



# BUCHANAN COUNTY COMMISSION

411 Jules, Room 101  
St. Joseph, MO 64501  
816-271-1503  
akendall@buchmo.org

Ron Hook  
Western District Commissioner

Scott Nelson  
Presiding Commissioner

Scott Burnham  
Eastern District Commissioner

## Wednesday, February 8, 2024, at 9:00 am.

In attendance were Commissioner Ron Hook, Presiding Commissioner Scott Nelson, Commissioner Scott Burnham, Administrative Coordinator Amy Helsel, County Counsel Josh Bachman, and Community Foundation of NW President Mary Hinde

Mary met with Commissioners to discuss two groups focusing on Ag Expo merging and working together to form one location for 4-H, fairs, a place for Mo Extension. Talked about getting funds with NW Community Foundation, and interested in buying the school in Easton, when the groups merge will come up with a name. . Easton school sits on 10.49 acres, asking price with buildings and land is \$280K. Mary would like County to consider buying the school and property and a 5-year stipend of \$50K a year for maintenance and leasing to them for \$1. Mo Extension will move to this location it will be rent free. Revenue will come from shows, sponsorships, rentals, etc. Mary left the meeting.

Fritz Ambrozi with Ambrozi GDS joined the meeting with Purchasing Agent Kim Hartman.

Fritz updated on progress of roof/dome. The Coating is completed. The 50-year full system warranty is coming. In the spring they will bring dirt and seed to fix the yard. Fritz will get us all colors used and extra material. When Kim gets all warranties and final documentation for Jeff Ellison she will submit for payment.

Also discussed was Lake Contrary, Fritz stated the spraying with Octerra Solutions is not a chemical it's an enzyme. Presiding Commissioner Nelson reiterated we are waiting to find out who owns Lake Contrary, Army Corps of Engineer permit, and hydrologist report. Fritz stated on the research he has done on the lake, there is no jurisdiction. In the 1800's it flooded farm grounds, the title company said the easiest and most convenient thing to do is a quiet title and take ownership, which means the County will be liable of the lake. Fritz said there are 3 options to go about this:

1. County take it (liability issue)
2. Create a non-for-profit and form a lake association – have them operate it. (liability issue)
3. Leave it

Discussion on maintenance of the lake.

Presiding Commissioner Nelson asked what if we took the 300-acre lake and make it a 150-acre lake and put all the dug-up dirt on the other 150 acres. Fritz said we can look at some options on that.

Fritz asked for some dates for this project, spray in sept. 2024 start dredging 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02