

BOUNDARY COMMISSION
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2020

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Rick Dorsey, Steve Frank, Tom Mooney, Ann Pluemer, Kathy Schweitzer, Ben Uchitelle, Kyra Watson, and Steve Wegert

Commissioners Absent: None

Commission Staff Present: Michelle Dougherty, Executive Director
Michael Hart, Legal Counsel

Others present: None

Chairperson Schweitzer called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., April 28, 2020. The meeting was held telephonically with accommodations made for the public to attend via telephone as well due to the statewide social isolation order.

ROLL IS CALLED – QUORUM DECLARED

Roll was called and a quorum declared by Ms. Dougherty.

APPROVE AGENDA

Mr. Dorsey made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Uchitelle seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Dorsey made a motion to amend the minutes of March 24, 2020 by adding “laws” after “special” on page 2. Ms. Pluemer seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

Mr. Dorsey made a motion to approve the amended minutes of March 24, 2020. Mr. Wegert seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

1ST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Dougherty stated the Commission is on budget and on target having spent \$24,000 in the 1st Quarter. She reported that the phone rate increasing and suggested the Commission drop the second line as a cost savings because the second line is rarely utilized saving \$480 annually. The Commission agreed.

Mr. Wegert asked where the retirement contribution is located in the budget and why? Ms. Dougherty replied it is the OTHER EXPENSES category and coded as such because the county requires it to be there.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Dougherty stated she has not had any phone calls this month. She's been working on phase 3 of the website and will be having a conference call with the developers tomorrow. She will be reviewing their recommendations and bid.

Mr. Wegert asked if the deficiency is something that we knew about or if it was a surprise. Ms. Dougherty replied the problems were identified in a code review and a security review done by the new company. The original developer has opted not to work any further on the website. Ms. Dougherty assured the Commissioners that the issues were on the back end and did not affect how the public utilized the site.

Ms. Dougherty stated she'd been coming into the office once or twice a week and not interacting with any public.

The Commission discussed the long-term impacts of the economic shut down on the various municipalities in St. Louis County. Mr. Uchitelle suggested the Commission prepare a brochure for the cities on the consolidation process. Mr. Dorsey stated he thought the Commission was a neutral body and not in the business of pursuing proposals. Chairperson Schweitzer suggested if the Boundary Commission approached this from an educational perspective, the Commission would remain a neutral body.

The Commission directed Ms. Dougherty to create a brochure simplifying the consolidation process to send to the Municipal League for their reference to share with their member cities.

Ms. Dougherty suggested the Commission also consider for discussion at a future date any change in fees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS.

A. Evaluation of COVID-19 Office Policy

Mr. Dorsey made a motion to extend the Boundary Commission Corona Virus Office and Meeting Policy for further review at May 19th Boundary Commission meeting. Mr. Mooney seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

B. Emergency Situation By-Law Amendment and Public Hearing Amendment.

Mr. Hart explained with the sales tax and court revenue decline, the media is speculating many cities will have to look to consolidation or disincorporation. Mr. Hart stated the current by-laws and rules require public meetings. He suggests developing an emergency by-law to allow for public meetings that the public can 'tune in to' instead of having to have an in-person public meeting. Mr. Hart suggested making it more universal in case of natural disaster etc so the business of the commission could continue.

Mr. Uchitelle asked how long it would take to do this. Mr. Hart replied it could be finished before the next meeting.

Mr. Uchitelle made a motion to authorize legal counsel to investigate a potential modification to the bylaws to allow for emergency declarations to enable a continuation of Commission business. Mr. Wegert seconded the motion. Voice Vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

C. There was no closed session. There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dorsey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pluemer seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Dougherty
Executive Director

Approved: May 19, 2020