

Curry County Commissioner's Meeting – November 13, 2013:

1 hr. 17 minutes into the meeting: Commission Chair Smith to commissioner Brown.

"I strongly disagree with commissioner Brown. This conversation has been, we've been having this conversation about revenues and timber revenue in the county long before you (Brown) moved to Curry County commissioner. And ah, those conversations we've been having with the citizens that have supported the last two funding solutions along with the other ah, eight elected officials that are elected here at the county have been having that conversation here with the citizens ever since January 7th.

And I know that you talk about and you talk about it in the press that we need to have this conversation with the citizens. Well I can say that I've been having that conversation because it's part of my job and part of the leadership role of a county commissioner and have had. And I'm glad you're going to begin (paused) having that conversation with the citizens.

Because if we are all on the same page and all firing on all three cylinders I believe that we can do a lot.

Over the last eleven months we've been able to accomplish quite a bit. We have a lot of economic development projects in the hopper. I know you've been working on a business license tax or fee for unincorporated businesses throughout the county that could generate less than \$100,000 dollars for ah for the county and help supplement the building/planning department downstairs if that's where you choose to generate where that revenue should come to.

But I think it's ah, it's really ah disrespectful to not only myself and commissioner Itzen but the other elected officials at the county to sit righteously in your chair and talk about how now we need to begin the conversation with the citizens because we've been having that conversation with the citizens for a long time.

And I know that you brought to this board a proposal to have a 5 percent restaurant tax, a 9 percent transient lodging tax and a \$1.15 dollar fifteen a thousand property tax measure. That was not palatable not only to the business community that came and spoke against it but to this board. Because you put all those tax measures on a ballot we could possibly fail at I mean it's just ah a deluge of tax information.

So I think that's why I didn't support it plus I don't support imposing a transient lodging tax on ah businesses that collect it within the city limits. I don't believe it's our place and our purview to be imposing that transient lodging tax on the citizens and businesses in the community.

But I meant what I said when I was quoted in the Pilot that I look toward your leadership with regards to how we move forward in the future and I hope that we can come together as a board and work together because that's how this is going to work with the county. And in order to do that we need to be on the same page and not and begin the conversation.

But you (Brown) need to understand from my perspective, we have been having this conversation with the citizens. I will continue to have the conversation with the citizens and I'm glad you're going to begin that conversation with the citizens. So."