

Greene County Commission Briefing
Commission Conference Room
1443 N. Robberson, 10th Floor
March 14, 2019
9:30 a.m.

Present: Jason Wert, Kate Morris, Harold Bengsch, Jim Arnott, Laura Merriman, Donna Barton, Lacey Griffin, Leah Betts, Bob Dixon, Rick Kessinger and Tina Phillips.

County Collector Leah Betts explained her sole source purchase request to the Commission. She said Civic Source Software would streamline the cumbersome process of title searches and notifications. She said there are many benefits to using this software and that the use of the software won't cost taxpayers more money than the current process. County Buyer Laura Merriman stated that a patent pending on this software is what makes it a sole source purchase. Merriman explained that Clay County uses this software, as well, and also handled it as a sole source purchase. Commissioner Bengsch made a motion to approve the sole source purchase of Civic Source Software. Commissioner Bob Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Aye: Bengsch, Dixon. Nay: None. Absent: John Russell. Abstain: None.

Betts and County Assessor Rick Kessinger presented for consideration a Board of Equalization case. Due to erroneous assessment, the Lighthouse Church of God was put on the tax rolls for 2017 to 2018 and it was taxed more than \$4,000 per year. The error happened decades ago when the church title was put in the name of three trustees and not just the nonprofit church itself, Betts and Kessinger explained. More recent records caused a clerk to only see names of persons on the title, and not the nonprofit itself, so they complied with current statute that requires taxation. Kessinger and Betts asked the Commission to consider an abatement of the taxes assessed. Commissioners Dixon and Bengsch asked them to look further into statutory requirements, proceed with due diligence, and meet back with the Commission in the near future for decision making.

Sheriff Jim Arnott told the Commission that he recently attended a sheriff's conference and gave an update. He also noted that a Live PD event was slated for March 30 and invited the Commission to attend. Sheriff Arnott said that as of that morning, there were 138 inmates housed out in Henry, Johnson, Cedar, Miller, Pettis, Ray, Moniteau, Audrain, and Pemiscot Counties.

Public Information Officer Donna Barton gave an update on her projects, including a new "Ask Lonnie" feature for social media in which Code Enforcement Office Lonnie Vandiver will answer questions relevant to code enforcement.

Meeting adjourned.