



[TOP](#)

Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis Holds First Meeting of the New Year

JANUARY 04TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis Holds First Meeting of the New Year

The Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the government building located in Bloomfield, MO. Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis was sworn in by Judge Satterfield on December 31, 2022. He submitted the documentation to Pam Wheeler Chief Deputy Clerk.

"I thank those who were elected as they were soon in on Friday morning." commented Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis. "My family takes a vacation after Christmas to allow our employees to be with their families. I was unable to attend the swearing in so I had Judge Satterfield meet me at my office and he swore me in on December 31, 2022."

"Over the past four years the operations with the county governments have changed tremendously from when I was in office," stated Mathis. " There are office holders who I hadn't worked with in the past are going to have to get used to me because I won't govern the same styles as Danny Talkington.

"And I got to get used to the style of the office holders that I will have to work with as well," continued Mathis. "It is my belief that the business of our county governments and businesses in an open public dialogue, the media should have access to whatever information they need in order to write the story which will effectively inform our county citizens as to what's happening with our tax dollars in Stoddard County. That being the case, Miss Loflin, you are the queen of Sunshine Law requests. That being said, I hear about it, so the information comes up and you need help getting something you call me

and we will go from there."

"I believe in transparency is the foundation for effective government. That's going to be our motto as we go forward," Mathis said. "I certainly hope that anyone, citizens or office holders, that have any questions that may come to me with a direct question, likewise, I will do the same. We will again, try to keep an open dialogue for everyone."

"General revenue is at an all time high. Stoddard County is in a very good place financially. A lot of good fortune from that general revenue has come on the backs of taxpayers who are paying sales tax on goods and services that have gone up some 20 to 25% due to inflation," stated Mathis. "I don't believe that the increase in sales tax revenue that funds county government has based on consumer confidence through our economy being better off than it was years ago through the purchase of stock markets."

"I want to make sure our infrastructure is in place, whether it be rural bridges, internet, making sure our children still have an opportunity to go to school in a safe environment. We are going to take care of our buildings and grounds. As far as the budget, we will be responsible and monies will be spent in a manner that citizens are Stoddard County deserve."

"If there are no questions, moving on." Commissioner Steve Jordan has been removed from office from a judgement by the honorable Joshua Underwood.

Commissioner Carol Jarrell made a motion to have a Special Session Meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. to interview and appoint a Commissioner to replace Jordan. Seconded by Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis. Both voted yes and it passed.

Mathis asked if Cecil Weeks would notify the Governor of their intentions and per State Statute 105.030 Vacancies, how filled - "The County Commission of all nonstarter counties shall, no later than fourteen (14) days after the occurrence of the vacancy, fill the vacancy by appointment, and the person so appointed by the county commission, after full qualifying and entering upon the discharge of hie or her duties under Thea appointment, shall continue in office until the Governor fills the vacancy by appointment under subsection 1 of the section or until the vacancy is filled by operation of another provision of law."

The Commission has at least seven individuals that are interested in getting the appointment.

Cecil Weeks, County Clerk, also told the Commissioners that they could appoint an Associate Commissioner for the 14 days. Weeks also said that the "job" will be posted today to the Governor's Website. They will take applications online for the position. It may take until mid-February for the Governor to appoint someone. The Governor's office will also send an email to Weeks office to clarify all the requirements for the Associate Commissioner position.

Update on the Employee Health Insurance

Commissioner Jarrell updated with regards to the Health Insurance. She stated the in-network and out-of-network deductibles, the maximum out-of-pocket expenses, and the total cost of the premium per person to the County at \$776.21. She spoke to Mr. McCarty on Friday and he said that we basically have the same insurance as last year with Mr. Billington. "So I am still unclear about everything he doesn't give direct answers from the questions I ask. There were retirement questions and COBRA questions."

Mr. McCarty said the employees would receive an email with their temporary insurance card; however the email was sent to Pam Wheeler who printed them out and gave to the departments. Mrs. Wheeler stated that several were wrong and that they were coming in to let her know.

Mathis asked who we had the County's property and vehicle insurance with locally.

Weeks stated County Wide Insurance was the broker and Traveler's Insurance was who they had it with and that there were some claims out there, but that would be a private matter between Weeks and Mathis and not for open Commission meeting.

Commissioner asked if the County had a salary structure for beginning employees. It was stated that the amount was \$16.05; however there was nothing ever voted on in a Commissioner meeting nor in any previous minutes.

Devin Miller from the Shelter Workshop was in attendance and gave an update. "We are making extensive renovations at the Workshop and upgrading the warehouse. This has not impacted the operation out there, just the construction has been delayed due to rain and snow issues," commented Miller.

Ms. Loflin, ShowMe Times, asked if the Commissioners would look into Duck Creek Township and their paving project grant. Talkington was supposed to sign off on the grant; however according to Doug Lowery at a previous meeting this had not happened yet and they lost their grant because of a missed deadline. Mathis will get with Katelyn Lambert at Bootheel Regional Planning Commission and dive into the matter.

Mr. Mathis discussed a citizen's personal property tax delinquent information with Mr. Josh Spearman, County Collector. No names were mentioned, but neither have the statutory authority to relieve the debt or the additional fines unless there was an error or omission. It is set by the state of Missouri.

Commissioner Conference for March 1st, 2nd and 3rd at Osage Beach, Missouri.
Commissioners are required to attend or lose \$1,000 of their pay.

ARPA Fund Updates

Presiding Commissioner Mathis stated he will get with Katylyn Lambert at the BRPC and see what monies have been promised, allocated, and distributed.

William Dowdy, County maintenance, stated that they have been working on a generator project for some time now. He had asked the old generator be moved from the Sheriff's dept over here and then purchase one for the Sheriff's dept. The plan was not to purchase two generators, but to move one and purchase one. "There was some monies coming back to the County to purchase this new generator, but we are in standby mode in delivery and not sure of a timeline," stated Dowdy.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the minutes from December 27, 2022.
Mathis seconded the motion. Both voted yes and passed without prejudice.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the minutes from December 30, 2022.
Mathis seconded the motion. Both voted yes and passed without prejudice.

Sawyer Smith, Stoddard County Prosecuting Attorney and Justin Allen, Stoddard County Investigator, both stepped in for a few moment to attend the meeting and wanted to say hello to the Commission. Smith had to be in court in Stoddard and Butler counties today, but wanted to wish everyone a happy new year.

Mathis asked about the new locks being changed over the holiday weekend and not done during the week.. Smith stated it was a dire emergency to change the locks out since he took over at 12:01 a.m. January 1st. "Not all the keys were transitioned to us over the weekend so I had to change the locks." He didn't want anyone to have access to their computers and files. Smith stated that the office was left an absolute wreck and there was some damage to the walks so it needed a fresh coat of paint. Also one vehicle that the previous PA used had a flat tire and is currently not functional.

Mathis reminded Smith that the County Commissioners were in charge of building and grounds. Any painting, moving of furniture out, and changing locks must be approved by The Commission and there are protocols in place to remove furniture from inventory, or

adding to inventory and others who will need a master key such as maintenance. Mathis also said we need to use our local locksmith and not one outside of the county, so in the future go through the County Commissioners.

City of Bernie water was briefly discussed as there have been many complaints on Facebook and to various people. Commissioner Jarrell reached out to Mayor Tillman. He stated that they were waiting on a USDA Grant. Jarrell offered him information on a CDBG Grant thru the Bootheel Regional Planning Commission in the amount of \$750,000 as well as ARPA Funds that were still available. According to Justin Allen, the city did get a Bond passed about two years ago for water projects. Currently some of the city residents are experienced "brown" water.

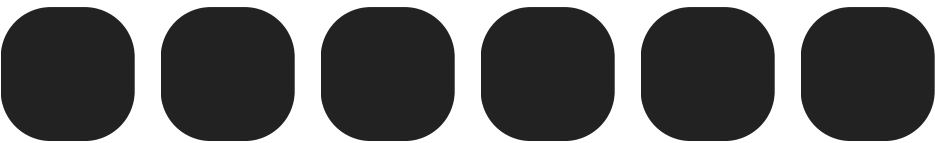
There will be a city council meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to adjourn at 12:03 p.m. Mathis seconded the motion. Both voted yes and passed without prejudice.

LAST UPDATED ON JANUARY 04TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vi74/Presiding-Commissioner-Greg-Mathis-Holds-First-Meeting-of-the-New-Year>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Stoddard County Commissioners Met on Friday, December 30, 2022

JANUARY 03RD 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Commissioners Met on Friday, December 30, 2022

The Stoddard County Commissioners met one last time for the year on Friday, December 30, 2022.

The most important duty of the day was to finalize the budget adjustments for the 2022 year.

Commissioner Carol Jarrell made a motion to approve the certified copy of order for the Budget Adjustments for December 30, 2022. Presiding Commissioner Danny Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes and it passed.

Intangible Tax Fund

Expenditures +20,777.10 Reason: Higher amount of expenditures - offset by revenue.

General School Fund

Expenditures +70,292.71 Reason: Higher amount of fines disbursed - offset by revenue

Tax Sale Surplus Fund

Expenditures +47,138.56 Reason: Higher amount of tax sale - offset by revenue.

Pros Atty Administrator's Fund

Expenditures +23,237.28 Reason: Higher amount of expenditures - funds earned from prior year.

Sheriff Civil Process Fund

Expenditures +2,474.69 - Reason: Higher amount of expenditures - offset by revenue.

Commercial Property Surcharge

Expenditures +5,264.71 Reason: Surcharge distribution higher than anticipated - offset by revenue.

Inmate Security Fund

Expenditures +472.82 Reason: Higher amount of inmate security - offset by revenue

Victim Advocate Fund

Expenditures +3,787.28 Reason: Higher amount of expenditures - Funds carried from prior year.

C.A.R.T.

Expenditures +65,114.87 Reason: Higher amount of expenditures - offset by revenue.

Election Security Grant

Expenditures +11,191.01 Reason: New fund added due to federal security funding for County Clerk for Elections

When asked about the County's health insurance update. Talkington stated that the next Presiding Commissioner would deal with the final contract. Employees have been given paper copies of their insurance card for the time being.

There were no minutes to approve from the previous meeting on December 27, 2022. The new Commission would have to approve those minutes as well as today's minutes.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to adjourn at 12:28 p.m. Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes.

LAST UPDATED ON JANUARY 03RD 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vi70/Stoddard-County-Commissioners-Met-on-Friday-December-30-2022>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Stoddard County Commission Meeting, Monday, December 19, 2022

DECEMBER 20TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Commission Meeting, Monday, December 19, 2022

The Stoddard County Commissioners held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Building.

Doug Lowery attended the meeting on behalf of the Duck Creek Township on the grant funding with Bootheel Regional Planning Commission. Presiding Commissioner Danny Talkington will get with Katelyn Lambert, BRPC, to see if there are any updates.

Colter Gabler, Smith & Company Engineering had a change order for a culvert on County Road 760 as it needs to be replaced. Both Commissioners signed the order.

Russ Oliver, Prosecuting Attorney for Stoddard County, dropped off a request to purchase a table, some storage items, and his computer.

"There will be two additional meetings following Christmas before the end of the year," commented Talkington. One regular meeting on Tuesday, December 27th at 9:00 a.m. the other meeting will be a meeting on Friday for any additional budget changes, time will be announced later.

Commissioner Carol Jarrell made a motion to take the interest income on the ARPA funds to be added to the ARPA funds as a line item from the General Revenue. Commissioner

Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes.

Greg Mathis, new Presiding Commissioner, dropped in. He had been to see Cecil Weeks, County Clerk, and asked if he could use one of his employees to take the minutes for the Commissioners in 2023. He said that Weeks would provide someone. He also invited him to attend meetings, it is up to Weeks as to whether he attends or not.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2022. Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes.

Here are the minutes from that meeting:

Visitors: Kay Asbell - Recorder, Dee Loflin - ShowMe Times, Josh Ayers - Dexter Statesman, Josh Speakman - Collector, Matthew Dowdy - Citizen, Katelyn Lambert - BRPC, and Tiffany Belcher - BRPC.

Associate Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to award the 2022 single audit to Devereux & Company CPAs & Business Advisors for \$17,500. Passed

Associate Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the revised minutes for November 21, 2022 to state the audit bids to be submitted by Friday 12/9/22 at 4:00 p.m. Passed

Associate Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the minutes for December 5, 2022. Passed

Associate Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to adjourn. Passed

Gary Snider, citizen, entered the meeting to discuss his concerns about the clean-out of Ditch #14. He says if we get heavy rain it floods the area. Commissioner Talkington gave him a list of board members to contact.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to adjourn at 11:37 a.m. Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes.

LAST UPDATED ON DECEMBER 20TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vi5l/Stoddard-County-Commission-Meeting-Monday-December-19-2022>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[Stoddard County Commissioners Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2022](#)

Stoddard County Commissioners Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2022

[Stoddard County Commission Meeting Agenda for Monday, December 12, 2022](#)

Stoddard County Commission Meeting Agenda for Monday, December 12, 2022

[Stoddard County Commission Meeting for Monday, November 7, 2022](#)

Stoddard County Commission Meeting for Monday, November 7, 2022

[Stoddard County Commission Vote on Insurance and New EMA Director](#)

Stoddard County Commission Vote on Insurance and New EMA Director

[TOP](#)

Stoddard County Commissioners Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2022

DECEMBER 12TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Stoddard County Commissioners Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2022](#)

The Stoddard County Commissioners met on Monday, December 12, 2022 at the government building in Bloomfield.

Katelyn Lambert, Asst Executive Director, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission updated the Commissioners on the ARPA Funds. She presented them with a spreadsheet.

Total amount of ARPA Funds available to the County is \$5,637,766.00 Funds requested are \$4,338,255.96. Funds actually paid to date \$591,848.23. Funds must be paid out by December 31, 2023.

Matthew Dowdy, Concerned Citizen

He had a letter dated November 22, 2022 from Liberty Mutual Insurance (County uses for their bonding insurance), stating "that under the fidelity insurance policy, only the insured, Stoddard County can be indemnified against covered losses allegedly caused by a dishonest or fraudulent set committed by one of their employees. Only Stoddard County may submit a claim. A review of your correspondence indicates that you are not a proper claimant under the terms of the policy. As such, the Surety must deny this claim in its entirety."

The letter goes on to read, "We have contacted Stoddard County to advise it of the above information so that they may decide how to proceed. Nothing in this letter is to be construed as a waiver of any of the rights or defenses available to The Ohio Casualty Group or Stoddard County."

Talkington said he would have to hire an attorney and file a suit against the Prosecuting Attorney.

"I'd like to thank the commissioners for their time today," stated Dowdy.

Kay Asbell, Stoddard County Recorder, attended the meeting.

Kay Asbell asked the commissioners if retirees were included in the new insurance plan because her staff had a Zoom meeting last week and it was not in the slides. Commissioner Talkington said yes the retirees were on the plan if they had been employees of the County for at least 20 years.

2022 Single Audit Bid Opening at 10:12 a.m.

Bid #1 Daniel Jones and Associates CPA for \$25,000, received on November 8th

Bid #2 Devereux and Companies CPA for \$17,500, received on November 10th

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to accept the bid from Devereux and Companies CPA for \$17,500. Presiding Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both said yes and passed.

Josh Speakman, Stoddard County Collector attend the meeting.

" A couple of programming errors was found in our tax system during the audit this summer and the voucher I was questioned on by the commission corrected one of them. The financial correction that occurred from the programming error was made this Nov since the amount of revenue that gets distributed to all the various political subdivisions during November and December is increased. It was corrections from years 2017, 2019, 2020 and 2021."

In last week's meeting Speakman discussed a bank card to be used by elected officials.

"I have requested the County Commission look into utilizing Central Bank who has a department that specializes in Municipal and County Government credit cards. This will keep county business, such as postage, hotel stays at statutorily required association trainings etc. from being applied to personal debit cards and then reimbursed to the individual. I feel as if it's a more transparent and simpler approach. The cards come with the county logo and the tax exempt number on them, and would follow the same bill pay approval process as all other county bills."

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the revised minutes from November 21, 2022 to state the audit bids must be turned in by December 9th at 4 p.m. Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes and passed.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 5th meeting. Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both said yes and passed. A copy of the minutes will not be available until next week's meeting.

Commissioner Jarrell asked Talkington if he had heard from Mr. McCarty at Arch Brokerage about the exclusion of St. Francis or making the deductible higher or co-pays higher. St. Francis is in-network for HealthLink Insurance; however has been excluded in the County's health insurance plan. This is from a discussion in last week's meeting with Josh Speakman, County Collector. Talkington state he had not heard from Mr. McCarty as to the changes in the insurance plan. He will contact him this week.

Commissioner Jarrell made a motion to adjourn at 11:57 a.m. Commissioner Talkington seconded the motion. Both voted yes and passed.

LAST UPDATED ON DECEMBER 12TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vi4o/Stoddard-County-Commissioners-Meeting-Monday-December-12-2022>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[Stoddard County Commission Meeting for Monday, November 7, 2022](#)

Stoddard County Commission
Meeting Agenda for Monday,
December 12, 2022

Stoddard County Commission
Meeting for Monday, November 7,
2022

[Stoddard County Commissioners Meeting for Monday, August 29th](#)

Stoddard County Commission
Vote on Insurance and New EMA
Director

Stoddard County Commissioners
Meeting for Monday, August 29th

[TOP](#)

Wyman Named City Administrator for City of Dexter

DECEMBER 12TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Wyman Named City Administrator for City of Dexter

The Dexter Board of Aldermen have unanimously selected David Wyman as their new City Administrator.

Wyman, a licensed engineer within the state of Missouri, brings a vast list of credentials which include a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, a master's degree in Business Administration, as well as extensive training and education in leadership and management.

While working for the Missouri Department of Transportation, Wyman spent 25 years in Maintenance, Design, Construction, and Administration.

“I look forward to serving the residents of Dexter,” Wyman said. “Except for the years I spent living in Columbia going to college, Stoddard County has always been my home. It will be an honor to work with everyone to improve and develop our community.”

Wyman has been married to his high school sweetheart, Carrie, since 1996. They have a daughter, Kate, who is currently a Senior at Mizzou, and a son, Joe, who is a Junior in high school. They also have several friends and relatives that live within Dexter and the surrounding area.

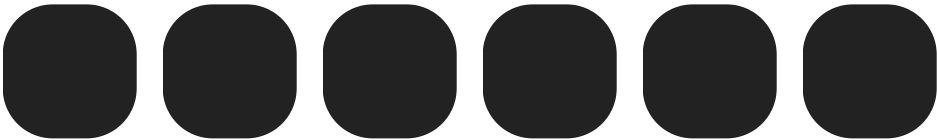
Wyman’s selection as City Administrator makes him only the third Administrator in city history. Mark Stidham was the first City Administrator ever appointed by the City of Dexter, and he successfully managed the city for 20 years until he passed away in December 2020. Trevor Pulley was then selected as the second City Administrator in April 2021. Pulley worked successfully with the city until his recent decision to resign and move to the City of Cape Girardeau.

“Over the next year, the City of Dexter will be proudly celebrating 150 years as a city within the state of Missouri. If you look at the City of Dexter’s motto, it states that is has “A Bright Future ~ A Proud Past”.....I am excited for the opportunity to work with a hard-working staff of city employees, a dedicated Board of Aldermen, a devoted Mayor, and an entire city full of good people to continue to make this the best place to live in southeast Missouri,” states Wyman.

LAST UPDATED ON DECEMBER 12TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vi4m/Wyman-Named-City-Administrator-for-City-of-Dexter>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

City of Dexter Filing Update	City of Dexter, MO - General Municipal Election Filing
City of Dexter Filing Update	City of Dexter, MO - General Municipal Election Filing
City of Dexter Seeking City Admin	Dexter Police Chief Hank Trout - Be Safe This Halloween
City of Dexter Seeking City Administrator	Dexter Police Chief Hank Trout - Be Safe This Halloween



SUBSCRIBE TO "LOCAL NEWS"

ShowMe Gold Sponsors