road chip and seal and is expected to be done tomorrow and then he is coming to the Courthouse to look at the parking lot work to be done.

Commission received for file a consent form from Cathern Miller for gravel out of Dry Fork creek.

Commission received the fully executed copy of the CART cost share program for maintenance rock on county roads leading to MDC areas; that rock can now be placed on the designated roads. Commissioner Lairmore said he has talked to MDC about whether they would consider helping fund chip and seal for these roads instead of every year applying white rock and they are taking it into consideration.

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

Presiding Commissioner Miskel said he will be participating in a ZOOM meeting tomorrow with MRPC relating to broadband; he also mentioned that Governor Mike Parson has committed \$400 million from the states' allotment of ARPA funds to improve broadband infrastructure in the state which is exactly what was needed to move it forward. He also talked about the Hazard Mitigation Plan needing an additional \$2605.80 in-kind match documented; Tammy Snodgrass, MRPC, said she knows several questionnaires have been submitted, which means someone has spent the time completing them, but just haven't yet submitted their in-kind forms. Presiding Commissioner Miskel said he will also be participating in a meeting via ZOOM with MOCA this evening.

Treasurer Mike Feagan reported on the meeting he attended last Thursday at the MRPC offices regarding ARPA funds and the calculation the county can use to recoup lost revenue; it was explained that 2019 is considered the base year for the county to use for coming up with certain types of revenue received and then using the 4.1% growth factor as established by the state of MO, see how that compares to the same revenue line items for 2020. He had started on the process and Clerk Lietzow worked with it yesterday and found several more line items within the budget that can be used as acceptable revenue; whatever the bottom line of that calculation is will be the amount that Gasconade County can take off the top of the ARPA funds and deposit into county coffers and it can be used for any purposes, no restrictions as it relates to ARPA. He reminded Commission that Kelly Sink will be at their session next week to discuss and advise as to their plans for the expenditure of the ARPA funds. Also while at MRPC, Treasurer Feagan talked with them about whether we would have to advertise the public notice regarding the Wayfair legislation since the county does not technically have the usetax in effect until hopefully October 1 and the answer was yes we do since the effective date of the new law is August 28 and our issue passed on August 3. Clerk Lietzow said MAC has provided a template that can be used for the ad in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county; while she is not happy with the wording specifically she will work on the notice.

Presiding Commissioner Miskel had talked with a repr. of the Hermann VFW Post who had ask for permission to set up a temporary food stand, along with the Knights of Columbus Home Assn. during the 5 Octoberfest weekends, on the parking lot of the Doerr building owned by the county; while the Commission does not have a problem with that, they will have to draft a letter to Fernweh Distilling to ask their employees to not park there during that timeframe. Also, a letter will need to be drafted to the VFW/KC Hall allowing them to set up; Clerk Lietzow was asked to draft the letters asking for the county to be named as additional insured.

Collector Shawn Schlottach provided for the minutes a copy of the results of her 2021 Land Tax Sale held Monday; there were 12 parcels sold, eight were first time sales, one second time sale and three third time sales; 9 parcels sold for the exact taxes and costs, with 3 parcels bringing surplus of \$1804.61.

Commissioner Holland reported the company repr. that installed the lightning rod system on the new Courthouse roof had come this week to test the system to be sure it was working properly; the visit was scheduled to happen quite some time ago after the Courthouse had been struck. Commissioner Holland only had a verbal message from the company after the inspection and ask for it in writing. Clerk Lietzow mentioned for the minutes that earlier this week when there was a random rain shower at Swiss, the roof leaked at the Sheriff's satellite office which had never happened before; she thought Commission would want to look into it. Sheriff Scott Eiler was in Commission meeting and wasn't aware that had happened as he had been gone to conference and then on vacation. Clerk Lietzow also told him that the insurance company responded that the wrecked Sheriff's vehicle sitting at Hermann Ford will be repaired and not totaled out; Commission and Sheriff thought that very odd because there was significant damage. Later when Sheriff Eiler talked with insurance company repr., they explained that the NADA value on that vehicle is much higher than the amount the county paid for it on state bid. Sheriff Eiler was in session to ask Commission if he or the road dept. could use a piece of equipment to remove the rotted wooden posts that sit in the yard of the Swiss office location; MoDOT had them installed when it was their building with cables running in between and Commission told Sheriff Eiler to talk to Roger Dahl at the road dept. and he will likely do it for them.

Clerk Lietzow then presented Commission with the details for the Tax Rate Hearing; with the county's assessed valuation increased due to reassessment, the sales tax received also increased, both result in the tax rate decreasing. As is always mentioned, the Hancock Amendment does not allow counties to collect the maximum allowed in property tax and the maximum sales tax; the property tax rate must be reduced to offset one half of sales tax received. The final result is general revenue tax rate will be .1394 and the road and bridge tax rate will be .2541 as calculated by Clerk Lietzow's office and Commission agreed to adopt based on those calculations.

#### **MOTION/VOTE - ADOPT PROPERTY TAX RATES AS DETAILED**

Commissioner Jerry Lairmore made a motion to adopt property tax rates as detailed. Commissioner Jim Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Jerry Lairmore (Yes), Jim Holland (Yes), Larry Miskel (Yes).

#### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Members of the local branch of the Muskrat Society appeared before the Commission to offer a proposal; those were Steve Mueller, Robert Koerber, John Wilding and Paul Fennewald. Mr. Koerber began by asking for permission for their group to use the Doerr building just east of the Courthouse to house their museum and also display the keelboat; they just returned from the MO State Fair where the boat was on display along with the collection of unique items, displays and stories all while in period dress. Also in July, the boat was part of the MO in the Rocky Mtn. Fur Trade display at the Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City. The organization is established as a 501c3 not-for-profit with the goal of educating future generations about the importance of the MO River as the nation grew westward. They would like a long-term lease on the Doerr building with the option to build a boathouse since the building is not large enough to store the boat. Maintenance and upkeep of the property will be provided by the Muskrat Society through donations, memberships and grants; any engineering needed will be paid through the grant funds. Former owner of the property, Joe Roetheli, who bequeathed the surrounding Courthouse properties to the county, supports the project. Mr. Fennewald explained more about the history of the Muskrat Society in the MO River Valley through the fur trade business and the Hawken flintlock ignition muzzleloader rifles of that era. Mr. Mueller spoke about the regions' history which is more well known to the tourist industry than the underutilized resource of the MO river and it's history and he sees this as an opportunity to expand to include a marina and even excursion boat rides. While the Commission is very interested in this project and appreciate learning more about it, there is some initial hesitation in allowing the Doerr building and property to be used for this purpose, particularly with knowing another building would have to be constructed; also the funding mechanism the Society would use moving forward. Commission will discuss and respond.

#### **DELINQUENCY IN PAYMENT OF LOCAL SALES TAX**

Commission received notice from MO Dept. of Revenue of the revocation of sales tax license due to non payment for Amanda M. Ogunjobi, 204 S 1st St., Owensville, MO.

#### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Jerry Lairmore made a motion to adjourn commission until 9/2/2021. Commissioner Jim Holland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

## SIGNATURES

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