

THE COUNTY COMMISSION
OF
STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI
June 04, 2026

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 June 04, 2026. Those in attendance today were Presiding Commissioner Gordon Weathers, Southern Commissioner Hank Smythe and Northern Commissioner Wayne Blades.

10:15 AM

Presiding Commissioner Gordon Weathers opened the meeting with a pledge of allegiance. Those that were in attendance were: County Counsel William McCullah; Jail Captain Billy Frisbie, Jonn Latta and Sheriff Doug Rader with Stone County Sheriff's Office; David Cash; Steve Seaton; Logan Stewart; Denise Dickens, Stone County Clerk.

Approval of Commission Minutes

The matter to approve the minutes for Stone County Commission meeting dated May 26, 2026, was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Weathers – yes; Smythe – yes; Blades – yes. Minutes ordered approved.

Approval of Commission Minutes

The matter to approve the minutes for Stone County Commission meeting dated May 28, 2026, was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Weathers – yes; Smythe – yes; Blades – yes. Minutes ordered approved.

Approval of Commission Minutes

The matter to approve the minutes for Stone County Commission meeting dated June 02, 2026, was brought to decision by a roll call vote: Weathers – yes; Smythe – yes; Blades – yes. Minutes ordered approved.

Schedule of Bills - 1

Presiding Commissioner Gordon Weathers presented a schedule of bills that have been submitted to the County Commission from the County Clerk's office in the amount of \$85,459.23. This matter to accept the bills for payment was brought to a decision by a roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Blades -yes; Weathers – yes. Order to pay carried.

Schedule of Bills - 2

Presiding Commissioner Gordon Weathers presented a schedule of bills that have been submitted to the County Commission from the County Clerk's office in the amount of \$45,669.03. This matter to accept the bills for payment was brought to a decision by a roll call vote: Smythe – yes; Blades -yes; Weathers – yes. Order to pay carried.

Open Bids – X-Ray Machine Judicial Building

Billy Frisbie, Jail Captain, came before the Commission to recommend STVS (Secure Technology Value Solutions) for a new parcel scanner x-ray machine for the lobby of the Judicial Building in the amount \$32,000.00 plus a three (3) year extended maintenance agreement in the amount of \$10,368.00 for a total of \$42,268.00 to be paid out of the general revenue reserve fund. The matter to accept the recommendation for STVS was brought to a decision by a roll call vote: Blades – yes; Smythe – yes; Weathers – yes.

Interview Library Board Applicants

The Commission received two (2) applications for library board members. Steve Seaton came before the Commission to interview for reappointment of the Hurley Area for a four (4) year term ending 2030. Logan Stewart came before the Commission to interview for Galena Area for a four (4) year term ending 2030. The matter to appoint Steve Seaton and Logan Stewart to the Library Board was brought to a decision by a roll call vote: Blades – yes; Smythe – yes; Weathers – yes. Appointment carried.

Moratorium on data centers, wind farms, solar farms and battery storage

On June 02, 2026, the Stone County Planning and Zoning Board signed a resolution of the Stone County Planning Commission relating to a temporary moratorium on solar energy systems, wind energy conversion systems, battery energy storage systems and data centers to allow amendments to the Stone County Missouri Zoning regulations.

A RESOLUTION OF THE STONE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION RELATING TO A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS, WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS, AND DATA CENTERS TO ALLOW FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI ZONING REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, Stone County has adopted county planning and zoning pursuant to the provisions set forth in §§64.800 – 64.905, RSMo.; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Comprehensive Plan provides authority for the County to provide protection of water quality, the natural beauty of the County, and promotion of growth while preserving the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Zoning Regulations provide regulations to ensure the protection of health, safety, and welfare of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission acknowledges that there is considerable interest and concern on the part of residents of Stone County, Missouri related to the possible development of Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers within the unincorporated territory of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, due to the concerns raised by the residents of Stone County, Missouri and the potential impact Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will have on the health, safety, and welfare of Stone County, the Stone County Planning Commission intends to consider revisions to the Zoning Regulations and other standards to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 64.860, RSMo., the County Commission shall provide for the manner in which the regulations, restrictions and boundaries of zoning districts shall be determined, established and enforced, and from time to time amended, supplemented or changed within the unincorporated territory; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 64.875, RSMo., the regulations imposed and the districts created may be amended from time to time by the County Commission by Order and Ordinance after the Order and Ordinance establishing the same has gone into effect, but no amendments shall be made by the County Commission except after recommendation of the County Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission of Stone County, Missouri is prepared to initiate the process to consider and recommend amendments to the Zoning Regulations, including conducting the required public hearings, to the County Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission requires a reasonable amount of time to conduct public hearings and make recommendations to the County Commission for adoption by Order and Ordinance to amend the Zoning Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Regulations provide that except as specified in the Zoning Regulations, no land, building, structure, or premises shall hereafter be used, and no building or structure or part thereof, or other structure, shall be located, erected, moved, reconstructed, extended, enlarged or altered except in conformity with the Zoning Regulations for the Zoning District in which it is located, and when all other applicable ordinances, statutes, or regulations are met;

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, including public hearings on the amendments to be held, and to allow the amendment of the Zoning Regulations to proceed in an orderly and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission believes a twelve (12) month moratorium is necessary and appropriate on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises within the unincorporated territory of Stone County, Missouri for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications or permits pertaining or related to the establishment or expansion of any Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers uses within the unincorporated territory of Stone County, Missouri, including, but not limited to applications for re-zoning of property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and applications for variances; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission believes it is in the best interest of Stone County, Missouri, and its residents to take steps necessary to make amendments to the Zoning Regulations relating to the use, development and construction of Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers within Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Planning Commission hereby finds, determines and declares that adoption of a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, is necessary and in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County and its inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY THE STONE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Findings and Moratorium. The Stone County Planning Commission adopts and confirms the WHEREAS clauses set forth above as the findings of the Stone County Planning Commission and confirms that the recitals, statements, and facts set forth above are true and accurate. Based upon those findings, the Stone County Planning Commission hereby recommends that the County Commission impose a temporary moratorium for a period of twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Resolution on: (a) the use of land, buildings, structures, or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers; and (b) the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications or permits pertaining or related to the establishment or expansion of any Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Center uses, including, but not limited to, applications for re-zoning of property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and applications for variances.

2. Authority. The Stone County Planning Commission hereby recommends to the Stone County Commission the adoption of a temporary moratorium as described herein. The Stone County Planning Commission Chairman is hereby authorized and directed to transmit this Resolution to the County Commission and to execute and deliver such other documents and information as may be necessary to carry out and comply with the intent of this Resolution.

3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval by the Planning Commission.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of Stone County, Missouri this 2nd day of June, 2026.

 Chairman Pierce Township	 Vice-Chairman Hurley Township
_____ Secretary Township	_____ Ponce Township
 Flat Creek A Township	 Ruth C Township
 Ruth A Township	 Grant Township

 Alpine Township	 Pine B Township
 Hurley Township	_____ Pine A Township
_____ Pierce Township	_____ Williams Township
_____ Flat Creek B Township	 Sunset Cove Township
_____ McKinley Township	 Lincoln Township
_____ Washington Township	 Ruth B Rural Township
 Union Township	

ATTEST:

The Stone County Commission signed the order and ordinance enacting a temporary moratorium on solar energy systems, wind energy conversion systems, battery energy storage systems, and data centers to allow for amendments to the Stone County, Missouri Zoning regulations. The matter to accept and enact a twelve (12) moratorium for Stone County was brought to a decision by a roll call vote: Blades – yes; Smythe – yes; Weathers – yes. matter carried.

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI
AN ORDER AND ORDINANCE ENACTING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM
ON SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS, WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS,
BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS, AND DATA CENTERS TO ALLOW
FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI ZONING
REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, Stone County has adopted county planning and zoning pursuant to the provisions set forth in §§64.800 – 64.905, RSMo.; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Comprehensive Plan provides authority for the County to provide protection of water quality, the natural beauty of the County, and promotion of growth while preserving the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Zoning Regulations provide regulations to ensure the protection of health, safety, and welfare of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the County Commission acknowledges that there is considerable interest and concern on the part of residents of Stone County, Missouri related to the possible development of Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers within the unincorporated territory of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, due to the concerns raised by the residents of Stone County, Missouri and the potential impact Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will have on the health, safety, and welfare of Stone County, the County Commission intends to consider revisions to the Zoning Regulations and other standards to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 64.860, RSMo., the County Commission shall provide for the manner in which the regulations, restrictions and boundaries of zoning districts shall be determined, established and enforced, and from time to time amended, supplemented or changed within the unincorporated territory; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 64.875, RSMo., the regulations imposed and the districts created may be amended from time to time by the County Commission by Order after the Order establishing the same has gone into effect, but no amendments shall be made by the County Commission except after recommendation of the County Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of Stone County, Missouri is prepared to initiate the process to consider and recommend amendments to the Zoning Regulations, including conducting the required public hearings; and

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Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers within Stone County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the Stone County Commission hereby finds, determines and declares that adoption of a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, is necessary and in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County and its inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Findings.** The County Commission adopts and confirms the WHEREAS clauses set forth above as the findings of the County Commission and confirms that the recitals, statements, and facts set forth above are true and accurate.

2. **Adoption and Enactment.** The County Commission of Stone County, Missouri orders as follows:

A. Stone County, Missouri hereby imposes a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications to re-zone property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers. During the moratorium period set forth in paragraph B, the Planning and Zoning Commission or Planning Administrator shall not accept, consider, or act upon any requests to re-zone property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers.

B. The moratorium hereby imposed shall continue and remain in effect for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of adoption of this Order and Ordinance in order to allow for time to consider the comprehensive amendments to the Zoning Regulations, including holding public hearings and making recommendations to the County Commission. The moratorium established by this Order and Ordinance shall automatically terminate twelve (12) months after the date of adoption of this Order and Ordinance unless the County Commission terminates this moratorium at an earlier period of time or by further extension

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WHEREAS, the Planning Commission requires a reasonable amount of time to conduct public hearings and make recommendations to the County Commission in order to amend the Zoning Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Regulations provide that except as specified in the Zoning Regulations, no land, building, structure, or premises shall hereafter be used, and no building or structure or part thereof, or other structure, shall be located, erected, moved, reconstructed, extended, enlarged or altered except in conformity with the Zoning Regulations for the Zoning District in which it is located, and when all other applicable ordinances, statutes, or regulations are met;

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, including public hearings on the amendments to be held, and to allow the amendment of the Zoning Regulations to proceed in an orderly and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the County Commission believes a twelve (12) month moratorium is necessary and appropriate on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, is necessary and in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County and its inhabitants, as set forth in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended that the Stone County Commission adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land, buildings, structures or premises for Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers, and on the receipt, processing, and consideration of applications for re-zoning property, applications for conditional use permits, building permit applications, and variance applications relating to Solar Energy Systems, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, Battery Energy Storage Systems, and Data Centers will allow for consideration of amendments to the Zoning Regulations, is necessary and in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of Stone County and its inhabitants, as set forth in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the County Commission believes it is in the best interest of Stone County, Missouri, and its residents to take steps necessary to make amendments to the Zoning Regulations relating to the use, development and construction of Solar Energy

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of the moratorium by Order and Ordinance of the County Commission if comprehensive amendments to the Zoning Regulations cannot be adopted and finalized on or before the expiration of the moratorium period.

C. For the purposes of this Order and Ordinance, the term "Solar Energy System" shall mean all necessary facilities that together convert solar energy into electricity and delivery electricity for use, and which shall include a device, array of devices, or structural design features, the purpose of which is to provide for generation or storage of electricity from sunlight, including, but not limited to solar photovoltaic systems, solar thermal systems, and solar hot water systems. For purposes of this Order and Ordinance, "Solar Energy System" shall not include any currently existing Solar Energy System located within the unincorporated territory of the County and shall not apply to small-scale components co-located on a premise and meant to be used to generate electricity for use on site by the owner of the property.

D. For the purposes of this Order and Ordinance, the term "Wind Energy Conversion System" shall mean all necessary facilities that together convert wind energy into electricity and that delivery electricity to a utility's transmission lines, including, but not limited to the rotor, nacelle, generator, wind energy conversion system tower, electrical components, wind energy conversion system found, transformer, electrical cabling from the wind energy conversion system tower to the substation or switchyard, communication facilities, transmission lines, poles, or towers, operations and maintenance building, and other appurtenances related to a wind energy conversion system. For purposes of this Order and Ordinance, "Wind Energy Conversion System" shall not include any currently existing wind energy conversion system located within the unincorporated territory of the County and shall not apply to small-scale components co-located on a premise and meant to be used to generate electricity for use on site by the owner of the property.

E. For the purposes of this Order and Ordinance, the term "Battery Energy Storage System" shall mean a system or facility that uses one or more batteries or other electrochemical devices, together with associated electrical, thermal, safety, control, communications, conversion, and monitoring equipment, for the collection, storage, management, conversion, and discharge of electrical energy for later use, grid support, peak shaving, backup power, load shifting, renewable energy integration, or other lawful energy-related purposes, including, but not limited to battery cells, modules, racks, containers, enclosures, inverters, converters, transformers, switchgear, substations, cabling, thermal management systems, fire suppression systems, ventilation systems, emergency shutdown equipment, fencing, security equipment, operations and maintenance structures, and other appurtenances related to a battery energy storage system. For purposes of this Order and Ordinance, "Battery Energy Storage System" shall not include any currently existing Battery Energy Storage System located within the unincorporated territory of the County and shall not apply to small-

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scale components co-located on a premise and meant to be used to store or provide electricity for use on site by the owner of the property.

F. For the purposes of this Order and Ordinance, the term "Data Centers" shall mean a building, group of buildings or facility whose primary use is data processing or data storage, and is used to house computer systems, servers, and associated components, such as but not limited to central processing units, graphical processing units, quantum computing hardware, quantum processors, memory, data routing, data storage, data warehouse, server farm, bitcoin mining, crypto processing, virtual servers, artificial intelligence training or processing, image processing, cloud computing, email servicing, a telecom hotel, telephone collocation, or associated infrastructure characterized by high-density energy consumption, specialized industrial cooling systems, and/or significant noise-generating components, including future uses that are substantially similar in function and operational characteristics to such uses. For purposes of this Order and Ordinance, "Data Centers" shall not include any currently existing Data Centers located within the unincorporated territory of the County and shall not apply to small-scale components co-located on a business premise and meant to be used on site by such business.

G. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the County Commission that each and every part, section, and subsection of this Order and Ordinance shall be separate and severable from each and every other part, section, and subsection hereof and that the County Commission intends to adopt each said part, section, and subsection separately and independently of any other part, section, and subsection. In the event that any part of this Order and Ordinance shall be determined to be or to have been unlawful or unconstitutional, the remaining parts, sections and subsections shall be and remain in full force and effect.

H. This Order and Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

3. Order and Ordinance of Printing and Publication Upon adoption of this Order and Ordinance, the County Commission declares and orders that this Order and Ordinance be printed and made available for distribution to the public in the Office of the County Clerk and orders a copy of this Order and Ordinance to be published in a newspaper in the county for three successive weeks, not later than thirty (30) days after the entry of this Order and Ordinance.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION THIS 14th DAY OF June, 2026.


Gordon Weathers, Presiding Commissioner


Wayne Blades, Northern District Commissioner


Hank Smythe, Southern District Commissioner

ATTEST:


Denise Dickens, County Clerk



Recess time: 10:40 AM to Road and Bridge at 11:00 AM

Back in Session: 12:30PM for a closed meeting

12:30 In accordance with RSMo 610.021 (3) to conduct a closed meeting

The County Commission will discuss personnel issues

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: Blades – yes; Smythe-yes; Weathers – yes. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM