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# Stoddard County Commissioners Meet, Bridge Repairs, Health Insurance and More Discussed

JULY 18TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Stoddard County Commissioners Meet, Bridge Repairs, Health Insurance and More Discussed

The Stoddard County Commissioners held their weekly meeting on Monday, July 18, 2022 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Stoddard County Government building.

Bootheel Regional Planning Commission requested the contract signed by Sheriff Carl Hefner for the new body scanner. There was a change of contact person in the contract and therefore they needed another contract filled out and signed. They will send a copy to Commissioner Talkington.

Commissioner Steve Jordan made a motion to approve the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes, Commissioner Carol Jarrell seconded. No changes were made. All voted yes to approve.

**Smith & Co., Pre-Construction Meeting, BRO-B103 (073/074) meeting opened at 10:00 a.m. sharp.**

Colter Gaebler, Construction Manager and Project Manager opened the meeting along with Keith Simpson, contractor, who attended in person and representatives from MoDOT via telephone were present for the preconstruction meeting. Construction will begin on Bridge 760 on August 15, 2022 and should be completed by November 14, 2022. Bridge 784 has a start date of November 14, 2022 and should be completed by February 15, 2023. Both bridges are located in Stoddard County in Elk Township. They will be closed to traffic during construction.

Responsibilities of Engineers: The Construction Inspection Services Contract, includes inspection with authority to require compliance to contract documents. No instructions shall be issued to the contractor during construction except as authorized by the Construction Manager or Project Engineer

Responsibilities of Owner's Governing Body (Stoddard County Commission): All interests of the Owner in regards to this project will be conducted thru the Stoddard County Commission. The Owner shall not supervise or be responsible for the

Responsibilities of Contractor: The Contractor shall adhere to the contract documents and shall not deviate from the contract without written approval from the Engineer and Owner. The contractor shall supervise, inspect, and direct the work competently and efficiently, devoting such attention to and applying such skills and expertise as many be necessary to perform the work in accordance with the Contract Documents. Other responsibilities are stated in the General Condition.

Responsibilities of Any other Agency Contributing to the Project: All agencies will work thru the Construction Manager Project Inspector. The Construction Manager will then keep the Owner informed of issues that may arise.

The Notice to Proceed will be signed after MoDOT concurs that all contract documents are in place. All parties will receive an executed copy of all documents.

Liquidated Damages are \$700 per day for every day beyond the final completion.

Final Acceptance of Work: The Contractor must complete all work including punch list items, provide lien releases, consent of surety, affidavits of payment, before final acceptance.

### **In other business:**

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to approve the Rapid Financial Solution LLC program for paying jurors for services at a cost of .55 cents per debit card. Commissioner Jarrell seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to request bids for a cleanout of 2,000 linear feet of drainage ditch #17 which is east of highway 25 and north of highway 91. Commissioner Jarrell seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to request bids for the 2023-2024 Healthcare Provider for Stoddard County employees. Commissioner Jarrell seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Sheriff Carl Hefner produced three options for the leaking pipes in the old jail. Commissioner Jordan made a motion to replace plumbing and use the existing stainless steel toilets/sinks as they are good shape just need new internal parts. Cost is \$27,500 for the c-block section in the old jail that will be used. The other two quotes were much higher for complete replacement. Jarrell seconded. All three voted yes.

No other business was conducted after Presiding Commissioner Danny Talking left early.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to adjourn at noon. Commissioner Jarrell seconded. Both agreed.

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## Spotting Credit Card Skimmers and Shimmers

JULY 18TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Spotting Credit Card Skimmers and Shimmers

Credit card skimmers and shimmers are small, illegal devices fraudsters attach to ATMs and gas pumps in order to steal your credit card information. While these devices are rare, here's what to watch for:

1. Skimmers are placed on the outside of the card reader. Skimmers are easier to spot since they're bulky and often look like they don't belong on the machine. Watch for mismatching colors or odd fitting equipment.
2. Shimmers are placed inside the card reader. Shimmers are thin and harder to spot, but they can be noticed inside the card slot if you look carefully.
3. Check for tampering. If a panel looks like it's been removed or if any pieces seem loose, take caution. Be on the lookout for any pieces that look odd or move when they shouldn't.
4. Consider where the machine is located. These devices are more common on ATMs that aren't in busy areas.

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# Blunt Welcomes Launch of New 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Phone Number

JULY 18TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Blunt Welcomes Launch of New 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Phone Number

U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (Mo.), the top Republican on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, welcomed the launch of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's new, three digit 988 number. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of more than 200 local- and state-funded crisis centers. The new number, which will be available starting tomorrow, July 16, will allow individuals experiencing a mental health crisis to call or text 988 to connect with a trained mental health professional.

"The number of calls to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline skyrocketed in recent years as Americans struggled with the mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Each one of those calls can be a life or death moment for a person in crisis," said Blunt. "We need to be sure the capacity is there to answer every call as quickly as possible. As the top Republican on the appropriations subcommittee that funds health programs, I have been proud to work with my colleagues to substantially increase federal funding to transition to the lifeline's new 988 number and strengthen the network of crisis centers answering the calls. We will continue working to ensure the resources are in place to meet the needs of the lifeline as the new 988 number goes into effect. I hope this transition will make it easier for people to reach out and get the lifesaving help they need, when they need it."

The Blunt-backed Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which was signed into law last month, provided \$150 million to support the launch of 988, including crisis center operations. The FY2022 government funding bill, signed into law in March, provided \$101.6 million, a \$77.6 million increase, for the 988 transition.

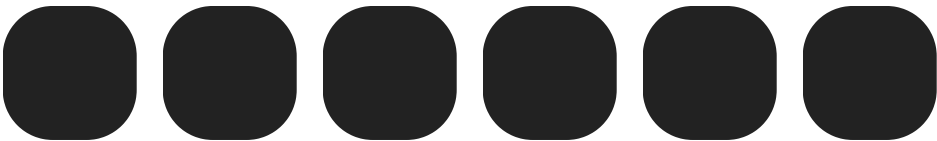
The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act also authorized the nationwide expansion of the Excellence in Mental Health program, giving every state the opportunity to establish or expand community-based mental health clinics if they choose to do so. The Excellence in

Mental Health Act was signed into law in 2014 and marked the most significant expansion of community mental health and addiction services in decades. It created Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) that provide a wide range of services, including 24/7/365 crisis services, immediate screenings, risk assessments, and diagnoses. Missouri is one of the nine states currently participating in the Excellence in Mental Health pilot program, which has a proven track record of improving access to care, reducing hospital and ER visits, and providing mental and behavioral health support to local law enforcement.

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# Request for Qualifications Pre-Selection Engineering, Design, Construction and Inspection Services

JULY 14TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Request for Qualifications Pre-Selection Engineering, Design, Construction and Inspection Services

Dexter, MO - The city of Dexter is requesting qualifications for preliminary engineering, professional engineering design, construction, and inspection services for a project to be administered through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Specifically the city of Dexter is seeking a firm to perform a street improvements project.

Information provided to the city must include at a minimum:

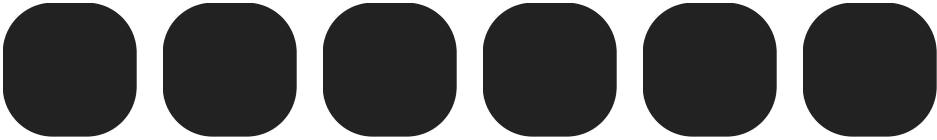
- 1) The specialized experience and technical competence of the firm with respect to Street Improvements (25 pts)
- 2) The capacity and capability of the firm to perform the work in question, including specialized services, within a period of twelve months (25 pts)
- 3) The past record of performance of the firm with respect to such factors as control of cost, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules (25).
- 4) References from all previous clients involved with the firm within the past five years and the ability to begin work immediately (10 pts)
- 5) References and experience of previous work on federal and state grant projects (10 pts)
- 6) Documentation of compliance with E-Verify requirements (5 pts)

The firm will be selected in accordance with federal and state procurement procedures. Respondents will be scored on the above criteria based on a 100-point scale. the most qualified competitor will be selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The full contract design executed from the preliminary engineering report, shall be contingent upon the award of the grant and commitment of all project funds.

This information must be submitted no later than Monday, August 1, 2022 to Dexter City Hall, 301 East Stoddard Street, Dexter, MO by 4 p.m. For more information, please contact the city clerk, Crystal Bishop at (573) 624-5959. Selection will be made at the City Council Meeting on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Dexter Municipal Building at 119 Vine Street, Dexter, MO.

The city of Dexter is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages the submission of proposals from minority and women - owned firms.

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# Route T in Butler, Stoddard and Wayne Counties Reduced for Pavement Construction

JULY 14TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route T in Butler, Stoddard and Wayne Counties Reduced for Pavement Construction

Route T in Butler, Stoddard and Wayne Counties will be reduced to one lane with an 11-foot width restriction as contractor crews add shoulders and overlay the roadway.



?This section of roadway is located from Route 51 near Puxico, Missouri to Route 60 near Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

?Weather permitting, work will begin Thursday, July 28 through Friday, Sept. 23 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs.? Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

?For additional information, contact Resident Engineer Donald Hills at (573) 472-9013 or MoDOT’s?Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636

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