



WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS
County Courthouse

MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT
ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 5, 2017
(Immediately following County Services)
Washington County Quorum Court Room

Vice Chair Daniel Balls
Alicia Deavens
Lisa Ecke

Chair Bill Usery

Ann Harbison
Eva Madison
Butch Pond

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of County Codes
 - Sec 3-1 – Juvenile Court FINS Attorney established (3.1)
4. Other Business: Any other business to be discussed by the Committee will be brought up at this time.
5. Public Comment
6. Adjournment

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT
OF THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON,
STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE
TO BE ENTITLED:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WASHINGTON
COUNTY CODE SECTION 3-1.**

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court has been reviewing the Washington County Code of Ordinances; and,

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court has determined that section 3-1 of the Code is in need of amendment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM
COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS:**

ARTICLE 1. Washington County Code Section 3-1 is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 3-1. - Juvenile Court ~~Guardian ad Litem~~FINS Attorney established.

(a) There is hereby created and established for the County the position of Washington County Juvenile Court ~~Guardian ad Litem~~FINS Attorney, hereinafter called "~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney".

(b) The services of a ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall be secured by contract with the County, using the following procedure: ~~A Juvenile Court Guardian selection committee shall be appointed by the County Judge. The County Judge may consider recommendations for appointment to this committee from the Washington County Bar Association President, the Washington County Juvenile Justice Advisory Board, or other members of the community. The selection committee shall be composed of at least three (3) persons who (1) are licensed attorneys who regularly practice in the Juvenile Court, or (2) have substantial experience in the area of child welfare and Juvenile justice and are familiar with the duties and functions of the Juvenile Court Guardian. The selection committee shall review the credentials and references included in all applications submitted for the contract and arrange interviews with each applicant. Following this review, the selection committee shall recommend one (1) or more applicants to the County Judge for award of the contract. The County Judge shall select the Juvenile Court Guardian and notify the selection committee and the person selected.~~The FINS Attorney shall be hired by the County Judge, who may consider recommendations from the County Attorney and Juvenile Court Judge(s).

(c) The ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall report to the County Judge~~Attorney~~. The performance of the ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall be evaluated annually prior to renewal of the contract for services. The County Judge~~Attorney~~ shall determine the mode of this review, and may solicit formal input from the ~~selection committee~~Juvenile Court Judge. The ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall maintain a current report of the number of children represented who have been adjudicated "~~dependent/neglected~~", and the number adjudicated as "family in need of services" cases.

(d) The ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall receive a compensation specified by the budget, which shall be paid in equal biweekly payments. This salary shall be full compensation for all duties required of the ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney by the Juvenile Code of the State of Arkansas, including, but not limited to, those duties referred to in Ark. Code Ann. §§ ~~9-9-208, 9-9-220, 9-27-316, 9-27-338, 9-27-340, 12-12-506~~9-27-332, 9-27-

~~333, and 20-82-202~~Administrative Order No. 15 of the Arkansas Supreme Court, and related statutes.

(e) The duties of the ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney shall not include any appointment as ~~Guardian-Attorney~~ ad Litem in custody proceedings not brought under provisions of the Juvenile Code of the State of Arkansas. The ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney may accept such other appointments only when no apparent or potential conflict of interest may result in the representation of the children in Juvenile proceedings pursuant to this section.

(f) Should the Circuit/~~Chancery~~ Judge, Juvenile division, deem it necessary due to conflict of interest or other extraordinary circumstances rendering it impossible for the ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney to represent any child, appoint an attorney other than the ~~Juvenile Court Guardian~~FINS Attorney to serve as Guardian ad Litem in any ~~Juvenile~~FINS proceeding, such appointment may be made on an ad hoc basis.

JOSEPH K. WOOD, County Judge

DATE

BECKY LEWALLEN, County Clerk

Sponsor: Bill Ussery
Date of Passage: August 17, 2017
Votes For: _____ Votes Against: _____
Abstention: _____ Absent: _____