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Stoddard County Commission Meeting - Monday, March 7, 2022

MARCH 16TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Commission Meeting - Monday, March 7, 2022

Bloomfield, MO - The Stoddard County Commissioners held their weekly meeting on Monday, March 7, 2022. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presiding Commissioner Danny Talkington stated that the state of Missouri has begun a procedural audit of Stoddard County. The county is audited annually by a private accounting firm, but the state of Missouri tries to audit the county every four years in person.

Stoddard County was audited four times in 2021. One was the annual financial audit and the other three were due to concerns with the CARES Act.

According to Talkington they have not received results of the CARES Act audits. During the meeting Cecil Weeks produced a financial audit report for both 2019 and 2020.

The document is 70 pages and can be reviewed by **[CLICKING HERE](#)**.

Here are the recommendations given by State Auditor Nicole Galloway's office:

“The county (must) ensure the proper general ledger accounts are created to allow an individual to post transfers to the correct accounts. In addition, we recommend management train staff members on how to properly record interfund transfers. A review process should also monitor for errors in recording transfers.

“Management (must) reconcile the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) with the general ledger at year end to ensure that all costs are captured. Actual expenditures should also be reported rather than revenue.”

At 10 a.m. Presiding Commissioner opened bids for the 2021 audit.

Two accounting firms bid on the 2021 audit.

Devereux and Company of St. Charles, MO bid \$15,000. This bid included all out-of-pocket expenses and would evaluate all financial statements, the schedule of expenditures of federal funds and accounting processes and procedures.

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen) made a bid of \$18,500 and did not include travel expenses.

The county commissioners voted 3-0 to chose Devereux and Company, of St. Charles, to do the county’s financial audit for 2021.

The audit would begin in July and a draft of the results would be issued by September 2, 2022. The audit would be conducted on and off site, and company representatives would be on site a minimum of five days.

At 11:00 a.m. Neil Gilb, of Charter Communications, discussed rural broadband internet and that Charter would be willing to offer internet service to the underserved areas Around Advance and Bell City.

Charter currently serves residents of both Stoddard County communities and is currently expanding its services in Bollinger County.

Gilb said Charter wasn’t planning to expand immediately in Stoddard County, but would consider it following the completion of the Bollinger County project.

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