

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 31, 2022
MINUTES


1. The meeting of January 31, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Marc Dye, Carolyn Ream and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 27, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote

2. Public Comments:
 - The road and bridge department are preparing for the upcoming snow/ice storm.
 - Carolyn Ream discussed using the old Dollar General building March 10th for tactical weather spotting training open to Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, Dispatch and Commission.
3. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The Commission discussed culvert replacement.
 - The dispatch installation for E911 will be installed Wednesday of this week.
 - Chris Young with Murphy Tractor attended the meeting to discuss grader lease options. He explained Premium Circle, which is a new warranty program that has saved a lot on maintenance costs. This offer would provide an extended warranty of 84 months 8,000 hours comp. The County would trade in 2 graders as well. This would cost the County close to \$91,000 a year.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 3, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Carolyn Ream, Brian Bennett, Marc Dye, Chris Young with Murphy Tractor and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the minutes of the Meeting of December 30, 2021 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file County Clerk Tamara Weidman's report of monthly fees collected for the month of December 2021 in the amount of \$1,343.84.
3. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Prosecuting Attorney Keaton Ashlock's report of monthly fees collected for the month of December 2021 in the amount of \$265.50.
4. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Assessor Clint Baker's report of monthly fees collected for December 2021 in the amount of \$446.25.
5. Public Comments:
 - The unemployment rate for Hickory County is 2.4%
 - Legislators have already filed 1,101 bills, resolutions, and joint resolutions for the Second Regular Session of the 101st General Assembly.
6. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The EMPG budget should be ready by this Thursday.
 - Chris with Murphy Tractor asked if the Commission had any equipment needs for the upcoming year. The Commission discussed the need for a mower deck and would like to see where the values are on the road graders.
 - The Commission discussed equipment in need of repairs.
 - Presiding Commissioner Mertz will attend a meeting with the Drug Task Force in Eldon tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 6, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Brian Bennett, Sheriff Burke, Beverly Ryan, Darla Mueller, Collector Karen Stokes, and Aleia Ream with The Index and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 3, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote

2. The Commission met with the following elected officials for budget review:
Sheriff – Sheriff Burke has requested an increase in salaries to include 3 more deputies and an increase in the patrol car line to purchase 3 fleet vehicles. The Drug Task Force was discussed as the Commission would like to see them more active in the County.
Emergency Management - Darla Mueller presented the budget and explained how difficult it is to create an accurate budget because the fiscal year is opposite of the County's. The EMPG grant is a 50/50 match grant.
Collector - Collector Stokes said there weren't many changes to her budget from last year but explained she had received a notice from GovernMentor of an estimated charge of \$8500 to ensure the data Collector Stokes needs from Clear Basin can be integrated with GovernMentor's system. In the County Clerk's budget, a new record software program has been added for \$3500 as well as election expenses due to this being an election year.
Treasurer - Treasurer Ratliff said the only change in his budget was to add in for the bond that will be purchased at the end of 2022 for his next term.
MU Extension has an increase in their budget of \$567.14 for a small wage increase.
Prosecuting Attorney - Keaton Ashlock's secretary Darla Mueller talked about how the Prosecuting Attorney's office is saving money by getting rid of the leased printer and combining a few line items.

3. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Sheriff Burke's report of monthly fees collected for the month of December 2021 for Civil Service in the amount of \$500 and General Revenue in the amount of \$1,178.19.

4. Public Comments: None

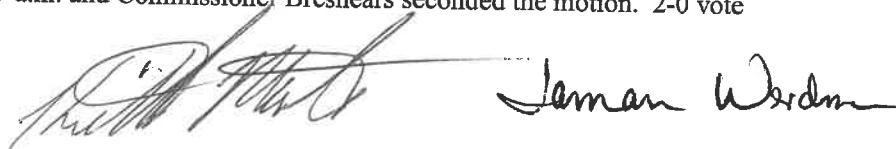
5. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The Commission discussed replacing a piece of carpet at the Sheriff's office where the deputies sit and where the old dispatch area was.
 - Discussion on the Mack Truck that still is not fixed as well as the need for salt and chloride for road and bridge.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 10, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Beverly Ryan, Carolyn Ream, Richard Webb, Marc Dye, Assessor Clint Baker, John Howard with Foley Equipment and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 6, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Road and Bridge budget proposal was discussed. Line items for materials and infrastructure, culverts, tires and fuel were increased significantly due to several projects that need to be completed in 2022. The department will also need to do extra maintenance on the black top county roads since no maintenance was done in 2021. Prices have increased across the board for all goods and services. Presiding Commissioner Mertz explained he adjusted some lines in order to make a larger motor grader payment to Bell Bank in order to cut down on the interest.
The Commission discussed the possibility of loaning money to the E-911 board to get E-911 started. Attorney Ivan Schraeder will need to be contacted to make sure this can be done. They are planning to put a sales tax on the April ballot and if the tax does not pass, there would be no loan.
Building and grounds – Soffit and fascia replacement as well as replacing cement at the Annex were named as projects in 2022. Soffit and fascia replacement was in the budget for last year, but the estimate was way more than what was budgeted so the project was put on hold.
University of MO Extension – Requested \$567.14 more than last year which seems to be a small increase in wages. The Commission sees no problem with the request.
The Commission discussed \$1 an hour raises for every employee with the starting salary schedules to be addressed in this meeting. The Elected officials will see an Assessed Valuation increase of \$2,000 per year beginning January 1, 2022.
3. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Sheriff Burke's quarterly report to the Commission.
4. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the County Government Legal Services Agreement with Schraeder Law Firm for the year 2022 at a cost of \$1200 per year was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
5. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the pay scale increase for all departments in preparation of the 2022 budget was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
6. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the County financials for the month of December 2021.
7. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Treasurer Kenny Ratliff's six month statement ending December 31, 2021 and his year end statement ending December 31, 2021.
8. Public Comments:
 - Richard Webb had a comment about the old Dollar General building after reading the newspaper article about the Commission spending \$10,000 for an architect to draw plans as a picture wouldn't change his mind. The Commission explained they did not spend the \$10,000 but plan to have town hall meetings, 1 being in the Courtroom for citizens to see the need.
 - John Howard with Foley Equipment stopped by the meeting to leave his contact info and introduce himself to the Commission.
9. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - Richard Webb requested the ATV/UTV stickers to increase to \$25.
 - ARPA final rule came out Friday.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


The block contains two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is more stylized and appears to be 'P. Mertz'. The signature on the right is written in a cursive style and appears to be 'Tamara Weidman'.

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 13, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Sheriff Burke, Brigitta Gardner, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Aleia Ream with The Index and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 10, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file a liquor license application for Pomme De Ritas LLC in the pro-rated amount of \$191.67.
3. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the employee leave summary report for December 2021.
4. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the demand warrants and documents for payroll for the pay period ending January 8, 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
5. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Pubic Administrator Venesa Prettyman's report of monthly fees collected for December 2021 in the amount of \$194.25.
6. Public Comments:
 - Chief Brian Bennett explained he was told by a member of the public that there is negativity from some of the County's Elected Officials on the 911 tax. He feels it is the public's choice whether to pass the 911 tax or not. The E911 board plans on having several town hall meetings to provide information for the public.
 - Several MoDot projects are planned in the area over the next few weeks. Presiding Commissioner Mertz will post on social media when information becomes available.
 - Sue Dorman asked for advice on how to help an elderly lady in the Pittsburg area who is staying in unlivable conditions. Presiding Commissioner Mertz mentioned a program out of Pomme de Terre United Methodist Church that will help those who cannot afford to pay.
7. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The new website is almost completed. The Clerk asked whether to move the EEZ to the new site and the Commission agreed it should be moved, just not on the front page.
 - Commissioner Pearson received a subpoena for the case of the destruction of property that resulted in damaged signs on Hwy W. There were a few County signs that were damaged as well.
 - The Road and Bridge department is having lots of equipment problems and break downs.
 - Presiding Commissioner Mertz talked with Brian Wright with the Corp of Engineers on cleaning up the Wheatland Park entrance to increase visibility.
 - The 911 tests in Polk County went well and will plan to go live on January 18, 2022.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 2022
MINUTES

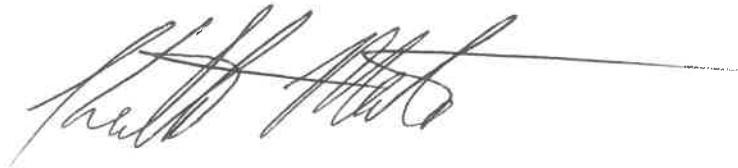
1. The meeting of January 20, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Marc & Karla Dye, Beverly Ryan, Aleia Ream with The Index and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote

2. The Commission opened the hearing for the 2022 budget. General Revenue, Road and Bridge, Assessment, and LE Sales Tax funds were discussed. All of the budgets listed included an assessed valuation increase of \$2,000 for elected officials and \$1.00 an hour raise for employees. Discussion ensued about the Sheriff's budget with Presiding Commissioner Mertz seeing a 30% increase over last years budget, which in part is due to the raises as well as the request for 3 patrol vehicles. As the final budget was not approved, and more adjustments need to be made, it will be on the agenda for Monday, January 24, 2022.

3. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the updated Donee Authorization form for the Missouri State Agency for Surplus Property was approved and signed. 2-0 vote

4. Public Comments:
 - The Clerk read an email received from Jason Warzinik requesting support for a statewide effort of the Missouri GIS Advisory Council's Local Government and Data Development Committee to participate in the National Address Database program. This would improve the consistency and accuracy of addresses used at the local, state and federal level by FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, DOT, Census, and others. The Commission agreed it would benefit the County. Commissioner Pearson made the motion to participate and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
 - Superintendent Randy Dougherty invited the Commission to Skyline Schools for a Blue Ribbon Celebration at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 21st in the big gym. Governor Parsons along with other government representatives are planning to attend.

5. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - Treasurer Kenny Ratliff reported CART money came in this month and is up \$5,500 from last year.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION

MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2022

MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 24, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Marc & Karla Dye, Beverly Ryan, Sheriff Greg Burke, Larry & Linda Senyard, Dennis Dudley, Ryan Boulier, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Neal Taylor, Michael Calhoun, Ron Peterson, Wilbur Ellis, Dawn Vader, Kathy Rains, Scott Crouch, Roger Foster, Darla Mueller and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 20, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Commission met with Citizens Memorial Hospital CEO Michael Calhoun and Director of Pre-Hospital Services and Emergency Neal Taylor. Discussion ensued about the need for an additional ambulance in Hickory County. Mr. Calhoun explained they see the need and have allocated funds to purchase and place another ambulance here, they are just having trouble finding the staff to run it. CMH is currently down 18 EMT/Paramedic positions. They have tried to address the need by increasing starting wages. One suggestion was to make training more affordable. Mr. Calhoun said he would take all suggestions and address the issues as needed to try and resolve them.
3. Wilbur Ellis, with PWSD #2, joined the Commission meeting to discuss the need for electricity cutoffs and generators for the water district in case there is a loss of electricity. They would like to request ARPA funds for the project. Presiding Commissioner Mertz explained there is no application process available yet, and he is still reading the final guidelines for ARPA.
4. The Commission discussed the 2022 budget document, addressing concerns from Sheriff Greg Burke regarding his final budget figures. Included in the final budget is \$1 an hour raises for employees and an assessed valuation raise for elected officials. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the 2022 budget document was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
5. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the additions and abatements in the amount of \$60,406.26 and \$18,720.38 respectively was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
6. Public Comments: None
7. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The Commissioners received an email from Samantha Schuster regarding the opioid lawsuit. The email stated they had reached a Memorandum of Understanding settlement from the national distributor's settlement and the J&J/Janssen settlement along with the Purdue and Mallinckrodt bankruptcies. The County is set to receive a rough estimate of \$192,000 from this settlement. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the opioid settlement was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of January 27, 2022 was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Commissioner Pearson. Present were Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Sue Dorman, and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Absent was Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of January 24, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the demand warrants and documents for payroll for the pay period ending January 22, 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the demand warrants and documents for accounts payable for the end of January 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
4. Public Comments: None
5. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The Commission will look into BRO training through MoDot for Jason, the Road and Bridge Supervisor.
 - Sales tax is up 33% from this time last year. Road and Bridge sales tax is still off close to \$1500 but is up 40% from this time last year.
 - Commissioner Breshears was contacted about an encroachment permit on County Road 181, he is to meet with him later today.
 - University of Missouri Extension, Hickory County, provided copies of the 2021 annual report to the Commission for review.
 - The Commission discussed the activities of the Road and Bridge crew.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Breshears made the motion to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. and Commissioner Pearson seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman