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

Thursday, May 18, 2023
6:00 PM
Washington County Courthouse

2023 JUN 16 AM 11:43
FILED
BECKY LEWALLEN
CO. & PROBATE CLERK
WASHINGTON CO. AR

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

10
11 The following members were present, Wilson, Simons, Anderson, Lyons, Ecke, Dean,
12 Washington, Cogger, Dennis, Highers, Rios Stafford, Leming, Ricker, Pond. Members
13 absent were JP Taylor.

14
15 Prayer and Pledge was led by JP Wilson.

16
17 Judge Deakins brought a discussion of the Parker Branch Bridge to be added to the
18 agenda, JP Leming made a motion to add with a second from JP Ricker, motion passed
19 with a voice vote making it new item 14. AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING
20 ORDINANCE 2023-03 item 23-O-080 was added to the agenda with a motion from JP
21 Ricker and a second from JP Lyons, passed with a voice vote making it new item 15. JP
22 Lyons made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended with a second from JP Dean,
23 motion passed with a voice vote.

24
25 JP Dean made a motion to read all ordinances and resolutions by title only, second was
26 made by JP Lyons and passed with a voice vote.

27
28 Citizen's comments were heard from Mac Mayfield, Lou Reed Sharp and Joshua Hale.

29
30 Judge presented Item 6 with no corrections to the Minutes from April 20, 2023 Meetings
31 they were approved.

32
33 Judge's Report as follows:

- 34 1. Thank you to the Goin' Showin' 4-H Club for the snacks and refreshments for
35 tonight's meeting
- 36 2. Disposal report is in your packet
- 37 3. Our mobile 9/11 exhibit is here, it is open and it is beautiful
- 38 a. I want to public to remember that there is no cost for admission. Please
39 bring your families out to learn about that critical day. Having the retired
40 firefighters there is a special moment to share a real life perspective
- 41 b. We had an awesome escort from the Missouri state line down to the
42 Northwest Arkansas Mall. I want to give a special thanks to all the
43 jurisdictions that made that possible.
- 44 c. As we stated from the beginning, our county needed help to make this
45 dream a reality, and our community stepped up big time!
- 46 i. Platinum
- 47 1. Whitaker Family Foundation
- 48 2. Elks Lodge 1987
- 49 3. Maynard Inc.
- 50 4. Tesseract Fab LLC
- 51 5. Pig Trail Harley Davidson

- 63 b. We have settled our years old roofing claim. This is big news for the
64 county and I am relieved to have that process behind us. Chief Johnson is
65 working with a consultant to prioritize how we line up those projects.
66 c. We are giving this main courthouse a lot of attention. We are cautiously
67 declaring success on our window leaking issue. That is great news, but
68 there is more to be done. Chief Johnson will be bringing a proposal to
69 clean, reseal, and caulk this building. This is projected to cost approx.
70 \$250K, but we think it is critical in the future preservation of this building.
- 71 5. Emergency Operations Center
- 72 a. We opened RFQs last Friday and received 8 quality proposals
- 73 b. We have started reviewing each of those proposals and will work to award
74 that contract ASAP.
- 75 6. We have finalized a date for our road tour – 6/28
- 76 a. We are planning on this being an all-day adventure. Please plan
77 accordingly with proper dress and hats. We will want to make sure and
78 have plenty of water available also.
- 79 b. We are coordinating with Ozark Regional Transit to accommodate our
80 logistics via bus
- 81 c. We will work to finalize our stops closer to time. As you can imagine, this
82 is somewhat in flux depending upon where we are with our open projects
83 closer to date
- 84 7. One of my most critical duties is working with our Sheriff's Deputies to ensure the
85 security of all our buildings, but most critical are those that house our courts. This
86 week our X-ray machine experienced a permanent failure. This joins the machine
87 at our historic courthouse which has not work properly in more than a year. We
88 are currently taking bids to replace both of those machines as quickly as
89 possible. In the interim, I have authorized our deputies to temporarily prohibit
90 bags and larger personal carry items into the building. I know this is an
91 inconvenience, but I appreciate everyone's patience in the name of keeping us
92 all safe.
- 93 8. Board of Equalization re-appointment – Mildred Runkle. JP Pond made a motion
94 to re-appoint with a second from JP Dean and passed with a voice vote.

95
96 Judge introduced item 8 GRAND AT WILLOW SPRINGS CUP APPEAL. Presentation
97 was heard from the Planning Director Sam Ata. The applicant, Dirk Thibodaux
98 represented the Owens and answered questions from the Quorum Court. Public
99 comments were then heard from those who opposed and supported the project.
100 Moving into item 9 APPEAL HEARING DISCUSSION BY QUORUM COURT.
101 JP Ecke discussed Economic development and JP Lyons Called a Point of Order of
102 speaking of the merits of what is being proposed. Comments were heard from several
103 Justices.

104 Judge moved to item 10. JP Ecke made a motion to approve AN ORDINANCE
105 RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL -
106 Grand at Willow Springs Item 23-O-077 with a second from JP Dennis. County Attorney
107 Lester read ordinance by title only. JP Ecke made a motion to suspend the rules and
108 move to the second reading with a second by JP Pond. Comments were heard from the
109 court and JP Ricker Called the Question with a second by JP Simons passed with a
110 voice vote. A roll call vote was then taken on suspending the rules and moving to the
111 second reading, votes tallied as follows:
112 JP Taylor-Absent
113 JP Wilson-Yes

125 JP Pond-Yes
126 Motion failed and will move to the June Quorum Court meeting.

127
128 Judge Deakins introduced item 11, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-50
129 TO UPDATE THE VACATION POLICY IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE
130 HANDBOOK Item 23-O-063 (11.1). Attorney Lester read ordinance by title only. There was
131 much discussion among the court with Director Burchett. JP Ecke made a motion to amend
132 the ordinance striking lines 71-73 with second by JP Dean a voice vote was taken on the
133 amendment and a roll call vote was taken on the amendment as well and tallied as follows:

134 JP Taylor-Absent
135 JP Wilson-Yes
136 JP Simons-Yes
137 JP Lyons-Yes
138 JP Ecke-Yes
139 JP Dean-Yes
140 JP Washington-No
141 JP Coger-No
142 JP Dennis-Yes
143 JP Highers-No
144 JP Rios Stafford-Abstain
145 JP Leming-Yes
146 JP Ricker-Yes
147 JP Pond-Yes

148 Motion on amending the ordinance passed.
149 County Lester read the ordinance as amended by the title only. JP Ecke made a motion
150 to suspend the rules and move to second reading, motion seconded by JP Dean. A roll
151 call vote was taken and tallied as follows:

152 JP Taylor-Absent
153 JP Wilson-Yes
154 JP Simons-Yes
155 JP Lyons-Yes
156 JP Ecke-Yes
157 JP Dean-Yes
158 JP Washington-No
159 JP Coger-No
160 JP Dennis-Yes
161 JP Highers-No
162 JP Rios Stafford-No
163 JP Leming-No
164 JP Ricker-Yes
165 JP Pond-No

166 Motion failed to approve ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-50 TO UPDATE
167 THE VACATION POLICY IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK Item
168 23-O-063 and will be moved to June Quorum Court meeting.

169
170 Judge Deakins introduced the Consent Agenda and Attorney Lester read all ordinances by
171 title only. JP Lyons made a motion to approve with a second by JP Leming. The Consent
172 Agenda passed unanimously by voice vote and by roll call the following ordinances were
173 adopted.

174
175 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CIRCUIT COURT VIII BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-046**
176 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-055**

186 **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000 FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES IN**
187 **THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-066**
188 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-058**

189
190 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COLLECTOR'S BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-067 was**
191 **ADOPTED as ORD 2023-059**

192
193 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ELECTION COMMISSION BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-**
194 **068 was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-060**

195
196 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VETERAN'S SERVICES BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-**
197 **069 was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-061**

198
199 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE HUMAN RESOURCES BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-070**
200 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-062**

201
202 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S BUDGET FOR 2023 Item**
203 **23-O-071 was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-063**

204
205 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CIRCUIT COURT III BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-072**
206 **was ADOPTD as ORD 2023-064**

207
208 **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000; AND,**
209 **APPROPRIATING \$100,000 TO THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS BUDGET FOR 2023 Item**
210 **23-O-073 was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-065**

211
212 **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS**
213 **DEPARTMENT FOR 2023 Item 23-O-074 was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-066**

214
215 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CIRCUIT CLERK'S BUDGET FOR 2023 Item 23-O-075**
216 **was ADOPTED as ORD 2023-067**

217

218 Judge Deakins introduced new agenda item 14, Discussion about the Parker Branch
219 Bridge. JP Coger requested a 5 minute recess and with no objection the Judge called a
220 recess at 8:01pm. Called back to order at 8:06pm. Judge and Chief Johnson gave a
221 presentation and took questions from the Quorum Court.

222

223 Judge Deakins introduced new agenda item 15, AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE
224 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-03 and County Attorney Lester read ordinance by title
225 only. JP Lyons made a motion to approve ordinance with a second by JP Highers. A roll
226 call vote was taken and tallied as follows:

227 JP Taylor-Absent

228 JP Wilson-Yes

229 JP Simons-Absent

230 JP Lyons-Yes

231 JP Ecke-Absent

232 JP Dean-Yes

233 JP Washington-Yes

234 JP Coger-Yes

235 JP Dennis-Yes

236 JP Highers-Yes

237 JP Rios Stafford-Yes

238 JP Lanning-Absent

249 POSTING OF ALL WASHINGTON COUNTY RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES Item
250 23-O-008 and move to the next County Services Meeting.

251 The Committee heard reports from JDC Director Tinsley, Sheriff Cantrell and CJCC
252 Coordinator Smith.

253 An Annual report and presentation was given by Larry Shackelford with Washington
254 Regional Medical Center.

255 The Committee moved AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-50 TO
256 UPDATE THE VACATION POLICY IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE
257 HANDBOOK Item 23-O-063 on to the Quorum Court.

258 The Committee began the process of hearing the eligible ARPA applicants and was
259 able to ask questions and have discussions with them.

260 Public comments were heard and meeting was adjourned at 8:09PM.

261

262 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00PM. JP Pond led
263 prayer and pledge. The Committee amended the agenda to remove on ordinance.

264 Reports were heard from Treasurer Hill, Employee's Insurance Report from Charles
265 Angel and Comptroller's report from Director Story. The Committee reviewed thirteen
266 ordinances, making amendments to two of them. All thirteen ordinances were passed
267 on to the Quorum Court in a consent agenda. There were no public comments and
268 meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

269

270 Quorum Court meeting was adjourned at 9:07PM

271

272 *Myra Collins*

273 Myra Collins

274 Quorum Court Coordinator

275 *Approved MC*

276 *June 15, 2023*