

BOUNDARY COMMISSION
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2024

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Tom Mooney, Ann Pluemer (by proxy), Steve O'Rourke, George Riddick, Stephanie Robinson (arrive 6:32 pm), Tom Schneider, Ben Uchitelle, and Steve Wegert

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Others present:

Paul Weatherford, St. Louis County Planning

Chairman Uchitelle called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom and livestreamed to the Boundary Commission's YouTube channel.

ROLL IS CALLED – QUORUM DECLARED

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

Mr. Mooney made a motion to accept the proxy of Ann Pluemer. Mr. Wegert seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

APPROVE AGENDA

Mr. Mooney made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. O'Rourke seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Wegert made a motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2023. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

REPORTS

Ms. Dougherty stated she didn't have much to add to the staff report that was in the packets other than one new municipality (Crystal Lake Park) signed up for a municipality account on the website. Ms. Dougherty stated she'd sent a press release to the Post-Dispatch about Map Plans and had sent the Map Plan infographic to all the Commissioners. She also said historically the Commission receives them slowly until June when they normally start flying through the door. Ms. Dougherty said in the fall there will be Map Plan public hearings. She reminded the Commissioners that the submittal of a Map Plan is not a commitment to an annexation proposal, but if a city doesn't submit one to the Commission, they are *excluded* from annexations for the next five years.

Mr. Hart reported he spoke with the County Counselor, and they were going to file a dismissal of all the individual defendants and were still considering whether to dismiss the whole lawsuit. Mr. Hart said he has an upcoming hearing on Thursday on the dismissal motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Committee Appointments for 2024

Chairman Uchitelle made the following committee appointments for 2024:

Budget -Steve O'Rourke, George Riddick, Tom Schneider

Nominating – Tom Mooney, Ann Pluemer, Steve Wegert

Personnel – Stephanie Robinson, Ben Uchitelle, Steve Wegert

B. Closed Session.

There was no closed session.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Terms.

Ms. Robinson made a motion to table the discussion until the next meeting.

Mr. Wegert seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.*

Chairman Uchitelle brought up the issue of the vacant joint appointments and wondered if the Commission could encourage the County Executive to work with the Municipal League on getting the positions filled. Mr. Hart said he thought the County probably had bigger issues to deal with than filling the joint appointments. He surmised the Commission might have to recruit people to submit to the County and the Municipal League for consideration. Mr. Schneider said he didn't think there'd be any activity on the vacancies from the County as he didn't feel they had any reason to get them filled. Chairman Uchitelle asked Mr. Weatherford from St. Louis County for his thoughts on getting the vacancies filled. Mr. Weatherford replied that he is not involved in making those appointments or decisions. He said there is an employee in the County Executive's office who's charged with filling boards and commissions. He recommended interested people go through the website. He felt it would be fine for the Commission to reach out directly to the County Executive, too.

Ms. Dougherty reminded those present that the Commission has links on the website to the County's website portal for boards and commissions. In addition, she said the front page includes a link to email the commission if someone is interested in being a joint appointment and the Commission would forward those emails to the County and the Municipal League. She stated the commission had received an email from an interested person several months ago and she had forwarded it on. She said she hasn't heard back on that email.

Mr. Schneider suggested Chairman Uchitelle write a letter to the County Executive to encourage filling at least one of the joint appointment vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wegert made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Riddick seconded the motion. Voice vote: Ayes, All. Nays, None. *The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Dougherty
Executive Director

Approved: February 27, 2024