

Wednesday April 9, 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 8:58 am.

Becky Plattner asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2025 session. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to approve. Monte Fenner 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 #6637 in the amount of \$186,111.50 for a cash transfer of payroll, order #6638 in the amount of \$32,965.53 for 941 taxes, and order #6639 in the amount of \$4,352.52 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.

County Clerk Brittni Burton presented commission order #6640 in the amount of \$5,000 to add postage to the County postage machine. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to approve the commission order as presented. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Sheriff Daniel Kirchhoff submitted a request to hire Harley Dohrman for a full-time position in the Jail Division. Her start date is set for April 21, 2025 and her rate of pay will be \$17.51 per hour with a \$600 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.

Becky Plattner announced that former Commissioner Charlie Guthrie asked the Commission and any other elected officials that would be available on Monday April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 pm to hear a speaker who lived during Pearl Harbor. The Commission will be attending the event. The quarterly Develop Saline County Board meeting will be held in the Commission office on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

Stephanie Gooden reported that the Commission attended the Child Abuse Awareness Proclamation presentation on April 4<sup>th</sup>. They were able to recognize child abuse prevention and working together as a team to make our community safer for our children. She gave an update on the Paw Paw Trail bridge, which now has a target completion date of March 2026. She stated that the target date is not acceptable to the Commission and they have replied to Great River Engineering asking for a change of date. They asked that it be completed by the end of 2025. Commissioner Gooden announced that the Sweet Springs truck stop is expected to let bids in December 2025. She also attended a meeting last week at Pioneer Trails Regional Planning Commission that included a closed session.

Becky Plattner gave a reminder that the Jail-Justice Center's lobby will be closed to the public during Easter weekend from Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> until Monday April 21<sup>st</sup> due to stripping and waxing of the floor.

Monte Fenner asked for an update on the repairs to the bridge on 200<sup>th</sup> Road. There was no update available.

Becky Plattner asked that it be made a matter of the minutes that the cost to the county so far to implement Senate Bill 190 was \$56,362.05.

County Clerk Brittni Burton explained that April municipal election was the previous day. Saline County had a 11.91% voter turnout. Overall, it went smooth.

Treasurer Jared Brewer announced that on Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> State Treasurer Vivek Malek will be visiting Saline County as part of a press tour to get the word out about the MO ABLE program. Treasurer Malek will be in the Commission Office from noon to about 12:30 pm and the visit is open to everyone. He also gave a report on the various sales taxes received for the month of April. Sales tax



collected in the amount of \$104,930.90. Law enforcement tax #1 collected in the amount of \$78,697.91. Use tax collected in the amount of \$126,832.65. Law enforcement tax #2 collected in the amount of \$26,261.35. Economic development tax collected in the amount of \$105,228.70.

Collector Cindi Sims presented the March 2025 distribution report. Collections totaled \$409,335.71 in personal property, real estate, and surtax. Included in the month's distribution were some protest funds in the amount of approximately \$90,000, including interest, that were being held awaiting a ruling from the State Tax Commission. There is still about \$12,000 being held in protest. She stated 965 Senior Tax Credit applications have been scanned in. The next step is to get them processed through and to get letters sent out to inform people that they are set up in the system and ready to go.

Auditor Karlin Breshears reported that March's month-end reports will be distributed later that day, and the annual outside audit will be held the last week of May. She will be taking all documentation to their office the week prior to the audit. She will also be attending the annual Auditor's conference from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Livestock Specialist Shelby Jenkins from the MU Extension office explained that Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is helping to contribute to the high price of eggs. HPAI is a type of influenza A and primarily affects poultry. It is deadly to poultry when they contract it. Eggs stocks are much lower than normal this time of year due to it. In January, Missouri was down approximately 24% on egg stores and in February, we were down 12%, which looks like avian influenza is coming down, but it is still a major concern. In Saline County, only the wild bird population has been affected by HPAI. There have only been about 60 wild birds total between Saline and Boone County that have tested positive. Most domestic birds that have been affected are in South Missouri and it has been seen mostly in turkeys. As of last week, there have been no current cases being monitored. The state has been able to get things under control by increasing biosecurity measures, which includes washing hands, and changing shoes and/or clothes between different poultry farms. Things are looking up. On the US average, they are predicting that March egg prices will come down a little bit. Due to it being a seasonal disease, following the wild waterfowl, Missouri should see some relief, leading to higher egg stores and lower egg prices. Commissioner Gooden asked if there has been any word on immunization for HPAI. Shelby stated there have been lots of people looking into it. Unfortunately, what we have currently is not great because HPAI is aggressive and by the time the farmers realize the poultry is infected, the vaccines are not able to prevent the death of the bird. It is still being worked on. US Dept. of Agriculture has stated that they are donating a lot of money toward future vaccination projects, but right now there is not an effective vaccine. There are a lot of big universities out there going after grant money to be able to develop one, so hopefully there will be one in the future.

Becky Plattner asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:14 am. Stephanie Gooden made a motion to adjourn. Monte Fenner seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0.

  
Becky Plattner  
Presiding Commissioner

  
Monte Fenner  
Southern Commissioner

  
Stephanie Gooden  
Northern Commissioner

Certified by:   
Brittnei Allison Burton  
County Clerk

