



GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION

HAROLD BENGSCHE
COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT

BOB CIRTIN
PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

LINCOLN P. HOUGH
COMMISSIONER 2ND DISTRICT

MINUTES
Commission Court Session
Greene County Archives Building
March 06, 2017
9:30 a.m.

Four documents were submitted and are attached herein as Exhibits A, B, C, and D.

Presiding Commissioner Bob Cirtin called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bob Cirtin led in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call – Upon Roll Call, the following Commissioners were present:

Present: Bob Cirtin, Harold Bengsch, Lincoln Hough

Absent: None

Chamber Economic Development Update

Chamber President Matt Morrow reviewed the highlights of 2016, which included the completion of eight new projects. Those projects accounted for 314 new jobs in the area and \$82 million in capital investment. He said that each year, the Chamber tries to complete 150 formal interviews with site selection consultants representing companies from all around the world, as well as 150 interviews with companies here in the Ozarks. In 2016, the Chamber completed 148 interviews with outside site selection consultants, and 171 interviews with existing companies here in this area. The interviews shed light on barriers for growth, and opportunities for the Chamber to facilitate moving forward in growth.

Leads for 2017 include 21 active projects, including three site visits since the start of the year. The Chamber has seen some activity since the development of Missouri becoming a Right to Work state, leading to one project that is developing as a direct result of Right to Work, Morrow said. Last week, an expansion to the Springfield-Branson Airport was announced.

The Network for Young Professionals recently reached a milestone of surpassing 500 members. Morrow thanked Greene County specifically for encouraging its young professionals to join The Network.

Missouri Job Center Update

Missouri Job Center Director Mary Ann Rojas reported on the Momentum State of the Workforce Luncheon. She reported that the crowd was large – over 300 people. Superintendent John Jungmann was the keynote speaker. Takeaways from the related survey, feature of the luncheon, include active hiring activity, with lots of jobs currently available. Rojas said that statewide there are over 54,000 job openings. As of last Monday there were over 3,000 job openings in the Ozarks. In trying to meet that demand, the Job Center served over 4,600 job seekers last year, Rojas said.

Rojas announced that on April 12, the Job Center will host the “Construction: Build My Future” event, drawing students from area high schools to the Expo Center, where many construction companies and trades companies will have equipment and information available to students interested in the construction trades, which is currently an area that the region is lacking in interested individuals.

Rojas updated the Commission on the Department of Labor Grant, which she announced last month. The Job Center is currently taking applications from those interested in the grant, which is designed to support the healthcare industry. Rojas said that the healthcare industry is in the greatest need of skilled workers.

Lincoln Hough asked for a quick synopsis of what is happening over at the satellite Career Center on the north side of Springfield. She said that there has been increased activity, including a hiring event for Cox looking to fill 275 openings, and resulting in 200 job offers.

Cirtin encouraged the audience to take note that there are many jobs currently available.

Missouri State University Extension Center Update

Civic Communication Specialist David Burton provided the Commission with the Extension’s newsletter (Exhibit A), and pointed out highlights within the newsletter. The newsletter may be found at <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene>.

Burton invited the audience and the Commission to attend any of the events featured in the newsletter.

Top Branch Awards Presented

Greene County’s employee recognition program, the Top Branch Awards, were given to Annette Adams-Smith (Assessor’s Office), Rhonda Ogden (Prosecuting Attorney’s Office), Robin Coble (Highway Department), Sandy McClernon (County Clerk’s Office), for the month of January.

County Administrator Report – Chris Coulter

Coulter informed the Commission that Matt Foyer, Greene County cave specialist, will be added to the recurring agenda for the Commission Court Session to give updates on Riverbluff Cave and other geological topics in the county.

He also told Commission that staff is currently working on updating the county's Land Use Plan along with the City of Springfield and City of Republic, and there will be two public meetings held March 20 and March 27. The Land Use Plan is typically updated on a five-year cycle, but that practice has fallen behind in recent years and the update is about three years behind and much needed.

Budget Office-Jeff Scott

Jeff Scott informed the Commission that, it being the first Monday in March, RSMo 50.815 requires the county to publish a financial statement on or before this day. The Budget Office is not prepared to publish that statement yet and, as practice, the county has not ever met this publishing deadline by this time. The penalty for not publishing this is that Commission does not get a paycheck until that statement is published. The penalty kicks in on April 1, so the county actually has until April 1 to publish the financial statement. It is traditionally prepared by the Greene County Auditor on behalf of the Commission and the Budget Office will be meeting on Wednesday with Auditor Cindy Stein to ensure that this process is taken care of.

Highway Department—Rick Artman

Rick Artman review the department monthly memo to the Commission, highlighting items the Highway Department has been working on in the last month. (See Exhibit A.)

Office of Emergency Management – Erin Hedlun

Communications Director Erin Hedlun filled in for Interim Director Larry Woods to update the Commission. Hedlun reminded the Commission that this week is Missouri's annual Severe Weather Awareness Week. Tomorrow, the 42nd annual stat-wide tornado drill will take place. Greene County will participate, sounding outdoor warning sirens for three minutes, beginning at 10 a.m.

Hedlun invited the Commission to the annual Storm Spotter class to take place Tuesday, March 7 at the Assemblies of God Resource Center.

She distributed the 2016 OEM Annual report (May be viewed at

<https://greenecountymo.gov/files>), which details activities, statistics, staff changes, and details the EMAP reaccreditation process. She also distributed the February Staff Report handout and reviewed highlights of that material, including information of the recent Disaster Camp trip to Emmitsburg, Maryland. (See Exhibit B). Hedlun noted that OEM applied for several grants over the past month, including EMPG grant funding leftover from last year, as well as th2017 EMPG grant funds; and a federal level Complex Coordinated Terrorism Attack grant. She said OEM will keep the Commission updated on any developments regarding those grants.

OEM is working with Ozarks Technical College to provide disaster preparedness classes to English As a Second Language classes. A large number of refugees in Springfield are going through these ESAL classes and they are not very familiar with disaster preparedness skills relevant to this region. OEM is partnering with OTC to present disaster preparedness and 911 safety information in those classes.

In regard to operations, OEM monitored a severe weather event last Tuesday. Once the cell of bad weather reached Greene County it dissipated and the community was fortunate to miss the tornadic activity that other areas of the region saw. Hedlun thanked Commission Cirtin for coming by the situation room to check in on weather monitoring and coordination in preparation for that weather event. More severe weather is anticipated for this evening, she noted.

Commissioner Bengsch expressed encouragement to the public to take part in Storm Spotter training.

Commissioner Cirtin commented that he was recently speaking highly of OEM at Good Morning Springfield, using statistics showing the amount of activity and services put forth by OEM.

Resource Management – Kevin Barnes

Kevin Barnes told the Commission that the geophysical study has been completed for Springfield Laundry and a report was prepared by Environmental Works and submitted to National Department of Natural Resources. Now, his department is waiting for a response. The report proposes drilling two wells into bedrock about 213 feet deep for an approximate cost of \$40,000. Of that amount, he expects \$37,000 of that to be eligible for reimbursement through the dirt fund, as long as the dirt fund holds out. Barnes said that fund will be coming to an end soon, and so there's a desire to do that work as quickly as NDNR will approve the report.

Staff is continuing to work with City of Springfield and City Utilities on integrated planning and that doesn't make a lot of traction, but there was a surprise visit from a group called

National Academy of Public Administration. NAPA met with County, City, and CU staff in preparing a report to Congress about community affordability.

The department is starting the second phase of flood plain mapping, Barnes said.

County Geologist/Cave Specialist – Matt Forir

Matt Forir told the Commission that his department has done some serious mapping of the county recently and this week he will be sending all of the subsurface map data to GIS to be scanned. They will then decide how to display it. This project represents about five years of mapping, he said, recording down to approximately 1,500 to 2,000 feet below the surface. Nine new fault shave been mapped, he said. The mapping should help to predict sinkhole development, as well. The subsurface map of Greene County should be done by the end of this summer. Later in the year, a new geologic map of Greene County will be presented. The department is also developing a joint fractures map. Commissioner Bengsch noted that no other county in the area has such maps.

Building Regulations – Dave O'Dell

Dave O'Dell presented the Commission with a monthly report document, highlight building regulation trends for the month of February. (See Exhibit C.)

Planning and Zoning Division- Kent Morris

Kent Morris told the Commission that activity is picking up in the County, referring to Exhibit C.

Commissioner Cirtin introduced the parameters of presenting Planning and Zoning requests to the Planning and Zoning Board and the Greene County Commission.

Request to Rezone, Planning Board Case No. 19565, Stanley Brunson and Joan Brunson, applicants.

Commissioner Cirtin invited Planning and Zoning Supervisor Kent Morris to take up the request to rezone Planning Board Case No. 1956. Morris presented the Commission with Exhibit D, a packet that includes outlining the description and usage of the property at 1252 E. Farm Road 80, Springfield, Missouri. This is a request to rezone from an Agriculture 1 to an Agriculture Residential District. Owners would like to subdivide this 11 acre tract into five and six acre tracts, approximately. Morris said the Planning and Zoning

Board unanimously recommend approval of the request.

Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor for anyone to speak in favor of the application for Case No. 1956. Joan Brunson presented in favor of the rezoning, explaining the need to downsize the house and make it handicap accessible for her and her husband. The couple's plan is to sell their current home with approximately five acres and construct a handicap accessible home on the remaining approximate six acres. Commissioner Cirtin asked Brunson if she was aware of the conditions, to which she replied that she was aware and understood them.

Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor to anyone to speak in opposition to the rezoning of Case No. 1956. No one came forward. Commissioner Cirtin passed the floor to the Commission for discussion.

Commissioner Hough moved to approve Planning Board Case No. 1956. Commissioner Bengsch seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Aye: Cirtin, Bengsch, and Hough Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Request to Rezone, Planning Board Case Number 1958, Jim Coker and Laney Coker, c/o Ron Cardwell, applicants.

Commissioner Cirtin invited Planning and Zoning Supervisor Kent Morris to take up the request to rezone Planning Board Case No. 1958. This is a request to rezone from an Agriculture 1 to a Rural Residential District. Morris again referenced Exhibit D, outlining the description and usage of the property at 8290 E. Farm Road 152, Rogersville. Applicants would like to subdivide the 10 acre property into a three acre tract with an existing house and a 7 acre tract. Morris informed the Commission that this application was approved unanimously by the Planning Board. Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor for anyone to speak in favor of the application for Case No. 1958.

Builder Ron Cardwell presented in favor of the rezoning on behalf of the Cokers. He explained that the Cokers would be able to meet County requirements in splitting the acres to three with the existing house, and seven with a new house to be constructed on it, noting that the plans are compliant with the Land Use Plan. Commissioner Cirtin asked if the Cokers were aware of conditions and agree to them. Cardwell said yes.

Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor to anyone to speak in opposition to the rezoning of Case No. 1939. No one came forward. Commissioner Cirtin passed the floor to the Commission for discussion.

Commissioner Hough moved to approved Case No. 1958. Commissioner Bengsch seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Aye: Bengsch, Hough, Cirtin. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Request to Rezone, Planning Board Case No. 1959, Anatoliy Gossen, applicant.

Commissioner Cirtin invited Planning and Zoning Supervisor Kent Morris to take up the request to rezone Planning Board Case No. 1959. Morris again referred to Exhibit D, which includes an outline of the description and usage of the property at 4097 S. Farm Road 223. Rogersville. This is a request to rezone from Agriculture 1 to a Rural Residence District, subdividing a 10 acre tract into three parcels. The rezoning would be in compliance with the Land Use Plan, Morris said. Morris informed the Commission that this application was approved unanimously by the Planning Board. Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor for anyone to speak in favor of the application for Case No. 1959.

Applicant Anatoliy Gossen presented in favor of the rezoning, reiterating the request as stated by Morris, and acknowledging that he is aware of and will comply with the conditions.

Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor to anyone to speak in opposition to the rezoning of Case No. 1959. No one came forward. Commissioner Cirtin passed the floor to the Commission for discussion.

Commissioner Bengsch moved to approve Case No. 1959. Commissioner Hough seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Aye: Bengsch, Hough, Cirtin. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Request to Rezone, Planning Board Case No. 1960, Stephen Kulan and Karen Kulan, c/o Amsinger Surveying, Inc., Dennis Amsinger, applicants.

Commissioner Cirtin invited Planning and Zoning Supervisor Kent Morris to take up the request to rezone Planning Board Case No. 1960. Morris again referred to Exhibit D, which includes an outline of the description and usage of the property at 6555 S. Farm Road 223. Rogersville. This is a request to rezone from Agriculture 1 to an Agriculture Residence District, subdividing 15 acres into three tracts of five acres each. This would be in compliance with the Land Use Plan. Morris informed the Commission that this application was approved unanimously by the Planning Board. Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor for anyone to speak in favor of the application for Case No. 1960.

Dennis Amsinger of Amsinger Survey presented on behalf of Stephen and Karen Kulan in favor of the rezoning and stated that there would be compliance in providing additional right of way on Farm Roads 194 and 223, as well as with all other conditions.

Commissioner Cirtin offered the floor to anyone to speak in opposition to the rezoning of Case No. 1960. No one came forward. Commissioner Cirtin passed the floor to the Commission for discussion.

Commissioner Hough moved to approve Case No. 1960. Commissioner Cirtin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Aye: Bengsch, Hough, Cirtin. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Other Planning Board Business

Mr. Morris stated there was no other business to present to the Commission.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public and no further business was presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Cirtin adjourned.

