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**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT**

Thursday, November 18, 2021  
6:00 p.m.  
Washington County Courthouse

BECKY LEWALLEN  
CO. & PROBATE CLERK  
WASHINGTON CO. AR  
2021 DEC 17 PM 12:18

FILED

Judge Joseph Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Evan Garner with St. Paul's Episcopal Church led the prayer and JP Eva Madison led the pledge.

Members present were JP Lance Johnson, JP Shannon Marti, JP Sean Simons, JP Bill Ussery, JP Patrick Deakins, JP Lisa Ecke, JP Sam Duncan, JP Shawndra Washington, JP Eva Madison, JP Robert Dennis, JP Suki Highers, JP Evelyn Rios Stafford, JP Willie Leming, JP Jim Wilson, and JP Butch Pond.

A motion to move agenda item 25 behind item 9 was made by JP Dennis and seconded by JP Ecke. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. A motion to adopt the agenda as amended was made by JP Ecke and seconded by JP Pond. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the agenda as amended.

A motion to suspend the rules and read all ordinances and resolutions by title only was made by JP Leming and seconded by JP Dennis. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion.

During citizen's comments, Tom Clowers spoke about the Constable Districts. Sarah Moore and Beth Coger spoke about the discussion on the American Rescue Plan spending. Richard Tiffany spoke about the Food Bank's assistance.

A motion to approve the October 21<sup>st</sup> minutes was made by JP Leming and seconded by JP Duncan. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

Judge Joseph Wood presented the Judge's Report. Judge Wood presented to the Court a Purchasing Department Report of the Disposal of County Property for October.

JP Deakins introduced agenda item 8.1. This ordinance was on third and final reading. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL AND CALENDAR YEAR 2022". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Duncan. There were comments made by JP Deakins and JP Madison. A motion to amend the budget and replace the budget summary with an updated summary was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Ecke. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. A motion to amend the budget that all pay grades 11 and under be increased to a salary minimum of \$15.00 an hour starting January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 was made by JP Rios-Stafford and

49 seconded by JP Highers. There were comments made by various members of the  
50 Court. A vote by raise of the hand was made and majority of the members voted to  
51 oppose the motion. A motion to approve the original Circuit Court VIII's budget as  
52 presented to the Finance & Budget Committee was made by JP Highers and seconded  
53 by JP Madison. There were comments made by various members of the Court and  
54 Judge Diane Warren. A friendly amendment to include the approval of the original  
55 Circuit Court III's budget as requested was made by JP Madison. JP Highers accepted  
56 the friendly amendment. A motion to amend the budget to approve both Circuit Court III  
57 and Circuit Court VIII's budget as originally presented to the Finance & Budget  
58 Committee was made by JP Highers and seconded by JP Leming. A vote by raise of  
59 the hand was made and majority of the members voted to approve the motion. A motion  
60 to adopt the ordinance as amended was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP  
61 Ecke. There were comments made by various members of the Court and Judge Stacey  
62 Zimmerman. During public comments, Samuel Lopez, Josh Moody, Sarah Ashley, and  
63 Maeve Courteau spoke. A roll call vote was called and the votes were tallied as follow:  
64 JP Lance Johnson – Yes  
65 JP Shannon Marti – Yes  
66 JP Sean Simons – Yes  
67 JP Bill Ussey – Yes  
68 JP Patrick Deakins – Yes  
69 JP Lisa Ecke – Yes  
70 JP Sam Duncan – Yes  
71 JP Shawndra Washington – Yes  
72 JP Eva Madison – Yes  
73 JP Robert Dennis – Yes  
74 JP Suki Highers – Yes  
75 JP Evelyn Rios-Stafford – Yes  
76 JP Willie Leming – No  
77 JP Jim Wilson - Yes JP  
78 Butch Pond – Yes The  
79 motion was approved.  
80

81 **Ordinance 2021-97, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
82 **ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL AND CALENDAR YEAR 2022, was adopted.**  
83

84 Judge Joseph Wood introduced agenda item 9.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
85 resolution in its entirety, "A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF  
86 WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR PATTY  
87 BURNETT'S SERVICE TO THE COUNTY". A motion to adopt the resolution was made  
88 by JP Ecke and seconded by JP Leming. A voice vote was called and all members  
89 unanimously voted to adopt the resolution.  
90

91 **Resolution 2021-08, A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF WASHINGTON**  
92 **COUNTY, ARKANSAS EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR PATTY BURNETT'S**  
93 **SERVICE TO THE COUNTY, was adopted.**  
94

95 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 25.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
96 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,843,541.07 FROM THE  
97 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (3046) TO VARIOUS LINE ITEMS IN  
98 VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR 2021". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP  
99 Deakins and seconded by JP Ecke. There were comments made by JP Deakins and  
100 Judge Joseph Wood. During public comments, Beth Coger, Prosecuting Attorney Matt  
101 Durrett, and Assessor Russell Hill spoke. A roll call vote was called and all members  
102 unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
103

104 **Ordinance 2021-98, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,843,541.07 FROM THE**  
105 **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (3046) TO VARIOUS LINE ITEMS IN**  
106 **VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR 2021, was adopted.**  
107

108 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 10.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
109 resolution by title only, "A RESOLUTION OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM  
110 COURT SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR  
111 FULL-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS". A  
112 motion to adopt the resolution was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Ecke. A  
113 motion to amend the resolution and strike the words "to "Back the Blue"" was made by  
114 JP Highers and seconded by JP Washington. There were comments made by various  
115 members of the Court. A vote by raise of the hand was made and majority of the  
116 members voted to oppose the motion. During public comments, Gladys Tiffany, Josh  
117 Moody, Maeve Courteau, June Wood, Samuel Lopez, and Jacob Copeland spoke. A  
118 roll call vote was called and the votes were tallied as follow:

119 JP Lance Johnson – Yes  
120 JP Shannon Marti – Yes  
121 JP Sean Simons – Yes  
122 JP Bill Ussey – Yes  
123 JP Patrick Deakins – Yes  
124 JP Lisa Ecke – Yes  
125 JP Sam Duncan – Yes  
126 JP Shawndra Washington – Abstain  
127 JP Eva Madison – No  
128 JP Robert Dennis – Absent  
129 JP Suki Highers – No  
130 JP Evelyn Rios-Stafford – No  
131 JP Willie Leming – Yes  
132 JP Jim Wilson - Yes JP  
133 Butch Pond – Yes The  
134 motion was approved.  
135

136 **Resolution 2021-09, A RESOLUTION OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM**  
137 **COURT SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR**  
138 **FULL-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, was**  
139 **adopted.**  
140

141 JP Johnson introduced agenda item 11.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
142 resolution by title only, "A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF  
143 WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL COUNTY  
144 GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF CENTRAL SATES MANUFACTURING, INC., TO  
145 PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSOLIDTED INCENTIVE (TAX BACK) ACT OF 2003". A  
146 motion to adopt the resolution was made by JP Johnson and seconded by JP Leming.  
147 There were comments made by JP Simons and JP Rios-Stafford. There were no public  
148 comments. A roll call vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the  
149 resolution.  
150

151 **Resolution 2021-10, A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF WASHINGTON**  
152 **COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
153 **ENDORSEMENT OF CENTRAL SATES MANUFACTURING, INC., TO PARTICIPATE**  
154 **IN THE CONSOLIDTED INCENTIVE (TAX BACK) ACT OF 2003, was adopted.**  
155

156 JP Leming introduced agenda item 12.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
157 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT  
158 RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD  
159 (MOUA 2021)". A motion to suspend the rules and advance the ordinance to second  
160 reading was made by JP Leming and seconded by JP Deakins. A voice vote was called

161 and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. County Attorney Brian  
162 Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL  
163 USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING  
164 BOARD (MOUA 2021)". A motion to suspend the rules and advance the ordinance to  
165 third and final reading was made by JP Leming and seconded by JP Ecke. A voice vote  
166 was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. County Attorney  
167 Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A  
168 CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING  
169 AND ZONING BOARD (MOUA 2021)". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by  
170 JP Leming and seconded by JP Pond. During public comments, Sarah Moore spoke. A  
171 roll call vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
172

173 **Ordinance 2021-99, AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**  
174 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**  
175 **(MOUA 2021), was adopted.**  
176

177 JP Wilson introduced agenda item 13.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
178 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT  
179 RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD  
180 (TREE TOP VIEW)". A motion to suspend the rules and advance the ordinance to  
181 second reading was made by JP Wilson and seconded by JP Leming. A voice vote was  
182 called and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. County Attorney  
183 Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A  
184 CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING  
185 AND ZONING BOARD (TREE TOP VIEW)". A motion to suspend the rules and  
186 advance the ordinance to third and final reading was made by JP Wilson and seconded  
187 by JP Leming. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve  
188 the motion. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN  
189 ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR  
190 APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD (TREE TOP VIEW)". A motion  
191 to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Wilson and seconded by JP Leming. There  
192 were no public comments. A roll call vote was called and all members unanimously  
193 voted to adopt the ordinance.  
194

195 **Ordinance 2021-100, AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**  
196 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**  
197 **(TREE TOP VIEW), was adopted.**  
198

199 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 14.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
200 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT  
201 RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD  
202 (COGER'S CORNER FOOD TRUCK COURT)". A motion to suspend the rules and  
203 advance the ordinance to second reading was made by JP Deakins and seconded by  
204 JP Duncan. A voice vote was called and all members unanimously voted to approve the  
205 motion. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE  
206 RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY  
207 THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD (COGER'S CORNER FOOD TRUCK  
208 COURT)". A motion to suspend the rules and advance the ordinance to third and final  
209 reading was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Leming. A voice vote was called  
210 and all members unanimously voted to approve the motion. County Attorney Brian  
211 Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL  
212 USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING  
213 BOARD (COGER'S CORNER FOOD TRUCK COURT)". A motion to adopt the  
214 ordinance was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Pond. There were no public  
215 comments. A roll call vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the  
216 ordinance.  
217

218 **Ordinance 2021-101, AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**  
219 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**  
220 **(COGER'S CORNER FOOD TRUCK COURT), was adopted.**  
221

222 Judge Joseph Wood introduced agenda item 15.1. Senior Planner Sita Nanthavong  
223 presented the staff summary and staff recommendations on the Conditional Use Permit  
224 for ER Mobile Services to the Quorum Court.  
225

226 Attorney Asa Hutchinson spoke to the Quorum Court regarding the request for the  
227 Conditional Use Permit and answered questions from the Court.  
228

229 Attorney Jake Newcomb spoke to the Quorum Court regarding the opposition of the  
230 Conditional Use Permit and answered questions from the Court. Mary and David Sparks  
231 spoke in opposition to the CUP.  
232

233 A motion to deny the Conditional Use Permit was made by JP Leming and seconded by  
234 JP Simons. County Attorney Brian Lester read the ordinance by title only, "AN  
235 ORDINANCE DENYING A CONIDITONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR  
236 DENIAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD (ER MOBILE SERVICES). There  
237 were comments made by various members of the Court and Nathan Crouch. This  
238 ordinance will be on next month's agenda and will be on second reading.  
239

240 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 18.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
241 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-64 TO  
242 IMPLEMENT NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STEP  
243 PAY PLAN". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Deakins and seconded  
244 by JP Simons. There were no public comments. A roll call vote was called and all  
245 members unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
246

247 **Ordinance 2021-102, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-64 TO**  
248 **IMPLEMENT NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STEP**  
249 **PAY PLAN, was adopted.**  
250

251 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 19.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
252 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,000,000 FROM THE  
253 UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES OF THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO THE GENERAL  
254 RESERVE FUND (1001) IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BUDGET FOR 2021". A  
255 motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Ecke.  
256 There were comments made by various members of the Court and Treasurer Bobby  
257 Hill. There were no public comments. A roll call vote was called and all members  
258 unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
259

260 **Ordinance 2021-103, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,000,000 FROM THE**  
261 **UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES OF THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO THE GENERAL**  
262 **RESERVE FUND (1001) IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BUDGET FOR 2021, was**  
263 **adopted.**  
264

265 JP Leming introduced agenda item 20.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
266 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$74,400 FROM  
267 UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES IN THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO VARIOUS LINE  
268 ITEMS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT VIII BUDGET (10000408) FOR 2021". A motion to  
269 adopt the ordinance was made by JP Leming and seconded by JP Madison. There  
270 were no public comments. A roll call vote was called and all members unanimously  
271 voted to adopt the ordinance.  
272

273 **Ordinance 2021-104, AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$74,400 FROM**

274 **UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES IN THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO VARIOUS**  
275 **LINE ITEMS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT VIII BUDGET (10000408) FOR 2021, was**  
276 **adopted.**  
277

278 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 21.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
279 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-96 TO  
280 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT'S ELIGIBLE  
281 USES". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP  
282 Duncan. There were no public comments. A roll call vote was called and all members  
283 unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
284

285 **Ordinance 2021-105, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-96 TO**  
286 **ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT'S ELIGIBLE**  
287 **USES, was adopted.**  
288

289 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 22.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
290 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT  
291 OF \$1,000 IN THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND (3515); AND, APPROPRIATING  
292 \$1,000 FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND TO ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT  
293 FUND BUDGET (35150308) FOR 2021". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by  
294 JP Deakins and seconded by JP Leming. There were no public comments. A roll call  
295 vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
296

297 **Ordinance 2021-106, AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT**  
298 **OF \$1,000 IN THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND (3515); AND, APPROPRIATING**  
299 **\$1,000 FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND TO ANIMAL SHELTER**  
300 **GRANT FUND BUDGET (35150308) FOR 2021, was adopted.**  
301

302 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 23.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
303 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT  
304 OF \$5,000 IN THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND (3515); AND, APPROPRIATING  
305 \$5,000 FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND TO ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT  
306 FUND BUDGET (35150308) FOR 2021". A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by  
307 JP Deakins and seconded by JP Leming. There were no public comments. A roll call  
308 vote was called and all members unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
309

310 **Ordinance 2021-107, AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT**  
311 **OF \$5,000 IN THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND (3515); AND,**  
312 **APPROPRIATING \$5,000 FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND TO**  
313 **ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND BUDGET (35150308) FOR 2021, was adopted.**  
314

315 JP Deakins introduced agenda item 24.1. County Attorney Brian Lester read the  
316 ordinance by title only, "AN ORDINANCE LEVYING THE COUNTY, MUNICIPAL AND  
317 SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021". A motion to adopt the ordinance  
318 was made by JP Deakins and seconded by JP Ecke. There was a comment made by  
319 JP Johnson. A motion to amend article 1 and move County General 4.4 to 4.2 was  
320 made by JP Johnson and seconded by JP Duncan. There were comments made by  
321 various members of the Court and Treasurer Bobby Hill. A vote by raise of the hand  
322 was made and majority of the members opposed the motion. A roll call vote was called  
323 and all members unanimously voted to adopt the ordinance.  
324

325 **Ordinance 2021-108, AN ORDINANCE LEVYING THE COUNTY, MUNICIPAL AND**  
326 **SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021, was adopted.**  
327

328 Sam Duncan presented the November County Services Committee Report. The County  
329 Services Committee did not meet due to lack of an agenda.  
330

331 JP Patrick Deakins presented the November Finance & Budget Committee Report. The  
332 Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, November 9, 2021. There were reports  
333 given on the Treasurer, Employees' Insurance, and Comptroller. The Committee  
334 approved eight ordinances and one resolution to be forwarded to the Quorum Court.  
335 The Committee tabled one ordinance and referred one ordinance to the County  
336 Services Committee. There was discussion on funding increases for the Ozark Regional  
337 Transit, no action was taken.

338  
339 JP Lance Johnson presented the November Jails/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee  
340 Report. The Jails/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee did not meet due to lack of an  
341 agenda.

342  
343 JP Lisa Ecke presented the November Personnel Committee Report. The Personnel  
344 Committee did not meet due to lack of an agenda.

345  
346 The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

347

348 *Patty Burnett*

349 Patty Burnett  
350 Quorum Court Coordinator

351 *Approved MC*

352 *December 16, 2021*