**COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD, VERNON COUNTY**

**Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 5th August Adj.**

THE VERNON COUNTY COMMISSION MET, PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT, TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025, AT 9:00 A**.**M.

PRESENT: JOE WILSON, PRESIDING COMMISSIONER; CINDY THOMPSON, NORTHERN COMMISSIONER; JOHN SHORTEN, SOUTHERN COMMISSIONER;

 **CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY**

The Commission received a certificate of liability on Monday, August 18th for Relay for Life concerning an event scheduled for October 4, 2025 on the Courthouse lawn.

 **FEMA MEETING**

Commissioner Wilson and Adrienne Lee, County Clerk met with Sheneka Kirlew, FEMA Program Delivery Manager, on Friday, August 15th at the Commission Chambers to learn more about the requirements concerning DR-4872, the declaration for damage assistance from the April 2nd tornadoes.

 **BANK STATEMENT**

The Commission received a bank statement from U.S. Bank showing a $0 balance on Monday, August 18th.

 **ROAD AND BRIDGE**

On Wednesday, August 13th, Road and Bridge advised that effective Monday, August 18th, Arnold Road between 550 Road and 650 Road in Sections 25 and 36 of Henry Township will be closed for bridge replacement until further notice. An email was sent to all emergency, school, and township officials, along with the media.

Mike Reasoner, Road and Bridge Foremen, visited the Commission to discuss information received from Tammy Bobbett concerning a smashed culvert on Union Track Road in Drywood Township, the possible purchase of a new MowerMax mower, and work that will need to done in preparation for the construction of the Springer Bridge, BRO-R108(45).

 **SHERIFF**

Vernon County Sheriff Mike Buehler stopped by the Commission Office so that Commissioner Wilson could sign documents regarding two new vehicles that are being purchased by the Sheriff’s Office.

 **VISITOR**

Sam Alexander, MD, candidate for Missouri Senate District 28, visited the Commission Office to introduce himself and observe the morning meetings.

 **LEVY HEARING**

Ragan Forkner, Deputy Clerk, and Adrienne Lee, County Clerk, held a levy hearing.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the 2025 levy at .1154 percent. Commissioner Shorten seconded the motion. All voted yes to approve.

 **ARVEST BANK**

Doug Phipps, EF Regional Account Manager, and Matt Brown, Commercial Banker, with Arvest Bank, presented information on financing for the radio project.

 **INVOICES AND CHECKS**

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices and signed checks.

 **COUNTY BUSINESS**

Erik Sommer, County Business Manager, met with the Commissioners to examine CART money, the Sheriff's general revenue and housing revenue, and other county financials.

 **CLOSED SESSION**

The Commission went into a closed session in accordance with Section 610.021 RSMo (1994) Subparagraph (17).

 **INSURANCE**

The Commissioners had conversations by telephone with Casey Chastain, Higginbotham Financial Services and Insurance, about a recent insurance claim due to damage caused by the April 2nd tornado.

Chase Halsey with Mid-Continental Restoration, left a voicemail for Commissioner Shorten explaining that he is still waiting on Peerless Innovative Solutions Group to get back to him, and also waiting to speak with the insurance adjustor concerning the Courthouse roof.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Derik White, Emergency Management Director, delivered a drone operator’s license to the Commission.

 **RADIO ANTENNAS**

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the selection of Public Safety Solutions MO, LLC, to replace radio antennas that were damaged during the April 2nd tornado at the Sheriff’s Office, for a total of $12,993.90. Commissioner Shorten seconded the motion. All voted yes to approve the motion.

 **INTERNSHIP**

Kim Severance, Director of Career Services at Cottey College, met with the Commissioners to determine how an internship could work for a student interested in data entry for the townships.

 **DISCUSSIONS**

The Commissioners discussed county employee wages. It was determined that this will need to be re-visited before the 2026 budget meetings are held in December and January.

Shane Hirschman, Circuit Court Administrator, met with the Commission to discuss grants that will be available at the end of October.

 **ADJOURN**

Ordered that Commission adjourn at 3:59 p.m. until Wednesday, August 20, 2025.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 CLERK OF COMMISSION PRESIDING COMMISSIONER