

09-30-2026 Minutes

McDonald County Commission—Minutes

September 30th, 2026

Present:

Bryan Hall - Presiding Commissioner

Rick Lett - Western Commissioner

Jessica Cole - County Clerk

Jamey Cope - Eastern Commissioner was absent attending a conference.

General Business

Commissioners met for their monthly Office Holder Meeting discussing the needs that are taking priority at this time. Building Maintenance was discussed on some of the buildings along with the need to address HB1825 and formally adopting it via a Salary Commission meeting as designed by RsMo 50.333. This meeting is scheduled for

November 9, 2026 10:00am, It will be open to the public.

Moving along, Commissioners addressed the need to finalize the last few written documents addressing the Special Events Ordinance requirements from the Big Sugar Gravel application. At 10:00am a group gathered to hear what has been reviewed regarding the Special Events Permit Application. Those present were: Jonica Bridenstine, Cecil Henson, Glory Reitz, Sean Thurman, Chris Allison, Robert Evenson, Bryan Hall, Rick Lett, Gregg Sweeten, and Scott Dennis.

Each of these individuals played a role in highlighting the efforts behind this large event. Sheriff Evenson began the discussion by explaining that MoDOT's district engineer had approved the event route passing through the H Highway bridge construction site, provided it did not interfere with the contractor's work. He also stated that he had spoken with the contractors, who confirmed that allowing participants to cross through the bridge area would not impact construction.. Sheriff Evenson and Organizer Sean Thurman reviewed again that Missouri Highway Patrol has declined coverage and therefore 15 Sheriff Deputies along with the use of reserves have been secured to work the event. An increase of 9 deputies from the previous year. Leaving a team to cover the remainder of the County. These 15 deputies would be compensated at \$75/ hour for a minimum of a 4 hour coverage period. Next to discuss was contract confirmation with Lifetime Events and Freeman Medical Services. That was provided and approved.

The

Flight altitude agreement was also submitted and reviewed.

All helicopter filming operations within McDonald County will be conducted at or above 400 feet Above Ground Level as the standard baseline altitude. Before vacating of an intersection sweeps for a last rider will be conducted and law enforcement will be backfilling as they clear roadways. The communication plans have been assigned with the use of cell based radios and direct communication paths between Sheriff and Organizer. Texting notifications, and Highway Traffic Control signs will be utilized to notify residents along the impacted routes. McDonald County Newspaper will continue to publish the event details. Resident Cecil shared that, while he does not support the event overall, he appreciates the efforts being made to address concerns and prioritize safety. Organizers agreed, noting that concerns cannot be addressed unless they are shared. Everyone present expressed appreciation for the coordination taking place to help the event run as smoothly and safely as possible.

Notice will be issued stating:

The Big Sugar Gravel permit has been approved. All required items have been reviewed; safety plans, communication and requirements have been met. Addressing concerns, Law Enforcement officers will be onsite covering all areas monitoring the safety throughout the entire event and ensuring minimum disruption of the areas affected.

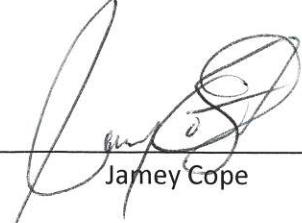
This notice confirms that the event scheduled for October 17th, known as Big Sugar Gravel, is approved to proceed as scheduled. The event is scheduled to begin at approximately 8:00am on Saturday, October 17th and end around 4:00pm. Link for the route affected can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/26mhs5mz>

For those impacted:

The Big Sugar Gravel race will enter the county around 8 am over SE of Noel and be completely through the county by 4 pm exiting in far SE McDonald County. Bikers will be spread out on county roads and highways, and sheriff's deputies and law enforcement will be at all highway intersections as well as having roving patrols.

ADJOURN

Commission will reconvene on October 5th, 2026


Jamey Cope
Approved

SIGNATURES

Bryan Hall


Rick Lett

Monday October 5th, 2026

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