## MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 5:00 p.m. Washington County Quorum Court Room

County Judge Joseph K. Wood called the meeting to order.

JP Pond led the prayer and pledge.

Members present were JP Lance Johnson, JP Susan Cunningham, JP Harvey Bowman, JP Judith Yanez, JP Patrick Deakins, JP Lisa Ecke, JP Sam Duncan, JP Shawndra Washington, JP E Madison, JP Andrea Jenkins, JP Suki Highers, JP S Madison, JP Willie Leming, JP Ann Harbison, and JP Butch Pond.

A motion to adopt the agenda with an insertion of public comment was made by JP S Madison and seconded by JP E Madison. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the agenda as amended.

During the public comment time, Assessor Russell Hill spoke on having an orientation to have a brief overview of how the money flows through the different offices. Human Resource Director Michael Watson informed the Court that when the Personnel Committee is formed and have their first meeting the Compensation Consultant Blair Johanson would like to come and do a presentation on the salary administration program. Angela Belford, Interim Executive Director for Fayetteville Housing Authority informed the Court that they are planning a tour for all their public housing facilities and wanted to invite the Court.

A motion to add an emergency ordinance to establish the committees and an ordinance amending the budget controls was made by JP E Madison and seconded by JP S Madison. A motion to separate the two ordinances was made by JP Ecke and seconded by JP Harbison. A voice vote was called and the motion passed with majority vote. A motion to table the budget control ordinance and send it to Finance & Budget once the committee is formed was made by JP Ecke and seconded by JP Harbison. A point of order request was made by JP E Madison because the ordinance had not been added to the agenda therefore cannot be tabled. A roll call vote was called to add the budget control ordinance to the agenda and the votes were tallied as follow:

JP Johnson - No

JP Cunningham - No

JP Bowman - No

JP Yanez - No

JP Deakins - No

JP Ecke - No

JP Duncan - No

JP Washington - No

JP E Madison - Yes

JP Jenkins - Yes

JP Highers - Yes

JP S Madison - Yes

JP Leming - No

JP Harbison - No JP Pond - No

The motion failed.

Judge Joseph Wood introduced agenda item 4. He asked each member of the Court to introduce themselves and state what their interest is in serving the county.



Country Attorney Brian Lester introduced agenda item 5. He introduced himself and spoke on Procedural Rules, FOIA, and Meetings and Dates. There were comments made by various members of the Court and County Attorney Brian Lester.

Judge Joseph Wood introduced agenda item 6. He is recommending four committees; Finance & Budget, Personnel, County Services, and Jail/Law Enforcement. Finance & Budget will be a committee of the whole. JP Bowman asked County Attorney Brian Lester to read the emergency ordinance. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance, "AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE QUORUM COURT; AND, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2013-12 AND ORDINANCE 2015-64". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Bowman and seconded by JP Harbison. There was a comment made by JP E Madison. A motion to amend the ordinance to add Ordinance Review to the Committees, change the time to 5:30pm, and have each JP serve on equal number of committees was made by JP E Madison and seconded by JP S Madison. There were comments made by various members of the Court and County Attorney Brian Lester. A point of order request was made by JP Johnson on clarification on the discussion. A motion to sever the requested amendments was made by JP Harbison and seconded by JP Duncan. A roll call vote was started but a point of order request was made by JP Washington because the ordinance was not properly added to the agenda. Therefore, a motion to suspend the rules and add the emergency ordinance as written was made by JP Ecke and seconded by JP Yanez. A voice vote was called and the motion passed with majority vote. A motion to suspend the rules and read the ordinance by title only was made by JP E Madison and seconded by JP S Madison. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE QUORUM COURT; AND, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2013-12 AND ORDINANCE 2015-64". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Duncan and seconded by JP Leming. There were comments made by JP E Madison, JP Pond, and JP Harbison. A call for the question was made by JP Duncan and seconded by JP Ecke. A roll call vote was called and the votes were tallied as follow:

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JP Johnson - Yes
JP Cunningham - Yes
JP Bowman - Yes
JP Yanez - No
JP Deakins - Yes
JP Ecke - Yes
JP Duncan - Yes
JP Washington - Yes
JP E Madison - No
JP Jenkins - No
JP Highers - No
JP S Madison - No
JP Leming - Yes
JP Harbison - Yes
JP Pond - Yes
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The motion to call for the question was approved. A roll call vote was called to adopt the ordinance and the votes were tallied as follow:

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JP Johnson - Yes
JP Cunningham - Yes
JP Bowman - Yes
JP Yanez - Yes
JP Deakins - Yes
JP Ecke - Yes
JP Duncan - Yes
JP Washington - Yes
JP E Madison - No
JP Jenkins - No
JP Highers - No
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JP S Madison - No JP Leming - Yes JP Harbison - Yes JP Pond - Yes

Ordinance 2019-01, AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE QUORUM COURT; AND, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2013-12 AND ORDINANCE 2015-64, was adopted.

Judge Joseph Wood stated that the Finance & Budget will be a committee of the whole and asked that each JP fill out the form that was handed out to them and put their first, second, and third committee preferences and give the form to the Quorum Court Coordinator after the meeting. He said he will make his selections for each committee and will get the JPs a list by Friday.

Judge Joseph Wood asked if the Court had any other comments. JP E Madison and JP S Madison spoke on the pay raises from the County Judge's Office. JP Deakins spoke on the comments made about the newness on the Court.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by JP E Madison and seconded by JP S Madison. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Burnett

**Quorum Court Coordinator** 

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01**

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

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE QUORUM COURT; AND, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2013-12 AND ORDINANCE 2015-64.

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.C.A. §14-14-904(d), the Washington County Quorum Court has the power and authority to organize itself into committees, with the members of said committees to be appointed by the County Judge; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Quorum Court, in Ordinance 2015-64 dissolved the Finance and Budget Committee, which was reinstated in 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court desires to repeal ordinance 2013-12 and ordinance 2015-64 and replace them with this ordinance.

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

**ARTICLE 1.** The following committees of the Quorum Court are hereby established:

- (a) Finance and Budget;
- (b) Jail/Law Enforcement;
- (c) County Services; and
- (d) Personnel.

ARTICLE 2. The Finance and Budget committee, upon approval by the County Judge, shall be a committee of the whole compromised of all 15 members of the Quorum Court.

**ARTICLE 3.** Each Committee shall provide for its own organization and management of its affairs, including the election of its own chair and vice chair.

ARTICLE 4. In order to allow time for its members to be present, no committee meeting shall begin prior to 6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby determined that it is in the best interest for this ordinance to be effective immediately; and, the general health, safety, and welfare of the citizens are affected in that it is vital that the above committees be legally created by ordinance for the effective performance of the Quorum Court pursuant to A.C.A. §14-14-904(d); therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this ordinance shall be and is effective from the date of its passage.

JOSEPH K.WOOD, County Vulge

BECKY LEWALLEN, County Clerk

Sponsor: Harvey Bowman

Date of Passage: January 8, 2019

Votes For: 11 Votes Against: 4

Abstention: 0 Absent: 0