

09-11-2024 Minutes

McDonald County Commission—Minutes

September 11th, 2024

Present:

Bryan Hall - Presiding Commissioner

Jamey Cope - Eastern Commissioner

Rick Lett - Western Commissioner

Kimberly Bell - County Clerk

General Business

JR Nolan with AirMedCare Network, met with the Commission to discuss Emergent Care Membership. This program offers county employees Air Evac services for the employee and any family member living in the house. Commission told Mr. Nolan they will take it into consideration.

Bruce Arnold, McDonald County Litter Control, and Kathi Cochran, Missouri Job Center WIOA Program Coordinator, met with the Commission. Ms. Cochran informed the Commission of a program to assist low income citizens who have no job experience with an opportunity to learn skills that will help them in future jobs. The program would be completely free to the county and all wages would be paid through the program.

McDonald County offices had a moment of silence at the Courthouse flag pole in honor of those who lost their life on, or as a result of, September 11, 2001.

Joe Overfelt, Fabick Cat, met with the Commission to go over the purchase agreement documents and pick up the down payment for a grader for Road and Bridge Department. Commission stated the payment would be ready on the next accounts payable date, September 16, 2024.

Commission met with a group of concerned citizens regarding the bike race that came through McDonald County on September 7th. In attendance for this meeting were: full Commission, County Clerk Bell, Sheriff Robert Evenson, Emergency Management Director Gregg Sweeten, and Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) SGT Chad Clark. Also in attendance were Doug Fletcher, Charles Fletcher, Kenneth Mallory, Amy Sauerwein, Barbara Burnett, Elizabeth Webster, Karla Jones, Larry Henson, and Brenda Treadwell. The meeting began with Doug Fletcher explaining the concerns that brought them all to the Commission. The bike race, organized by a group in Northwest Arkansas, came through McDonald County on Missouri state highways and blocked traffic on several Missouri highways. Arkansas law enforcement blocked all of one lane of traffic and half of the other lane. This caused vehicles to have to go off the roadway in order not to cause danger to anyone; litter was left along the roadsides; scheduled stops for bathrooms and snack/hydration caused McDonald County residents delays in getting from one place to another; bikers disrupted pets and farm animals; bikers urinated on private property. The group consensus was a united front to have better communication with the event organizers, Missouri law enforcement engaged in the safety on the highways and county roads during future events, and work on a solution so this does not happen again. All in attendance agreed this was, by far, the worst of these types of events in the last several years. Although the citizens understand bicycles can be on the roads, they must also follow the laws in Missouri.

Commission conducted general county business.

ADJOURN

Commission will reconvene on September 16th, 2024