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

Thursday, September 21, 2023
6:01 PM
Washington County Courthouse

BECKY LEWALLEN
CO. & PROBATE CLERK
WASHINGTON CO. AR

2023 OCT 23 AM 9:21

FILED

Judge Patrick Deakins called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

The following members were present: Wilson, Simons, Lyons, Ecke, Dean, Washington, Coger, Dennis, Highers, Rios Stafford, Ricker, and Pond. Taylor and Leming were absent.

JP Dennis led the Prayer and Pledge.

Judge Deakins moved to Item 3 on the agenda (Adoption of the Agenda.) JP Lyons motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by JP Dean and the motion passed with a voice vote.

JP Dean made a motion to read all ordinances/resolutions by title only, JP Simons seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Citizen Comments were heard from Mac Mayfield, Gracie Foreman, Bobby unknown last name, and Billy Cook.

The judge presented Item 6, (Approval of Minutes) and asked if there were any corrections needed. There were no needed corrections. The minutes from August 17, 2023, were approved.

Judge Deakins presented the Judge's report, which included the August Disposal of County Property Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Judge Deakins moved to item 8 under unfinished business, **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF ONE VEHICLE TO MADISON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.** Item 23-O-113 (This ordinance was on the second reading)

County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only. JP Dennis made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a third and final reading. JP Dean seconded the motion, and it was passed by voice vote. County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only for the third and final reading. A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by JP Dennis and seconded by JP Dean. There was no discussion and no public comment. A roll call vote was called and the votes tallied as follows:

- 46
47 JP Taylor-Absent
48 JP Wilson-Yes
49 JP Simons-Yes
50 JP Lyons-Yes
51 JP Ecke-Yes
52 JP Dean- Yes
53 JP Washington-Yes
54 JP Coger-Yes
55 JP Dennis-Yes
56 JP Highers-Yes
57 JP Rios Stafford-Yes
58 JP Leming-Absent
59 JP Ricker-Yes
60 JP Pond-Yes

61 **Motion passed. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF ONE**
62 **VEHICLE TO MADISON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.** Item 23-O-113 was adopted as **ORD**

63 **2023-109.**

64
65 Judge Deakins moved to item 9 under unfinished business, **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING**
66 **SECTION 5 OF THE BENEFITS AND APPROVED LEAVE SECTION OF ORDINANCE 2018-50**
67 **- THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.** Item 23-O-116

68 (This ordinance was on the second reading) County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by
69 title only. JP Lyons made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a third and final reading.
70 JP Dean seconded it and it was passed by voice vote. County Attorney Lester read the
71 ordinance by title only for the third and final time. There was no discussion and no public
72 comments. JP Lyons made a motion to pass the ordinance and JP Lyons seconded the
73 motion. A roll call vote was taken and tallied as follows:

74 JP Taylor-Absent
75 JP Wilson-Yes
76 JP Simons-Yes
77 JP Lyons-Yes
78 JP Ecke-Yes
79 JP Dean-Yes
80 JP Washington-Yes
81 JP Cogger-Yes
82 JP Dennis-Yes
83 JP Highers-Yes
84 JP Rios Stafford-Yes
85 JP Leming-Absent
86 JP Ricker-Yes
87 JP Pond-Yes

88 **Motion passed. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5 OF THE BENEFITS AND**
89 **APPROVED LEAVE SECTION OF ORDINANCE: 2018-50 - THE WASHINGTON**
90 **COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.** Item 23-O-116 was adopted as **ORD 2023-110.**

91
92
93 Judge Deakins moved to item 10 under new business, which was the Consent Agenda.
94 County Attorney Lester read each ordinance by title only.

95 JP Lyons motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda with a second from JP Simons.
96 During discussion, JP Rios Stafford asked if someone could explain what item 10.5
97 Wheeler Bridge Project involved. Judge Deakins explained 10.5 was for the
98 engineering and planning of that bridge. There were no public comments. Roll call was
99 taken and tallied as follows:

100 JP Taylor-Absent
101 JP Wilson-Yes
102 JP Simons-Yes
103 JP Lyons-Yes
104 JP Ecke-Yes
105 JP Dean-Yes
106 JP Washington-Yes
107 JP Cogger-Yes
108 JP Dennis-Yes
109 JP Highers-Yes
110 JP Rios Stafford-Yes
111 JP Leming-Absent
112 JP Ricker-Yes
113 JP Pond-Yes

114 **Motion passed** on the Consent Agenda and ordinances were adopted as follows:

- 115
116 1. **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF**
117 **\$178,208.88.** Item 23-O-125 was adopted as **ORD 2023-111.**
118
119 2. **AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF**
120 **\$13,506 IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUND.**
121 Item 23-O-126 was adopted as **ORD 2023-112.**
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123 3. **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING \$37.09 IN UNSPENT GRANT FUNDS IN THE**
124 **3510 JDC GRANT FUND.** Item 23-O-128 was adopted as **ORD 2023-113.**

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4. **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$31,167 IN THE JDC GRANT FUND.** Item 23-0-129 was adopted as ORD 2023-114
 5. **AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUE IN OF \$200,000 IN THE WHEELER ROAD BRIDGE FUND.** Item 23-O-130 was adopted as ORD 2023-115.
 6. **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S BUDGET FOR 2023.** Item 23-O-131 was adopted as ORD 2023-116.
 7. **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE GRANTS DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND THE COUNTY JUDGE'S BUDGET FOR 2023.** Item 23-O-132 was adopted as ORD 2023-117.

140 Judge Deakins moved to item 11 on the agenda – **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE**
141 **COUNTY ATTORNEY BUDGET FOR 2023.** Item 23-O-127

142 County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only.

143 JP Pond introduced the ordinance and made a motion to pass and JP Lyons seconded
144 it. There was discussion among members of the court. Public comments were heard. A
145 roll call was taken and tallied as follows:

146 JP Taylor-Absent

147 JP Wilson-Yes

148 JP Simons-Yes

149 JP Lyons-Yes

150 JP Ecke-Yes

151 JP Dean-Yes

152 JP Washington-No

153 JP Cogger-Abstain

154 JP Dennis-Yes

155 JP Highers-No

156 JP Rios Stafford-No

157 JP Leming-Absent

158 JP Ricker-Yes

159 JP Pond-Yes

160 **Motion failed.** Ordinance moved to October meeting for a 2nd reading.

161

162 Judge Deakins moved to item 12 on the agenda – **BEAVER LAKE TINY HOMES CUP**

163 Sam Ata/Planning Director presented the project and answered questions from
164 members of the court. Will Kelsner, attorney for the applicant (Ram Holdings) and
165 Applicant Johnathon McJunkins, spoke on the project and answered questions from
166 members of the court. Public Comments were heard from Robert Rhoads and Nathan
167 Crouch representing 4 surrounding neighbors against the project.

168

169 Judge Deakins moved to item 13 on the agenda- **APPEAL HEARING DISCUSSION BY**
170 **QUORUM COURT- Beaver Lake Tiny Homes**

171

172 Judge Deakins moved to Item 14 on the agenda- **QUORUM COURT ACTION ON**

173 **BEAVER LAKE TINY HOMES APPEAL** Items 23-O-093 or 23-O-094 (14.1-14.2)

174 JP Lyons made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a second reading to deny the
175 conditional use permit (14.2) County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only. The
176 motion was seconded by JP Dean. A voice vote was taken and the motion failed.

177

178 **AN ORDINANCE DENYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR**

179 **DENIAL- Beaver Lake Tiny Homes** Item 23-O-094 will move to October Quorum Court for
180 a second reading.

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185 Judge Deakins moved to item 15 on the agenda – **AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A**
186 **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND**
187 **ZONING BOARD - Meyers Boys Garage.** Item 23-O-133

188 County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only.
189 Planning Director Sam Ata gave a presentation of the Conditional Use Permit. JP Ecke
190 made a motion to suspend the rules and move it on to a second reading. JP Lyons
191 seconded the motion, and it failed by voice vote. JP Ecke asked Judge Deakins if they
192 could do a show of hands because she thought it passed. Judge Deakins asked for a roll
193 call vote to suspend the rules and move to a second reading. A roll call vote was taken
194 and tallied as follows:

195 JP Taylor-Absent
196 JP Wilson-Yes
197 JP Simons-Absent
198 JP Lyons-Yes
199 JP Ecke-Yes
200 JP Dean-Yes
201 JP Washington-Yes
202 JP Cogger-No
203 JP Dennis-Yes
204 JP Highers-Yes
205 JP Rios Stafford-Yes
206 JP Leming-Absent
207 JP Ricker-Yes
208 JP Pond-Yes

209 **Motion passed to suspend the rules and move to a second reading.**

210
211 County Attorney Lester read the ordinance by title only for a second reading. JP Ecke
212 made a motion to suspend the rules and move it on to a third and final reading. JP Lyons
213 seconded the motion and the motion failed by voice vote and then by show of hands.

214
215 Motion failed: **AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**
216 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD -**
217 **Meyers Boys Garage.** Item 23-O-133 will be moved to October Quorum Court for third
218 and final reading.

219
220 Judge Deakins moved to item 16, Committee reports.
221 Committee Reports as follows:

222
223 The County Services Committee meeting was canceled for September.

224
225 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 6:00PM for a
226 budget review session for the Sheriff's Office. All members were present with the
227 exception of JP Simons. Sheriff Cantrell led the prayer and pledge.
228 Sheriff Cantrell, Chief Tabor, and Captain McConnell presented the Sheriff/Jail budgets
229 and answered questions for the committee members. Public comments were heard.
230 Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

231 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 6:00PM for a
232 budget review session for the Treasurer, Circuit Court Division VII- Judge Taylor, and
233 the Prosecutor. All members were present with the exception of JP Coleman Taylor.
234 JP Washington led the prayer and pledge.
235 Treasurer Hill, Judge Taylor, and Prosecutor Durrett presented their respective budgets
236 and answered questions for the committee members. There were no public comments.
237 Meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.

238
239 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:00PM for a
240 budget review session for the Assessor, Circuit Court Division I- Judge Martin, Division
241 IV- Judge Beaumont, Division VI- Judge Lindsey, Division V- Judge Storey-Bryan,
242 Division III- Judge Zimmerman, Division VIII- Judge Warren and the Public Defender. All
243 members were present with the exception of JP Suki Highers and JP Willie Leming.
244 Judge Deakins led the prayer and pledge.
245 Assessor Hill, Judge Martin, Judge Beaumont, Judge Lindsey, Judge Storey-Bryan,
246 Judge Zimmerman, Judge Warren, and Public Defender Denny Hyslip/Leanna Houston
247 presented their respective budgets and answered questions for the committee
248 members. There were no public comments. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

249

250 The Finance & Budget Committee met Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:00PM. Judge
251 Deakins unable to attend asked JP Wilson to chair the meeting. All members were
252 present. Monique Jones led the prayer and pledge at JP Coger's request.
253 Reports were heard from Charles Angel/Employee's Insurance, Director Wayne
254 Story/Comptroller's report. Treasurers Report was furnished to committee members.
255 The Committee passed eight ordinances onto Quorum Court with seven of those being
256 placed on the consent agenda.
257 Budget Reviews were presented and questions were answered by Collector Wood,
258 County Clerk Lewallen, Circuit Clerk Sylvester, Coroner Morris, and Circuit Court
259 Division II Judge Threet.
260 There were no public comments and meeting was adjourned at 7:09PM.

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The Quorum Court meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

265 *Sabrina Mason*
266 Sabrina Mason
267 Quorum Court Coordinator
268 Approved 10/19/23 SM