

**BOUNDARY COMMISSION
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2000**

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Matt Armstrong, Ted Armstrong, Jane Arnold, Bob Ford, Agnes Garino, Thomas Hayek Dee Joyner, Greg Kloeppe, Ilene Ordower, Johnnie Spears and Donald Wojtkowski.

Commissioner Absent: None

OTHERS PRESENT

David Hamilton, Legal Counsel to the Boundary Commission

Lori Fiegel, St. Louis County Planning Department

Dan Krasnoff, Boundary Commission Executive Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Spears at 6:30 p.m. on December 5, 2000. The meeting was held at the offices of the Boundary Commission, 1516 S. Brentwood Blvd., Brentwood, Missouri.

ROLL IS CALLED - QUORUM DECLARED

The roll was called and a quorum declared by Mr. Spears

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Lori Fiegel, St. Louis County Planning Department, 14 S. Central Avenue

Ms. Fiegel said that the re-appointment of both Mr. Ford and Mr. Matt Armstrong to the Boundary Commission was in progress and only the paperwork needed to be completed for the re-appointments to be official. She noted that Mr. Ted Armstrong had been re-appointed. Ms. Fiegel reported that a large number of Sherman residents had commented about the map plan(s) that affected their area. She provided copies of these comments for distribution to Commission members. Ms. Fiegel also provided an Appraised Value map of St. Louis County as well as a map showing municipal boundaries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Krasnoff announced that he had been contacted by the City of Crestwood and that they are engaging in discussions with the City of Sunset Hills regarding the adjustment of map plan boundaries.

Mr. Krasnoff announced the he had met with REJIS (Regional Justice Information System) in order to begin development of the Commission's web site. Mr. T. Armstrong asked Mr. Krasnoff about the budget and cost of the web site. Mr. Krasnoff did not have that immediately available but stated that funds had been transferred within the budget to accommodate the creation of the

web site and the cost would be approximately \$1,000.00-\$1,500.00.

Mr. Wojtkowski stated that he was pleased by the actions of the Commission during the map plan public hearings. He felt that good questions were asked and that commissioners were strongly engaged in the process.

Mr. M. Armstrong asked Mr. Hamilton about the status of the increase in the Directors and Officers insurance coverage. Mr. Hamilton stated that the insurance agent had a conversation with the insurance wholesaler who said he was waiting for confirmation that the coverage had been bound. The only issue is whether the coverage will be prorated or will be backdated to the effective date of the renewal. The agent, Bill Hafner with the Crane Agency, said the carrier may want a letter stating that “to the best of the Commission’s knowledge” there has been no claim activity which would bring the coverage into question. Final confirmation should be received within the next couple of weeks.

STAFF REPORT

VOTE TO CLOSE MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING LITIGATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 610.021 (1) RSMo

Mr. Ford made a motion to move into closed session. Mr. T. Armstrong seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes: All. Nays: None. *The motion passed.*

VOTE TO OPEN MEETING

Mr. T. Armstrong made a motion to open the meeting. Ms. Joyner seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes: All. Nays: None. *The motion passed.*

OLD BUSINESS

A. Map Plan Process

Mr. Wojtkowski began by noting that some municipalities had said during the public hearings that they would contact municipalities with overlapping boundaries and discuss possible agreements to harmonize their final map plan submissions.

Ms. Joyner said that it was clear to her that there was little communication between the municipalities about map plan boundaries. She said she thought the Commission should encourage cooperation between the municipalities without being confrontational. Ms. Joyner asked Mr. Krasnoff what criteria he thought should be used to comment on the map plans.

Mr. Krasnoff suggested the Commission could use the overall criteria from the questions the Commission asked the municipalities and the County. Those categories being: how soon proposals would be brought, the advantages the submitting entity could offer in proposed areas and the degree of communication/plans for communication with the communities which they include in their map plan.

Ms. Ordower said she thought there should be greater discussion between entities in areas with no residents.

Ms. Garino said the large map plans were created as part of a defensive strategy so entities could

have a say in an area, even if there was little chance they would make a proposal.

Mr. Wojtkowski proposed that Mr. Krasnoff develop a list of map plans that are potential “land mines” where there are likely to be competing proposals for the same areas or where proposals are likely to be submitted after April 15, 2000. Mr. Krasnoff would develop this list and detail the issues surrounding each. Then the Commission could consider commenting prior to the April 1st deadline. There was general agreement that this was the appropriate action to take in responding to the map plans.

Mr. Krasnoff stated that there should be room left to consider areas that aren’t flash points but where local residents may urge the County to move forward with a proposal, even if there is little likelihood of other entities making proposals for the area in question. By asking entities to limit their map plans in these types of areas, it may reduce the number of proposals the Commission receives on, or shortly after, the April 15, 2001 deadline.

Ms. Ordower suggested a letter be sent to all submitting entities to encourage discussion regarding overlapping boundaries and inform them of the steps the Commission intends to take in commenting about the map plans. It was agreed that Mr. Krasnoff and Mr. Wojtkowski would develop the letter.

Mr. T. Armstrong said that by encouraging a contraction of map plan boundaries, it may leave awkward areas for the County to continue to provide services with less revenue and little capacity for necessary staff and equipment. He suggested it might be better to leave the map plans alone and deal with overlap in the proposal period of the Commission process.

Mr. Wojtkowski said responding or not responding to the map plans could be the appropriate course of action—it is not easy to know in advance. He suggested encouraging changes in map plans where there is consensus within the Commission and if the submitting entities don’t change their map plans, then it is their choice.

Mr. T. Armstrong quoted from criteria set forth in section, 72.403.3.(1).d., of the Boundary Commission statute regarding Commission decision-making: “...the commission shall consider...the entire geographic area of the county and its residents.” Mr. T. Armstrong was concerned about the ability of the County to handle service provision to remaining unincorporated areas.

Mr. Wojtkowski pointed out that the Commission’s charge was to apply the “best interest” test and that the eleven criteria within the statute are to be used in determining whether or not a proposal meets the “best interest” test.

Mr. Wojtkowski reiterated that Mr. Krasnoff would develop a list of map plans that are potential “land mines” where there are likely to be competing proposals for the same areas or where proposals are likely to be submitted after April 15, 2000. Mr. Krasnoff would develop this list and detail the issues surrounding each. Then the Commission could consider commenting during the Commission meetings prior to the April 1st deadline. All commissioners agreed to this course of action.

Ms. Garino asked Mr. Krasnoff if this was enough direction to work from. Mr. Krasnoff responded that it was.

New Business

A. Election of Chairman

Mr. Ford nominated Don Wojtkowski for Chairman. Ms. Joyner seconded the nomination. Ballots were filled out by each commissioner. Mr. Wojtkowski was re-elected Chairman unanimously.

B. Election of 1st Vice Chair

Ms. Joyner made a motion that Johnnie Spears be nominated for 1st Vice Chair. Tom Hayek seconded the motion. Ballots were filled out by all commissioners. Mr. Spears was re-elected 1st Vice Chair unanimously.

C. Election of 2nd Vice Chair

Ms. Ordower nominated Jane Arnold for 2nd Vice Chair. Ms. Joyner seconded the motion. Ballots were filled out by all commissioners. Ms. Arnold was re-elected 2nd Vice Chair unanimously.

Mr. T. Armstrong motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. M. Armstrong seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes: All. Nays: none. *The motion passed.*

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Krasnoff
Boundary Commission, St. Louis County
Approved: January 23, 2001