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

Thursday, March 16, 2023
6:00 PM
Washington County Courthouse

2023 APR 24 AM 11:06
BECK
CO & P
WASH

10 Judge Patrick Deakins called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

11
12 The following members were present, Justice of the Peace Taylor, Wilson, Simons,
13 Anderson, Lyons, Ecke, Dean, Washington, Cogger, Dennis, Rios Stafford, Leming,
14 Ricker, Pond. Justice Highers was absent.

15
16 Prayer and Pledge was led by JP Dean.

17
18 JP Lyons made a motion to approve the agenda, JP Anderson made a second. Agenda
19 was approved by a voice vote unanimously.

20
21 JP Dean made a motion to read all ordinances and resolutions by title only, second was
22 made by JP Washington and passed with a voice vote.

23
24 Citizen's comments were heard from Terry Davis, Leslie Walker, Robert Waller, Molly
25 Clinelum and Lou Reed Sharp.

26
27 JP Leming made a motion to approve minutes of the February 16, 2023 Quorum Court
28 Meeting with second from JP Lyons, passed with a voice vote.

29
30 Judge's Report as follows:

- 31 1. Disposal report is in your packet
- 32 2. Highlight some of the amazing work that COS Johnson is doing for the county:
- 33 a. Working very hard on the settlement of the roofing claim that has been pending
34 for years
- 35 b. Work to rehab the first floor of the Courthouse
- 36 c. Preparing to remediate the leaking problem with regard to the Courthouse façade
- 37 3. Introduce Washington County economic assessment booklets
- 38 a. This study was commissioned by my predecessor, Judge (Now Secretary)
39 Joseph Wood. It is meant to give you insights on key statistics and demographics of our
40 county. The hope is that it will be an asset to you as you continue to lead our county into
41 the future.
- 42 b. I personally found the comparable areas around the country to be very
43 interesting.
- 44 4. Jail tour with local legislators
- 45 a. Thank those who came to participate
- 46 b. Highlight the amazing challenge that presents – our criminal justice system is so
47 intertwined. Not just the state's relationship with the county, but also how any changes
48 at any point in that system has huge cause and effect impacts
- 49 c. We as a county anxiously await prison and parole legislation to be presented at
50 the state level, and we are encouraged by the legislators we have representing us in
51 Little Rock and their commitment to hear local voices.
- 52 5. Touch on the Hunt Rogers appeal process
- 53 a. Neighbors told that appeals of LSD could be heard by Quorum Court, however,
54 this decision can only be heard by the County Judge. This was a major misstep by the
55 Planning Department, and has majorly contributed to confusion. I apologize for all of
56 that.
- 57 b. Appeals of LSD decisions by the planning board are quite rare. Our team had no
58 knowledge of working through one of those before. But government has to work even in
59 the rare circumstances, and I can assure you that we are taking the proper measures to
60 correct the issue.
- 61 c. Specifically, working with JP Rios Staff, we discovered that there seems to be a
62 dated form accessible either through search or on our website. We are working to track

- 63 that down and get the most updated forms in all the right locations.
- 64 6. Update on Emergency Operations Center
- 65 a. We have decided to locate that on the south campus, with 2-3 sites still pending
- 66 there
- 67 b. We see a lot of benefits with keeping our county assets together
- 68 c. When we get final site selection, we will be coming to QC quickly for an
- 69 appropriation to start architectural and engineering design. That work will inform total
- 70 project cost
- 71 7. Library board appts
- 72 a. West Fork – Susan McCown
- 73 b. County-wide – Shelley Ricker
- 74 JP Ecke made a motion to accept Appointments for Library Board with a second from
- 75 JP Dean, passed with a voice vote.
- 76

77 Judge Deakins introduced item 8 of unfinished business and was read by title only by

78 County Attorney Lester, AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

79 RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL - Shop Solutions Item 23-O-029(8.1) ordinance is on

80 second reading. JP Lyons made a motion to suspend the rules and move to the third and

81 final reading, second by JP Dean, passed with a voice vote. County Attorney Lester read

82 ordinance by title only for the third and final time. JP Lyons made a motion to approve the

83 ordinance, JP Dean made a second. Public comments were heard and a roll call vote was

84 taken and tallied as follows:

- 85 JP Taylor-Yes
- 86 JP Wilson-Yes
- 87 JP Simons-Abstain
- 88 JP Anderson-Yes
- 89 JP Lyons-Yes
- 90 JP Ecke-Yes
- 91 JP Dean-Yes
- 92 JP Washington-No
- 93 JP Cogger-No
- 94 JP Dennis-Yes
- 95 JP Highers-Absent
- 96 JP Rios Stafford-Yes
- 97 JP Leming-Yes
- 98 JP Ricker-Yes
- 99 JP Pond-Yes

100 Motion passes and **AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

101 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL - Shop Solutions** Item 23-O-029(8.1) was

102 **ADOPTED as ORD 2023-025**

103

104 Judge introduced item 9 of unfinished business, and Attorney Lester read for second

105 reading, AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED

106 FOR APPROVAL - Mally Wagnon Self Storage Item 23-O-026(9.1). JP Lyons made a

107 motion to suspend rules and move to final reading. A voice vote was taken and then a roll

108 call was taken and tallied as follows:

- 109 JP Taylor-Yes
- 110 JP Wilson-Yes
- 111 JP Simons-Yes
- 112 JP Anderson-No
- 113 JP Lyons-Yes
- 114 JP Ecke-Yes
- 115 JP Dean-Yes
- 116 JP Washington-No
- 117 JP Cogger-No
- 118 JP Dennis-No
- 119 JP Highers-Absent
- 120 JP Rios Stafford-No
- 121 JP Leming-No
- 122 JP Ricker-No
- 123 JP Pond-Yes

124 Motion failed to move to third reading. Ordinance will move to the April Quorum Court

125 Meeting.

126

127 Judge introduced item 10 and Attorney Lester read by title only AN ORDINANCE
128 PROVIDING FOR ONLINE POSTING OF ALL WASHINGTON COUNTY RESOLUTIONS,
129 ORDINANCES AND CONTRACTS Item 23-O-008(10.1). JP Coger amended ordinance to
130 just include resolutions and ordinances not contracts and change from 10 days posting to
131 30 day posting. JP Rios Stafford made a second. Discussions were heard from Court, JP
132 Dennis made a motion to refer ordinance back to County Services Committee and second
133 by JP Ecke. JP Coger had discussion and JP Ecke called Point of Order to vote on the
134 motion on the floor to refer to Committee. JP Leming called the Question.

135 A roll call vote was taken and tallied as follows:

136 JP Taylor-Yes

137 JP Wilson-Yes

138 JP Simons-Yes

139 JP Anderson-Yes

140 JP Lyons-Yes

141 JP Ecke-Yes

142 JP Dean-Yes

143 JP Washington-Yes

144 JP Coger-No

145 JP Dennis-Yes

146 JP Highers-Absent

147 JP Rios Stafford-Abstain

148 JP Leming-Yes

149 JP Ricker-Yes

150 JP Pond-Yes

151 Motion passed and the ordinance will move to the next County Services Committee
152 Meeting.

153

154 Judge introduced item 11 of new business of the EagleCrest Recovery CUP appeal.
155 Blake Chapman with Planning made a presentation and recommended for denial.
156 Applicant, John Hernandez made a presentation and answered questions from the
157 Court, along with attorney, Larry McCredy. Public comments were heard by Jim Barnes
158 and presentation by Stacy Bennett representing many residents in opposition.
159 Yvonne Croncrite a product and supporter of EagleCrest Recovery. Michelle Barrett
160 spoke in support of EagleCrest Recovery. JP Lyons made a motion to deny the CUP.
161 Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only, 23-O-037 AN ORDINANCE DENYING
162 A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL BY THE PLANNING
163 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS EagleCrest Recovery. The Court had discussion. JP
164 Lyons made the motion to suspend the rules and move to the second reading with a
165 second by JP Pond, a roll call vote was taken and tallied as follows:

166 JP Taylor-No

167 JP Wilson-Yes

168 JP Simons-Yes

169 JP Anderson-Yes

170 JP Lyons-Yes

171 JP Ecke-Yes

172 JP Dean-Yes

173 JP Washington-No

174 JP Coger-No

175 JP Dennis-Yes

176 JP Highers-Absent

177 JP Rios Stafford-Absent

178 JP Leming-Yes

179 JP Ricker-Yes

180 JP Pond-Yes

181 Motion passed and the ordinance was read second time by title only by Attorney Lester.

182 JP Lyons made a motion to suspend rules and move to third and final reading second
183 by JP Pond voice vote taken and passed and roll call was requested. A roll call vote
184 was taken and tallies as follows

185 JP Taylor-No

186 JP Wilson-Yes

187 JP Simons-Yes
188 JP Anderson-Yes
189 JP Lyons-Yes
190 JP Ecke-Yes
191 JP Dean-Yes
192 JP Washington-No
193 JP Cogger-No
194 JP Dennis-Yes
195 JP Highers-Absent
196 JP Rios Stafford-Absent
197 JP Leming-Yes
198 JP Ricker-Yes
199 JP Pond-Yes
200 Motion passed and the ordinance was read a third and final time by Attorney Lester. JP
201 Lyons made a motion to approve the ordinance to deny the CUP for EagleCrest and
202 second by JP Ricker. No further discussion among court. Public comments were heard.
203 A roll call vote was taken and tallies as follows
204 JP Taylor-No
205 JP Wilson-Yes
206 JP Simons-Yes
207 JP Anderson-Abstain
208 JP Lyons-Yes
209 JP Ecke-Yes
210 JP Dean-Yes
211 JP Washington-No
212 JP Cogger-No
213 JP Dennis-No
214 JP Highers-Absent
215 JP Rios Stafford-Absent
216 JP Leming-Yes
217 JP Ricker-Yes
218 JP Pond-Yes
219 Motion passed and the ordinance **23-O-037 AN ORDINANCE DENYING A**
220 **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL BY THE PLANNING**
221 **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS EagleCrest Recovery was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-**
222 **026.**
223
224 Judge Deakins introduced item 14 and County Attorney read the ordinance by title only,
225 AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR
226 APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD –Greenland Business Park Item
227 23-O-038(14.1). JP Ricker introduce ordinance and moved to suspend the rules and move
228 to second reading, second by JP Lyons. Passed with a voice vote and Attorney Lester read
229 by title only the second reading for ordinance. JP Ricker made a motion to suspend the
230 rules and read the ordinance for third and final reading. Passed with a voice vote and
231 Attorney Lester read ordinance by title only for third and final time. JP Ricker made a motion
232 to approve ordinance and second by JP Lyons. There was no discussion or public
233 comments. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously and **AN ORDINANCE**
234 **RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE**
235 **PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD –Greenland Business Park Item 23-O-038(14.1) was**
236 **ADOPTED as ORD 2023-027**
237
238 Judge Deakins introduced the consent agenda and Attorney Lester read by title only the
239 ordinances. JP Lyons made a motion to approve consent agenda with a second from JP
240 Taylor. A roll call was taken and the consent agenda was approved by unanimous vote.
241 The following ordinances were ADOPTED:
242
243 **AN ORDINANCE REDUCING THE OBLIGATIONS IN THE ARPA FUND (3046) BY**
244 **\$1,362,530.97 Item 23-O-030(15.1) was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-028**
245
246 **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$14,137.92 FROM THE**
247 **UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES IN THE RECORDER’S COST FUND TO VARIOUS**

248 **LINE ITEMS IN THE RECORDER'S COST FUND BUDGET FOR 2023** item 23-O-
249 **031(15.2) was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-029**

250
251 **AN ORDINANCE PROJECTING REVENUES AND CARRYOVER AMOUNTS**
252 **TOTALING \$3,132,674.66 IN VARIOUS GRANT FUNDS FOR 2023; AND,**
253 **APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$3,132,674.66 TO VARIOUS GRANT**
254 **FUNDS AND BUDGET LINE ITEMS FOR 2023** Item 23-O-032(15.3) **was ADOPTED**
255 **as ORD 2023-030**

256
257 **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$48,819 FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED**
258 **RESERVES IN THE CSU FUND TO THE CSU BUDGET FOR 2023** item 23-O-033(15.4)
259 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-031**

260
261 **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE OF \$44,752 IN RURAL COMMUNITY**
262 **GRANT FUND; AND, APPROPRIATING SAID \$44,752 TO VARIOUS LINE ITEMS IN**
263 **THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND BUDGET FOR 2023** item 23-O-034(15.5)
264 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-032**

265
266 Committee Reports are as follows:

267 The County Services Committee met Monday, February 27, 2023 at 6:00PM. Committee
268 members present were: David Wilson, Sean Simons, Fred Anderson, Kyle Lyons, Lisa Ecke,
269 Charles Dean, Shawndra Washington, Beth Coger, Robert Dennis, Suki Highers, Evelyn Rios
270 Stafford, Willie Leming, Gary Ricker, Butch Pond. JP Lyons led prayer and pledge.
271 The agenda was amended with 1 item being added. Reports were heard from the Sheriff's office
272 as well as CJCC. The Committee heard a justification letter from Prosecutor Durrett and
273 approved it.

274 Among New Business there was discussion on exploring the possible construction of an
275 Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The court consensus was in favor of moving forward to
276 look into options for an EOC.

277 Katherine Baker and Brandi Wilhite presented some of the guidelines that were used to
278 recommend applications of non-governmental organizations applying for American Rescue Plan
279 Act Funds.

280 Public comments were heard and meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

281
282 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 6:00PM. Members present
283 were: Coleman Taylor, David Wilson, Sean Simons, Fred Anderson, Kyle Lyons, Lisa Ecke,
284 Charles Dean, Shawndra Washington, Beth Coger, Robert Dennis, Suki Highers, Evelyn Rios
285 Stafford, Willie Leming, Gary Ricker, and Butch Pond. JP Ecke led prayer and pledge. The
286 Committee heard reports from Treasurer Hill, Employee's Insurance Report from Charles Angel
287 and Comptroller's report from Director Story. Five ordinances were passed on to the Quorum
288 Court. Public comments were heard and meeting was adjourned at 6:31PM.

289
290 With no further business of the Quorum Court meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm

291
292 *Myra Collins*
293 Myra Collins
294 Quorum Court Coordinator
295 *Approved MC*
296 *April 20, 2023*

297