



WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS
County Courthouse

MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT
COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, November 29, 2021
6:00 P.M.
Washington County Quorum Court Room

Robert Dennis
Suki Highers
Butch Pond

Sam Duncan - Chair

Sean Simons
Evelyn Rios Stafford
Jim Wilson-Vice-Chair

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

2. **PRAYER AND PLEDGE**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

At the beginning of each meeting, the agenda shall be approved. Any JP may request an item be added or removed from the agenda subject to approval of the Committee.

4. **REGIONAL HEALTHCARE JOBS AND EDUCATION DISCUSSION**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,700,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (3046) TO THE PASS THROUGH PAYMENTS LINE ITEM IN THE 2021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT BUDGET (30460568.3014) FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION** This ordinance was tabled at the October County Services Committee meeting. Item 21-O-111 (5.1)

NEW BUSINESS

6. **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS –JP JIM WILSON** This ordinance was referred by the Finance & Budget Committee. Item 21-O-120 (6.1)
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT** Twelve-minute comment period with a three-minute limit for each individual to comment on items on the agenda.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

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ORDINANCE NO. 2021-

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

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

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING
\$4,700,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT FUND (3046) TO THE PASS
THROUGH PAYMENTS LINE ITEM IN THE
2021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT
BUDGET (30460568.3014) FOR THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY RURAL FIRE
ASSOCIATION.**

WHEREAS, self-contained breathing apparatuses (“SCBA”) are a critical component firefighters utilize when combating fires; and,

WHEREAS, SCBA’s provide breathable air to firefighters during extreme life-threatening conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of those apparatuses currently in use by rural fire departments are in excess of twenty years old and are not compliant with modern safety standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Association; and,

WHEREAS, because older model apparatuses are incompatible with the newer model designs, emergency “buddy breathing” systems can only be utilized if the same model apparatuses are deployed; and,

WHEREAS, this incompatibility between model designs makes piece meal purchases of SCBA equipment problematic; and,

WHEREAS, modern SCBA models certify that wearers are protected against chemical, biological, radiation, and nuclear (“CBRN”) contaminants-including COVID-19- because they include air-purifying respirators; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington County Rural Fire Association requests funding to permit the wholesale purchase of new, National Fire Protection

42 Association compliant SCBAs, which ensures the safety of local firefighters during the
43 course of their work.

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

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48 **ARTICLE 1.** The Quorum Court hereby appropriates
49 \$4,700,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (3046) to the American Rescue
50 Plan Act Budget (30460568.3014) for 2021.

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57 JOSEPH K. WOOD, County Judge
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61 DATE

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Introduced by: **JP Willie Leming**
Date of Adoption:
Members Voting For:
Members Voting Against:
Members Abstaining:
Members Absent:

Committee History: County Services Committee (10-04-2021); Tabled until December
Quorum Court History:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

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

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the County desires to establish guidelines for the appropriation of monies from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (“ARPA”) received from the U.S. Treasury in 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the County desires to prioritize the expenditure of ARPA funds by allocating 90% of those funds for the sole purpose of supporting all County related expenditures and all relevant water and sewer requests; and,

WHEREAS, the remaining 10% ARPA funds, subject to the existing County, State, and Federal eligibility requirements, would be available to support funding requests by all other non-governmental organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court desires to utilize a portion of the non-governmental funds by assisting homeowner’s at-risk of foreclosure due to Covid-19’s impact and by assisting local food banks purchase food on a one-time basis.

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

ARTICLE 1. There is hereby established a 10% overall limit on the expenditure of funds out of the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (1000) for the benefit of all non-governmental organizations, for 2021.

ARTICLE 2. There is hereby established two eligible uses on a one-time basis for a portion of the ARP funds:

- 1. Grant payments to assist individuals to avoid foreclosure

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that are at-risk of foreclosure due to Covid-19's impact. Payment totals shall not exceed twelve (12) mortgage payments.

2. Grant payments to non-governmental organizations that address food insecurity as follows:

- a. Northwest Arkansas Food Bank \$110,000.00
- b. St. James Food Pantry 25,000.00
- c. Feed the 479 25,000.00
- d. Salvation Army 25,000.00

JOSEPH K. WOOD, County Judge

DATE

BECKY LEWALLEN, County Clerk

Introduced by: **JP Jim Wilson**

Date of Adoption:

Members Voting For:

Members Voting Against:

Members Abstaining:

Members Absent:

Committee History: Finance & Budget (11-09-2021); Referred to County Services

Quorum Court History: