

THE COUNTY COMMISSION  
OF  
STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI

August 15, 2017

STATE OF MISSOURI |  
COUNTY OF STONE |

Be it remembered that a session of the County Commission of Stone County was held in the courthouse at Galena, on August 15, 2017. Those in attendance today were Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood, Southern Commissioner Hank Smythe and Northern Commissioner Mark Maples.

**Morning Session:**

**9:00 AM -10:00 AM**

Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Following the pledge of allegiance, Earl Johnson, IT Director delivered the prayer. Those present for this meeting today are as follows: Sammie Thompson, Planning and Zoning Director; Kristi Stephens, Treasurer; Wendy Metcalf, Public Administrator; Vicki May, Collector; Chief Tim Gideon; Sheriff Doug Rader; County Counsel William McCullah; Denise Dickens, Commission Administrative Assistant, Tena Foster, Stone County Clerk's office; Linda Slaughter, Indian Point Village; Captain Isaac Cornelison; Phillip Burks, Sydaptic Inc.; and David Daehling, Electronic Contracting Co.

**Elected Officials/Department Heads Monthly Meeting**

Northern Commissioner Mark Maples would like for all who can to please attend the PDMP (Prescription Drug Monitoring Program) Meeting, September 14, 2017 at 10:30 AM in the Stone County Court House, County Commission Room. This will be an informational meeting only. Northern Commissioner Mark Maples also discussed letting the County have Good Friday as a Holiday. Discussion on the expansion of the Judicial Building. Discussion only with no decisions made. Date set for the Stone County Employee Christmas Dinner which will be Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, this year.

## **Sales Tax Report**

General Revenue Sales Tax receipts were down 11.31% for the month and up 1.14% for the year. Capital Improvement Sales Tax receipts were down 11.13% for the month and up 1.79% for the year. Law Enforcement Sales Tax receipts were down 11.13% for the month and up 1.79% for the year. The Local Option Use Tax is up \$216,105.1 from this time last year.

## **2017 Budget Expenditure and Revenue lines**

Expenditure and Revenue lines were reviewed and discussed.

## **Recess: 9:24 AM to Commission Meeting at 10:00 AM**

### **10:00 AM**

Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

### **Approval of Commission Minutes**

The matter to approve the minutes for Stone County Commission meeting dated August 10, 2017 was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Maples – yes; Wood – yes. Minutes ordered approved.

### **Schedule of Bills - 1**

Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood presented a schedule of bills that have been submitted to him from the County Clerk's office in the amount of \$8,265.10 This matter to accept the bills for payment was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Maples – yes; Wood - yes. Order to pay carried.

### **Schedule of Bills - 2**

Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood presented a schedule of bills that have been submitted to him from the County Clerk's office in the amount of \$21,043.24. This matter to accept the bills for payment was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Maples – yes; Wood - yes. Order to pay carried.

## Open Bids-Jail Cells Locking System

Advertising resulted in four bids received:

- 1) Accurate Controls with a bid of \$264,300.00
- 2) Advanced System Technology with a bid of \$317,600.00
- 3) Sydaptic Inc. with at bid of \$311,307.53
- 4) Electronic Contracting Co. with a bid of \$138,793.00 with an additional warranty for \$11,880.00

Captain Cornelison will review the bids with Sheriff Doug Rader and bring a recommendation back to the Commission on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 10:00AM at our regular scheduled meeting. Northern Commissioner Mark Maples also asked them to see if the awardee would be willing to set up a 2 part payment plan. (One this year & one the first of February)

### Discussion:

Linda Slaughter, Secretary/Treasurer for Indian Point Village came before the Commission with concerns about lost revenue, safety and illegal practices such as overnight rentals in residential areas with no permits. The County Commission has received letters from Linda Slaughter and Arno Wehr on these situations. Southern Commissioner Hank Smythe is to stay in contact with Linda Slaughter on this issue. Discussion only with no decisions made.

August 15, 2017

TO: Stone County, Missouri, Commissioners  
RE: Zoning Compliance – Nightly Rentals

Following is a reply to an email I received from a constituent this month:

I have no idea just how much revenue has been lost [in the Village of Indian Point] by this practice; I think that \$3,000 per year is probably a conservative estimate - at best. This is very frustrating to me personally that I haven't been able to find a solution to this problem during my tenure as a Trustee. At every turn, we have been met with obstacles that won't allow us to legally follow through on any possible solution we have thought of to date. I am hopeful though that the Fire Department's suggestion of checking for occupancy violations will shut down at the very least some of this illegal practice.

If we take the assumption that we, as a Village, are losing \$3,000 per year and follow that through then: TCED loses \$6,000 per year; Stone County loses \$10,500 per year and the State loses \$25,500 per year - just from our small village. After talking to others from Lake of the Ozarks area and other people here in our area (Branson, Forsyth and officials from other towns on Beaver and Bull Shoals), I've found this is a massive problem for them also.

A couple of years ago, there was a committee formed to write combined Stone and Taney County law/ordinance to help combat that practice, thereby collecting more revenues from taxes already on the books. Louise Pucel, Indian Point Village Clerk, was placed on that committee just before she became ill. After it became apparent Louise couldn't come back, I contacted a member of the committee about joining the committee in her place; that I wasn't as well-versed as Louise in this but was a quick "study" and more than happy to take her place to help. I was told by a member of the committee that it had been disbanded because most of the members of the committee were realtors (including the chair of the committee!) and more interested in acting as agents for the owners than obeying the ordinances already enacted and that it was going nowhere. After thinking about our conversation, I then offered a suggestion that a new committee be formed to include a person each from the Stone and Taney County Commissions and at least one elected official, at least one of the two prosecutors, business person (preferably a resort owner), realtor, resident, Chamber of Commerce and/or TCED, etc., from each municipality in Stone and Taney Counties with zoning rules already enacted to come up with a solution to this problem.

Frankly, I haven't had the time to follow up as diligently as I would have liked BUT I had already decided that after April, 2018, and no longer a Trustee (using up my time and energy), I would take up the fight again. I'm hoping to present the fiscal facts in the above paragraph to persons/legislative bodies involved locally that Branson (huge problem there), TCED along with the Chambers of Commerce and other influential people in the area would put pressure on the County Commissions and get a real resolution along with hefty penalties, if convicted, enacted into a law that is prosecutable.

*Linda Slaughter*

The TRIBESMAN Resort  
of Table Rock Lake  
The Wehr - Arno, Gayle & Arno III  
State Route 4 - Box 1082 • Branson, Missouri 65616  
416 Cave Lane



No Tribe Too Big or Too Small  
Phone (417) 399-2616

To Commissioner Dennis Woods  
106 E. 4th Street  
Galena, MO 65656

August 3, 2017

Representative Dan Phillips  
201 W. Capitol Ave  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Sirs,

During a review to secure funds for our Village law enforcement it was revealed that local Village taxes from businesses are not being fully collected. Attach is an email from a Village trustee.

In Branson, the State, through proper procedures found 11 properties not paying legally required taxes to the Tourism board!

Indian Point pays taxes to the tourism board, the County of Stone, and the State. A small village is hampered by not receiving legal revenue. If the attached letter is correct can you take action to recover these funds? It is noted that it may be years of back taxes due as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Arno Wehr*

**Announcements**

1:00 today the County Commissioners will be attending the SMOG Hazard Mitigation meeting held at the Stone County Annex Building.

Denise Dickens, Commission Administrative Assistant, attended the MORA Conference last week in Osage Beach. She described how they are using recycled plastic for railroad ties and how they recycle Christmas lights. Denise also received a grant to help pay for her trip. And Congratulations to Betty & Greg Fier of Indian Point Village for receiving a recycling award.

**Public Time:**

Time was extended to anyone who wanted to speak to the commission at this time.

**Adjournment:**

The adjournment of the Stone County Commission meeting was brought to decision by roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Maples – yes; Wood – yes. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.