

TERM OF COMMISSION: June Session of the April Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center
Conference Room 301 / Conference Call

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Daniel Atwill
District I Commissioner Justin Aldred
District II Commissioner Janet Thompson
Director of Purchasing Melinda Bobbitt
Deputy County Clerk Jodi Vanskike

Public Present: Shelly Wehmeyer – Missouri Credit Union

Conference Call Information:

Number: 425-585-6224 Access Code: 802-162-168

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm

Human Resources

1. **Second Reading: Request to Transfer Above the Authorized Transfer Salary for position 201, First Assistant Prosecutor (First Read 06.22.21)**

Commissioner Thompson moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the request to hire above the Authorized Transfer Salary for position number 201, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and does hereby authorize an appropriation of \$88,000 for the salary of said position.

Commissioner Aldred seconded the motion.
The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #259-2021**

2. **Second Reading: Request to Transfer above the Authorized Transfer Salary for position 228, Second Assistant Prosecutor (First Read 06.22.21)**

Commissioner Aldred moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the request to hire above the Authorized Transfer Salary for position number 228, Second Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and does hereby authorize an appropriation of \$78,000 for the salary of said position.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.
The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #260-2021**

Purchasing

3. First Reading: RFP Award Recommendation: 21-04JUN21 - Consulting Services for the 13th Judicial Court

Director of Purchasing Melinda Bobbitt read the following memo: Request for Proposal for 21-04JUN21 - Consulting Services for the 13th Judicial Court closed on June 4, 2021. Two proposal responses were received.

The evaluation committee consisted of the following:

- Mary Epping, Court Administrator, 13th Judicial Court
- Janet Thompson, District II Commissioner, Boone County, Missouri
- Steve Hollis, Human Services Manager, City of Columbia, Missouri
- Dr. Kelli E. Canada, PhD., Associate Professor, University of Missouri

The evaluation committee recommends award to The Institute for Police, Mental Health & Community Collaboration (under the auspices of Coordinated Care Services, Inc.) of Rochester, New York per their attached Evaluation Report.

The consultants will review and evaluate local data provided by the criminal justice and mental health systems, and other partners, to understand the intersection of those with mental illness with the criminal justice system in our community. Based on that data, the consultants will then provide recommendations as to immediate needs (such as how to best use the new 5 FTEs at the city level, train and implement diversion at the 911 call level, and how to improve the other systems already in place), as well as provide a five year plan with specific measurements for the county to track and review successes and areas that need more work. This will have the immediate effect of improving our criminal justice system and long-term effect of improving diversion efforts, thereby reducing those unnecessarily involved in criminal law system.

Total cost of contract is \$38,755.00 and will be paid from the following:

- \$33,755 from Department 1244 - GF Court OPS Grants, account 71101 - Professional Services
- \$5,000 from 1244 - GF Court Ops Grants, account 85710 - Travel

A Budget Amendment was processed for this purchase of services.

Commissioner Atwill stated this is a first reading and requested the Deputy County Clerk to schedule this item for a second reading at the next available commission meeting with appropriate order for approval.

4. Second Reading: Cooperative Contract: 05715 – Concrete Shelter (First Read 06.22.21)

Commissioner Aldred moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the request for Boone County Joint Communications to utilize the NASPO Value-Point Cooperative Contract 05715 to purchase a Concrete Shelter 11'6" x 24' from Sabre Communications Corporation.

This shelter is for the RKB project located by Gentry School. Cost is \$96,665.97 and will be paid from Department 2706 – BOCO Joint Communications Radio Improvements, Account 91300 – Machinery & Equipment. \$292,300 is budgeted.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.
The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #261-2021**

5. Second Reading: Request for Bid Award Recommendation: 22-09JUN21 - Metal Culvert Pipe - Term & Supply (First Read 06.22.21)

Commissioner Thompson moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve Bid Award 22-09JUN21 - Metal Culvert Pipe - Term & Supply, which closed on June 9, 2021, to Metal Culverts, Inc. for offering the lowest and best bid for Boone County.

This is a Term and Supply contract and invoices will be paid from Department 2040 - R&B Road Maintenance, Account 26420 - Culverts. \$136,219 is budgeted for 2021.

Commissioner Aldred seconded the motion.
The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #262-2021**

6. Second Reading: 20-19MAY21 – Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt) Term and Supply (First Read 06.22.21)

Commissioner Aldred moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve Contract 20-19MAY21 – Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt) Term and Supply, which opened on May 19, 2021. Three (3) bids were received. Road & Bridge recommends multiple award to Independent Salt Company of Kanopolis, KS, and Central Salt, LLC of Lyons, KS.

Cost of the Boone County contract will be paid from Department 2040 – RB Road Maintenance, Account 26302 - Road Salt. The 2021 budget is \$200,000.00.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #263-2021**

Commission

7. First and Second Reading: Requests for use of the Courthouse Plaza and Chambers

- Parley P. Pratt Freedom Run

Commissioner Thompson moved now on this day, the County Commission of the County of Boone does hereby approve the Organizational Use of the Boone County Courthouse Plaza and Commission Chambers by the Parley P. Pratt Freedom Run on July 3, 2021 from 6:00am until 10:00am. This approval is contingent upon adherence to the current health order. The Commission’s approval of the use of the interior of the Government Center, specifically the Commission Chambers, is conditioned upon that inside use being consistent with the then-applicable building use policies set forth by the Commission in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and local health orders.

Commissioner Aldred seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 to 0. **Order #264-2021**

8. Public Comments

Commissioner Atwill Opened/Closed the public hearing.

9. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Aldred stated he would like to enter into the record a three-page letter he received from Michelle Beckwith, which is attached. Commissioner Aldred stated the letter is regarding a need and want for stable internet services in the southern Boone area. Commissioner Aldred stated over 70 residents have signed the letter that addresses both inadequate and no service. Commissioner Thompson stated that Ms. Beckwith sent around a survey to homes in a specific area to understand what the level of service was. Commissioner Thompson stated the same survey will be sent out to as many people in Boone County as possible and help has been enlisted from the County’s GIS staff to help plot on a map the results of testing done through the testing app.

Attest:



Brianna L. Lennon

Clerk of the County Commission



Daniel K. Atwill

Presiding Commissioner



Justin Aldred

District I Commissioner



Janet M. Thompson

District II Commissioner

June 17, 2021

Residents of 65010 and 65039 Zip Codes
Email: michelle.beckwith.ptc@gmail.com

Boone County Commission
Dan Atwill, Justin Aldred and Janet Thompson
801 E Walnut St #333
Columbia, MO 65201

Sent Via Email: datwill@boonecountymo.org, jaldred@boonecountymo.org,
jthompson@boonecountymo.org

Dear Boone County Commissioners Atwill, Aldred and Thompson,

I am writing to request consideration of support for fiber internet services in the Ashland/Hartsburg Missouri area.

Residents living in areas near Hwy M and Hwy MM in Ashland Missouri and surrounding areas would like to express interest in bringing fiber internet to this area. There are currently 9 households on Hwy M between Liberty and Hwy MM. This is approximately a ½ mile stretch of road frontage. On the approximate 1 mile stretch of Hwy MM right off M there are subdivisions and neighboring properties that contain 49 current homes and 2 more under construction. All of the Ashland areas around the intersection of Hwy M and Hwy MM have similar home density and future construction is being planned in these areas. Two new subdivisions are being started off of Old Hwy 63 S. Many homes in this area have adequate resources to afford the basic cost of fiber service and would like to have it available for remote work, remote learning, TV and streaming access and other general internet usages. Much less densely populated rural areas in Missouri have benefited from fiber programs such as rural Callaway and Chariton counties.

We understand that the basic infrastructure will require grant or government assistance to provide fiber internet access in this area. Some investigation has led to the identification of some of the sources of funding for rural and infrastructure development of fiber and broadband internet services. These are detailed in the attachments and include the Missouri Broadband Grant program (Attachment 1), the Rural Digital Opportunity fund, Auction 904 (Attachment 2), and the USDA Reconnect program (Attachment 3). Relevant Missouri legislation can also be found in Attachment 4. Additional sources of funding may be available that were not identified. We are unsure of how to apply for any of this funding, but we are willing to assist if pointed the right direction.

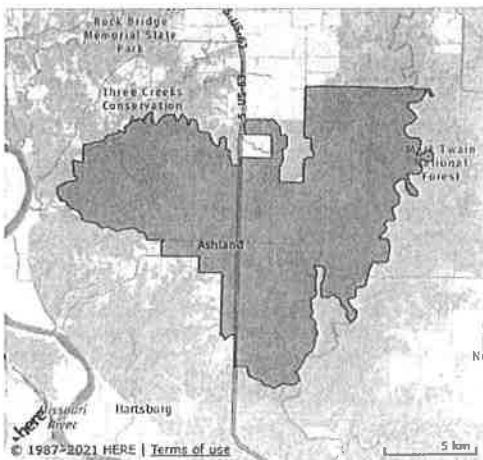
Please find the list of area residents who have expressed support in bringing fiber to the area (and of this letter) and their individual comments in Attachment 5. Attachment 6 includes a compilation of the current internet experiences of these households, and a blank survey that everyone completed can be found in Attachment 6. As you can see, the range of available services is complex and often not adequate for remote work or education, which needs at least 10 Mbps per connected device. There are inconsistencies in service that cause a single speed test to not be fully representative of the daily experiences of users. Sometimes drops in service can be attributed to bandwidth sharing, but in other instances, it is unknown what is causing service interruptions or poor service for periods of time. For many (>40%), the only choices are **satellite or DSL/copper** which both provide inconsistent low end service.

Ashland Demographics

According to [Zip Code 65010 Population](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/), the Ashland zip code of 65010 has >2400 households and >5,900 residents with a median age of 34. The data for this site is obtained from <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>. For 2010, Ashland is listed as having 3707 residents and 1428 households. The number of households has increased 68% in 10 years. The town is rapidly growing and has a young population that is likely to favor heavier internet usage.

Ashland is the third largest town in Boone county behind Columbia and Centralia. Columbia and Centralia are both participating in the USDA Reconnect program to bring broadband to those areas. See attachments for a description of the programs and relevant maps of these areas.

The 65010 area is outlined in the map below and does include a small amount of fiber internet service currently available through Centurylink, Inc. and Socket Telecom, LLC. Some of the north east section of this area is being considered for broadband using the Rural Digital Opportunity fund, Auction 904.



The map below pinpoints the households that have expressed interest in fiber internet in the area. This map will be updated as more people complete the survey and is available for viewing at:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=15grAjWkw5RkP135d9DBxeOvjSZdX5LLV&usp=sharing>



Conclusion

The areas of Ashland and Hartsburg are growing rapidly with people who would benefit greatly from consistent broadband. This community has many people who have been working remotely for the state and other organizations without appropriate infrastructure to support remote work and learning. We are willing to participate in any way we can to bring these services to our community. Please help us figure out how.

Sincerely,

The Residents of Ashland and Hartsburg named in Attachment 5