

**BOUNDARY COMMISSION
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI**

**MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 1996**

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONER	PRESENT (P)/ ABSENT(A)
ED BRUER	P
AL ECKERT	P
JULIUS FRAGER	P
AGNES GARINO	P
SCOTT MIDDELKAMP	A
JACK REHAGEN	P
KENNETH TRETTER	P
WILLIE WEARY, JR.	A
JACK WIESEHAN	P
ANNA MARIE WINGRON	P
DON WOJTKOWSKI	A

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carl Ramey-Administrator
Steve Martin - Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wingron at 6:07 PM on August 20, 1996. The meeting was held in the City Hall, City of Florissant, Florissant, MO.

ROLL IS CALLED-QUORUM DECLARED

Commissioner Rehagen calls the roll as reflected above, and a quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wiesehan to accept the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garino. Voice Vote: Ayes - All Nays - None
The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for the month of July was submitted by Commissioner Bruer. A motion was made by Commissioner Bruer to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rehagen. Voice Vote: Ayes - All Nays - None
The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

NEW BUSINESS:

A. *Recommendation of Budget Committee to Approve Proposed Budget For Fiscal Year 1997*

Commissioner Bruer, chairperson of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 1997 Budget for the Boundary Commission. Mr. Bruer stated the memorandum to the Commission by Mr. Ramey adequately summarized the committee's recommendation to the Commission.

Commissioner Frager asked how the Commission contracted for legal services. Mr. Bruer indicated Mr. Martin was under contract with the Commission on the basis of fee for services rendered. It is a flat dollar amount paid monthly for services. What has not been included is a fee for services for litigation.

Commissioner Garino questioned the staffing requirements for the Commission. Commissioner Bruer indicated the attorney and administrator are currently budgeted to remain under contract. However, the budget does provide flexibility for benefits if the administrator became an employee of the Commission.

Questions were raised regarding the proposal to have an Executive Assistant. Mr. Ramey indicated that after having a series of temporary employees serving in clerical capacities, it was evident that the position needed to be more than just clerical. At times, during his absence there is a need for backup which could do more than clerical functions. He indicated the current temporary employee possessed skills beyond the clerical function and there was mutual interest in continuing on with the Commission in a more responsible role. Mr. Ramey provided the Commission with further background regarding this person. Ms. Garino asked whether the proposed staffing would change in the future. Mr. Ramey indicated he did not believe there would be a need to do so. With

the volume of work and the hours of the Commission, the proposed level of staffing could handle the workload. Mr. Bruer indicated the budget as recommended included a full-time Executive Assistant. Although the current plans call for this position to be part-time, it was the concern of the committee to allow the flexibility for this position to become full-time, if required.

Ms. Garino asked how the committee arrived at the dollar amount for possible litigation. Mr. Bruer indicated the proposed budget included \$10,000 in Fiscal Year 1997 to cover possible litigation costs. Although there are no lawsuits pending, the committee felt the need to cover that contingency. The actual number was selected based on a best estimate of what two lawsuits during the year might cost.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frager to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee to approve the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1997. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rehagen. Ayes: Commissioner Bruer, Eckert, Frager, Garino, Rehagen, Tretter, Wiesehan, Wingron Naves: None *The motion passed.*

B. Discussion re: Process for Acting Upon Approval/Disapproval of Proposals

Prior to beginning the discussion of a process for acting upon proposals, Chairperson Wingron advised the Commission of a conversation she had with County Executive Buzz Westfall. He advised her that his office was working towards finding a replacement for Commissioner Weary. A decision on a replacement would be forthcoming and he would keep Ms. Wingron advised.

Chairperson Wingron introduced the discussion regarding a process for the Commission to consider which would hopefully aide the Commission in resolving questions regarding the approval and disapproval of proposals. She indicated this effort was in response to comments of individual Commission members, and the progress made so far in reviewing several proposals. She indicated what she planned to offer was open for discussion. It was her hope it would help the Commission focus on the outcome.

Ms. Wingron indicated she met with Steve Martin and Carl Ramey to discuss in greater detail a process which would both be in accordance with the Rules and the statute governing the Commission. She reviewed the purpose and use of the strawpoll, which in her opinion became more of a vote rather than any open expression or line of communication. Her suggestion was to encourage a process which focused on the Commission reaching a consensus on the fundamental issues surrounding a proposal before a final vote was taken. By developing a decision making process through consensus building the Commission could avoid "beating the dead horse." Ms. Wingron suggested that a more detailed package needed to be developed that facilitated this technique.

Commissioner Frager suggested the Commission consider the concept of a more general finding rather than a specific finding. His concern was the more detailed the finding, the more it might prompt disputes or disagreements, even litigation.

Commissioner Bruer expressed concern as to how the Commission brings closure under such a system. His question was how does the Commission get from consensus to a vote?

The Commission discussed in greater detail various processes for moving forward. Some members felt the Commission should tackle some of the more complex proposals first, while others suggested it would be in their best interest to work on the proposals which seemed more straight forward.

It was the consensus of the Commission that Chairperson Wingron continue to work on a process for the next Commission meeting. It was also agreed that the Commission meeting of August 27 be cancelled as this process continues to be developed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rehagen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garino. Voice Vote: Ayes - All Nays - None *The motion passed.*

This being a memorandum of the activities at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl E. Ramey
Administrator

Approved 9/3, 1996