

905 N RIVERSIDE RD
OZARK, MO 65721
417-581-1632
WWW.OSRDMO.GOV



COMMISSIONERS
BARBARA HOVER
JERRY COUNTRYMAN

We believe that we must respond to the Facebook post of Scott Bilyeu this past week about his connections with the City of Ozark. All of us have the right to our own opinion, but we are not entitled to our own facts. These are the facts that Scott has not told you about.

The Road District has requested the City of Ozark since August of 2025 to start talks about how to share road maintenance and finances for the roads that are within the city limits. Those talks will now start in mid-November. The Road District has told the City that it abuses real estate tax abatement programs for developers, such as giving incentives to build on vacant farmland and calling it blighted. That is just one example. The City does not understand how this hurts individual citizens who must pay the real estate taxes that developers do not. Also, these real estate tax abatements hurt small government units who must work with small budgets and who do not receive sales tax revenue.

To make sure these talks go smoothly, we decided that **all** Commissioners sign an agreement to keep contract negotiations confidential. In a negotiation, a member of one side should not be telling the other side what to expect. Scott does not agree. We have verified that Scott has received and accepted 761 referrals from the City of Ozark for his business in the past 3 1/2 years.

We do not expect Scott to drop his work he gets through the City. We want him to sign the confidentiality agreement and be loyal to the citizens who live in the Road District. We want to make certain that all Commissioners are impartial and will protect all citizens that live and own property in the Road District, not just Ozark city government. Times are different since Scott served as Commissioner before. The City of Ozark did not attempt to take advantage of Road District money and other resources before as it has tried to do in recent years.

The business of the Road District is not about the Commissioners, but about the public who use the roads, both inside and outside the Ozark city limits. We encourage Scott to end his resentment and work with us. Scott, we missed you at the meeting on September 8th and hope that you can work for all the public good. We can disagree on matters, but we should always be civil.

9/14/26 _____
Date

Barbara Hover
President

Jerry Countryman
Vice President