

Wednesday March 12, 2025

Name	Position	Present	Quorum
Becky Plattner	Presiding Commissioner	Yes	Yes
Monte Fenner	Southern Commissioner	Yes	
Stephanie Gooden	Northern Commissioner	Yes	

Becky Plattner called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2025 session. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve a payment schedule. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to approve. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

County Clerk Brittni Burton presented commission order #6629 in the amount of \$186,521.44 for a cash transfer of payroll, order #6630 in the amount of \$33,532.41 for 941 taxes, and order #6631 in the amount of \$4,408.15 for CERF .7% and elective savings. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve the commission orders as presented. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Heavy Equipment Operator James Viles from the Road and Bridge Department submitted a request to extend 19.75 hours of vacation for 90 days that was set to expire on March 6th. Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve the extension. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Sheriff Daniel Kirchhoff submitted a request to hire Mateo McBride for a full-time position as Court Security/Bailiff. His start date is set for March 17, 2025 and his rate of pay will be \$21.37 per hour plus a \$1,200 annual uniform allowance. Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the new hire. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to approve. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Sheriff Daniel Kirchhoff submitted a request to hire Brian Woods for a full-time position in the Road Division. His start date is set for March 17, 2025 and his rate of pay will be \$23.43 per hour plus a \$1,200 annual uniform allowance. Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the new hire. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Sheriff Daniel Kirchhoff submitted a request to hire Christopher Chamberlin for a part-time position as a reserve deputy. His start date is set for March 3, 2025 and his rate of pay will be \$21.63 per hour. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve. Becky Plattner seconded. Votes: Monte- yes, Becky- yes, Stephanie- no. Motion carried 2-1-0.

Prosecuting Attorney Tim Thompson submitted a request to hire Stephen Murrell as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. His start date was March 10, 2025 and his annual salary is \$92,500. Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the new hire. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to approve. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Becky Plattner stated that the request for the use of the Courthouse lawn for the 2025 Return to the Roost was approved in October 2022, but the Commission will be approving it again due to it being an upcoming event. The Return to the Roost all school reunion for Marshall Public Schools will be held on June 13-15, 2025 and the organizers are requesting use of the Courthouse lawn for the event. Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the request. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Marshall Public Schools requested use of the Courthouse lawn on April 4, 2025 for a ceremony and to place pinwheels on the Northeast lawn for the month of April for Child Abuse Awareness Month. This request was previously presented and approved but was presented with an incorrect date. Monte Fenner made a motion to approve. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Becky Plattner stated that there will be a SEMA (State Emergency Management Agency) meeting on Friday March 14th in the Commission Chambers. All the city administrators in Saline County are invited

but are not required to attend. SEMA will be giving a brief overview of some new things. She also announced that the Commission will be attending the KMMO Ag Day being held the next day, and that the Job Fair and Career Expo will be held on April 16th at the Martin Center.

Chelsea Corkins from the MU Extension office was present to give a brief update on Extension events. Their 2024 annual report is available in the office and online. The annual report provides some highlights of the impacts that the Extension office has had in the County in the areas of 4-H youth development, Ag and environment, business and communities, health, nutrition, and families. The Extension partnered with a variety of groups and organizations in 2024 such as the senior center, the schools, the YMCA, the County Commission, the Saline County Fair, Missouri Valley Community Action Agency, Missouri Valley College, and the Health Department. Shelby Jenkins is the Extension's new Livestock Specialist covering Saline County. She also extended an invitation to the Commission and all elected officials in the Courthouse to the Extension's 2025 annual meeting and dinner being held on Wednesday March 26th. The event is used as an opportunity to showcase Century Farms, other awardees such as the Leaders Honor Roll, and recognizing outgoing and new members.

Dave Kramer from the Center for Human Services was present to give a brief overview of the organization. The Center for Human Services is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year and primarily serves people, adults and children, with developmental disabilities, such as autism and down syndrome. In Saline County, they serve about 100 people and families annually through a variety of services such as socialization, skill building, and employment. They have been very involved with the State Fair over the last couple of years to help with making sure they have accessibility and sensory needs. They were recently given two 1st place awards from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions for their work in sensory and accessibility. The Sedalia Chamber of Commerce awarded them the 2025 Business of the Year. The Center for Human Services has the Missouri First Steps program which has been around for about 7-8 years. The program is for 0-3 year-olds who have any type of developmental delay or disability. They provide funding for therapies and other support to get them back on track. They also have the Applied Behavioral Analysis program. It is specific therapy that has been generated to support children with autism. They are a large network that is supporting local services. It is not fully funded yet as the program has only been around for about 2 years. The prevalence of autism is now 1 in 36 children. Autism is getting better at being diagnosed and early intervention is getting better, which is preventing it from being something more impactful later on. The Center for Human Services is proud to bring the service to the community because of the size of the organization and leveraging that for local communities.

Becky Plattner announced that a burn ban had been issued the previous day by the Saline County Emergency Management Director.

Monte Fenner reported that the plan for the Nitrogen Avenue overpass has been changed. MODOT had previously planned to keep the current overpass intact until a new one could be built so as not to isolate the families in that area. MODOT has now decided to create temporary entrance and exit turn lanes on eastbound I-70 to connect with Nitrogen Avenue. There will be a right turn off I-70 onto Nitrogen Avenue, and a right turn off Nitrogen Avenue onto I-70. Commissioner Fenner also reported that he attended an MSDC meeting the previous day and will be attending a Sweet Springs Chamber of Commerce meeting tomorrow.

Stephanie Gooden reported that she attended a Marshall Chamber of Commerce meeting on Monday, where the upcoming fundraiser Booze, Burgers and BBQ was discussed. It is the only fundraiser that the Chamber has each year. She also attended and testified in a hearing on Monday at the Capitol regarding the Sheriffs' retirement fund. She stated that once CCAM (County Commissioners Association of Missouri) training was finished, she went to Washington D.C. to attend a NACo (National Association of Counties) conference. She was able to meet with the USDA undersecretary about issues regarding the County including feed, freight, renewable energy source funding, the importance of passing a farm bill, and the importing and exporting of our organics. She was able to meet with staffers, Senator Schmidt, Senator Hawley, Congressman Alford, and Congresswoman Wagner. She tried to meet with Congressman Cleaver, but he was unavailable. Topics discussed at NACo were tariffs, organic farming and the organic market, and agriculture. Saline County is a major agriculture producer in the State. It is in the top 1, 2, and 4 positions in overall agriculture production. At NACo, they rejected a resolution to expand SNAP in the importance of passing a farm bill. SNAP has been one of the issues that has held

back the passage of a farm bill. She also announced that the 2025 Countywide Cleanup will be held on June 7th at the Saline County Fairgrounds. She thanked the Saline County Fair Association for allowing the cleanup to happen on the fairgrounds.

Becky Plattner announced that Veregy came out on March 6th to continue the Jail-Justice Center renovation. They are getting very close to the end and need to finish one last project before a final walkthrough can be completed.

County Clerk Brittini Burton explained that absentee voting is currently happening in her office, and sample ballots will be dropped in the mail next Wednesday.

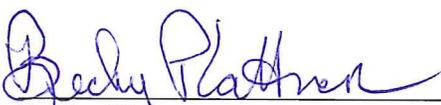
Auditor Karlin Breshears reported that her office is preparing for the annual audit.

Collector Cindi Sims presented the February 2025 distribution report. Collections totaled \$500,770.11 and includes the earned bank interest. She stated 435 applications have been received so far for the Senior Tax Credit. 120 applications were received on the first day, and they are receiving about 70 per day since then.

Treasurer Jared Brewer gave a report on the various sales taxes received for the month of March. Sales tax collected in the amount of \$110,900.47. Law enforcement tax #1 collected in the amount of \$83,174.76. Use tax collected in the amount of \$97,967.21. Law enforcement tax #2 collected in the amount of \$27,715.69. Economic development tax collected in the amount of \$110,799.22.

Stephanie Gooden announced that a bridge collapsed on 200th Road, west of Highway EE south. She thanked the Saline County deputies that were there to secure the site before her, Commissioner Plattner, and the Road and Bridge crew could get there. The bridge looked like it had some drought and undermining effect from the water, and the west wall gave out. The landowners are not landlocked and are able to use other roads. The road will be closed until further notice, and there is no timeline yet on when it will be open. The Road and Bridge crew is researching the best way to fix it, either by a culvert or rebuilding the bridge. She also presented a change in insurance brokers, going from Assured Partners to Higginbotham for insurance coverages. She made a motion to accept Higginbotham. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Becky Plattner asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:28 am. Monte Fenner made a motion to adjourn. Stephanie Gooden seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.


Becky Plattner
Presiding Commissioner


Monte Fenner
Southern Commissioner


Stephanie Gooden
Northern Commissioner

Minutes Certified by:


Brittini Allison Burton
County Clerk

