

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

Thursday, May 15, 2014  
6:00 p.m.  
Washington County Quorum Court Room

CLERK OF THE  
SUPERIOR COURT  
WASHINGTON COUNTY

2014 JUN 24 PM 2:46

FILED

- 45.1 The Washington County Quorum Court met in regular session on Thursday, May 15, 2014. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Marilyn Edwards.
- 45.2 J. Patterson led the Quorum Court in a prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 45.3 MEMBERS PRESENT: Rex Bailey, Harvey Bowman, Diane Bryant, Candy Clark, Rick Cochran, John Firmin, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Ann Harbison, Tom Lundstrum, Eva Madison, Jimmy Mardis, Joe Patterson, Butch Pond, and Bill Ussery.
- 45.4 MEMBER ABSENT: Ron Aman.
- 45.5 OTHERS PRESENT: County Judge Marilyn Edwards, County Chief of Staff Dan Short, County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger; Interested Citizens; and Members of the Press.
- 45.6 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Judge Edwards asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- 45.7 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote by those present. The agenda was adopted as presented.**
- 45.8 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judge Edwards asked for approval of the minutes of the April 17 regular meeting of the Washington County Quorum Court.
- 45.9 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote by those present. The minutes were approved.**
- 45.10 FINANCE REPORT: C. Clark stated that she had one resolution and eleven appropriation ordinances from the Finance and Budget Committee to address tonight.
- 45.11 A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PARTICIPATION OF STABIL-LOC, INC., IN THE SALES AND USE TAX REFUND PROGRAM AUTHORIZED BY THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003 AND ARK. CODE ANN. §15-4-2706(d): C. Clark introduced **A Resolution Endorsing The**

- 46.1 **Participation Of Stabil-Loc, Inc., In The Sales And Use Tax Refund Program Authorized By The Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003 And Ark. Code Ann. §15-4-2706(d)**, and County Attorney George Butler read the resolution.
- 46.2 C. Clark stated that they did not hear about this at the Finance and Budget Committee meeting so hopefully a representative from the Springdale Chamber of Commerce is present tonight.
- 46.3 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the resolution. E. Madison seconded.**
- 46.4 Scott Edmondson, Director of Business Development with the Springdale Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Quorum Court, stating that Stabil-Loc, Inc. is currently leasing a facility and has purchased land in the Springdale Industrial Park with plans to build a 33,000 sq. ft. facility. He further stated that the company manufactures foundation piers to repair and stabilize home and commercial construction foundations. Mr. Edmondson stated that Stabil-Loc, Inc. currently has seven employees and will be looking to add five additional employees and further expand in 2015. He stated that the total investment by the company is going to be a little over \$1 million.
- 46.5 R. Bailey reported that there were a lot of exciting things currently going on in Springdale, including plans for the downtown area. He pointed out that the city government, from the mayor on down to the Chamber of Commerce, work really hard to recruit business to the City of Springdale, and he appreciates the excellent job they are doing.
- 46.6 In response to a question from B. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Edmondson stated that the average salary will be \$12 to \$13 an hour for the new positions created.
- 46.7 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.
- 46.8 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the resolution.**
- 46.9 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The resolution was adopted.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-05, BOOK NO. 3, PAGE NO. 69**

47.1 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$10,710 FROM GENERAL FUND UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES TO THE BUILDINGS & GROUNDS BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$10,710 From General Fund Unappropriated Reserves To The Buildings & Grounds Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

47.2 C. Clark explained that there were some unpaid bills related to the Sheriff's Department, and this is pretty much budget neutral.

47.3 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. R. Bailey seconded.**

47.4 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

47.5 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-19, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 371**

47.6 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$15,294 FROM GENERAL FUND UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$15,294 From General Fund Unappropriated Reserves To The Public Defender's Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

47.7 C. Clark explained that this is for a voice over telephone system which will save the County money.

47.8 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. E. Madison seconded.**

47.9 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

47.10 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-20, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 372**

48.1 AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$4,327 IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$4,327 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Recognizing Additional Revenue Of \$4,327 In The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$4,327 From The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund To The Environmental Affairs Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

48.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**

48.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

48.4 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-21, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 373**

48.5 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING REVENUE OF \$50,312 IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND FOR 2014; AND APPROPRIATING \$50,312 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND TO THE BMT05-14EW BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Revenue Of \$50,312 In The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund for 2014; And Appropriating \$50,312 From The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund To The BMT05-14EW Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

48.6 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. R. Cochran seconded.**

48.7 Responding to a question, Grant Administrator Wayne Blankenship stated that this grant is to address electronic waste.

48.8 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

48.9 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-22, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 374**

49.1 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING REVENUE OF \$27,500 IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND FOR 2014; AND APPROPRIATING \$27,500 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND TO THE BMT04-14EW BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Revenue Of \$27,500 In The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund for 2014; And Appropriating \$27,500 From The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund To The BMT04-14EW Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

49.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. R. Cochran seconded.**

49.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

49.4 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-23, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 375**

49.5 AN ORDINANCE APROPRIATING \$12,000 FROM THE 9-1-1 FUND TO THE ACT 442 OF 2013 PSAP BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$12,000 From The 9-1-1 Fund To The Act 442 Of 2013 PSAP Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

49.6 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. R. Cochran seconded.**

49.7 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

49.8 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-24, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 376**

49.9 AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$15,321 IN THE VOTING SYSTEMS GRANT FUND FOR 2014; AND APPROPRIATING \$15,321 FROM THE VOTING SYSTEMS GRANT FUND TO THE VOTING SYSTEMS GRANT 2014 BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Recognizing Additional Revenue Of \$15,321 From The Voting**

50.1 **Systems Grant Fund For 2014; And Appropriating \$15,321 From The Voting Systems Grant Fund To The Voting Systems Grant 2014 Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

50.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. A. Harbison seconded.**

50.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

50.4 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-25, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 377**

50.5 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$140 FROM THE CIRCUIT CLERK COMMISSIONER FEES FUND TO THE CIRCUIT CLERK COMMISSIONER FEE BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$140 From The Circuit Clerk Commissioner Fees Fund To The Circuit Clerk Commissioner Fee Budget for 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

50.6 C. Clark stated that this was a refund.

50.7 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. R. Cochran seconded.**

50.8 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

50.9 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-26, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 378**

50.10 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$185,819 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES TO VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR ANTICIPATED LONGEVITY PAY IN 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$185,819 From Unappropriated Reserves To Various Budgets For Anticipated Longevity Pay For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

- 51.1 C. Clark noted that the Finance Committee had asked to see a breakdown of the longevity pay, and it was included in the ordinance.
- 51.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 51.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 51.4 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-27, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 379**

- 51.5 AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL CARRYOVER REVENUES OF \$142 IN THE COURTHOUSE SECURITY GRANT FUND FOR 2014; AND REDUCING APROPRIATIONS TOTALLING \$33,520 IN VAROUS FUNDS FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Recognizing Additional Carryover Revenues Of \$142 In The Courthouse Security Grant Fund For 2014; And Reducing Appropriations Totalling \$33,520 In Varlous Funds For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 51.6 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**
- 51.7 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 51.8 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-28, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 381**

- 51.9 COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT: Judge Edwards announced that Bill Bradley, President and CEO of Washington Regional Medical Center, was in attendance to provide WRMC Annual Report to the Quorum Court.
- 51.10 Bill Bradley, President and CEO of WRMC, addressed the Quorum Court and referred to his handout, the Special Report to the Community Edition of the Washington Regional Medical Center Your Health magazine, stating that the theme of this report is the amazing things that their 2,100 employees do. He

noted that as far as Fayetteville is concerned, they are the second largest employer next to the U of A. He stated in this annual report, they take a look at a typical day at WRMC and how their team achieves their goal to provide compassionate, high-quality care to the communities they serve. The report shows volumes during a typical day at WRMC to be 8 babies delivered, 70 surgeries performed, 376 imaging studies produced, 1,681 meals served, 6,500 electronic medical record logins completed to ensure accurate patient care information, 6,750 doses of medication dispensed, and 145 patients reunited with their families.

- 52.1 Mr. Bradley reported that with a goal of expanding treatment options for patients with stroke and other brain disorders, WRMC began construction earlier this year on a neurosurgical hybrid operating suite. He explained that this revolutionary OR suite will be primarily dedicated to the treatment of brain disorders and will allow WRMC to bring an advanced treatment known as endovascular neurosurgery to Northwest Arkansas. He stated with two endovascular neurosurgeons set to join the medical staff later in 2014, WRMC will be the only hospital in the region, and one of only a few in the nation to offer patients this emerging specialty. He explained that through the use of catheter technology and radiological imaging, endovascular neurosurgery proves patients with minimally invasive treatment options from various disorders such as stroke, cerebral aneurysm and other vascular malformations that in the past have required complex open surgeries. Some conditions that had been considered untreatable using conventional surgery may be treatable using endovascular techniques which are much less invasive with much quicker recovery. Mr. Bradley reported that Arkansas is the number one state for stroke mortality which is an honor they do not want, and there are only 100 physicians trained to this level in the entire country so they feel very fortunate. He further pointed out that these endovascular neurosurgeons can do the brain stints or if necessary, they can do an open conventional procedure.
- 52.2 Mr. Bradley reported in the last year, WRMC added 19 new physicians to their medical staff in specialties including Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, Family Practice, Hospitalist, Neonatology, Neurosurgery, OB/GYN, Psychiatry and Teleradiology and will be adding about the same number this year with 12 new physicians coming on August 1, 2014.
- 52.3 Mr. Bradley reported on the insurance exchange that is being run through the State noting that they are averaging somewhere between 250 and 300 exchange patients a month, and even though it is paying about 20% less than they expected, these patients do have some form of coverage whereas in the past, they had no coverage. He further pointed out that of the 250 to 300



exchange patients they see, about 90% are outpatients with only 10% actually admitted to the hospital.

- 53.1 Mr. Bradley stated that some of the biggest challenges that they are facing include healthcare reform which has created consequences. For WRMC, their annual revenues are down about \$8 million which is a significant amount for them to absorb; \$2 million of this can be attributed to healthcare reform. He noted that they are looking at their cost structure and everything that they can do to make sure that they can absorb this loss and continue to provide the services at the level that they want to provide them. He pointed out that this has been a problem common to all hospitals. Mr. Bradley explained when Medicare cuts reimbursement, the commercial insurers mimic that and drop their payments as well which attributes for another \$2 million; Medicaid has cut their reimbursement as well. At the same time, they are trying to do what they believe are great things for a hospital their size with a goal of bringing all that they can here so people do not have to leave the market to get healthcare services.
- 53.2 E. Madison stated that she has seen some statistics in recent days that perhaps one effect of the Affordable Care Act is a decline in emergency room visits; to which Mr. Bradley responded that WRMC is not seeing that in their ER and in fact, ER visits are up.
- 53.3 H. Bowman stated that though WRMC revenues are down \$8 million, they are appreciative that the private options provide them more business and compensation. In response to his question of where the \$ 8 million loss come from; to which Mr. Bradley responded that part of it was Medicare and cuts in reimbursement. He stated that they needed to keep in mind that healthcare reform is financed 20% by hospitals agreeing to lower reimbursement, so when Medicare drops their reimbursement, they have a big insurer and in this state, the biggest is Blue Cross who bases what they pay off of Medicare, so they cut what they are reimbursing which kind of compounds on itself. He stated that Medicaid has cut what they pay because the federal government is giving the state less. He noted that the other part of it is sequestration which is a budgetary act and does not really have anything to do with Medicare, so all the federal reimbursements were cut by 2%, in addition to reform.
- 53.4 H. Bowman stated that he had some family members who were medical doctors, and he has not heard one of them say a positive thing about the private option or Obamacare, but he knows that the hospitals have been supportive.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 10

- 54.1 In response to a question from H. Bowman about what is going to happen to our doctor numbers and people who withdraw early from medical practice because of this; to which Mr. Bradley responded that he believes there will be a physician shortage, though he does not know whether it will be attributed to any of this, but rather will be attributed to just simple supply and demand. He noted that there are 10,000 people every day turning 65, and there are not that many more doctors every day, so at some point there will be a shortage of physicians, and there will probably be a lot more mid-level type providers such as physician assistants and nurse practitioners doing some of the primary care functions where physicians are only doing the functions that they need to do. He further stated that the reason hospitals may like the private option vs. physicians is that the hospitals take everyone and physicians can kind of manage their practice and do not have to take everybody who calls and wants an appointment but when they show up at the hospital, they are taken care of regardless which is one of their challenges.
- 54.2 H. Bowman stated that another challenge is that a lot of doctors are beginning to limit the number of Medicare patients that they will accept which will put some pressure on Medicare recipients.
- 54.3 Mr. Bradley responded to H. Bowman, stating as a result of this that is why they have a Senior Center at the hospital with fellowship trained geriatricians which is currently full. He stated that the problem for the hospital with that is they lose about \$1.5 million a year on that program because Medicare reimbursements are low. He stated this by no means solved the problem, it just mitigated the problem.
- 54.4 In response to a question from H. Bowman concerning the increase of E.R. visits, Mr. Bradley responded that he believes they are fortunate enough to live in an area that is growing; this is part of why the hospital is growing at 2% a year in this market. He added that many of these insurance plans try to direct patients to certain places, and WRMC is also the only level-two trauma center in the area.
- 54.5 A. Harbison addressed the \$8 million loss in revenue at WRMC, stating that they have \$16.8 million that was given to the community either in those people who cannot pay or services like the HIV Clinic and noted that WRMC's contribution to these services takes some of the pressure off of the County. She stated that regardless of the loss in revenue, WRMC is in a very sound financial situation and should be congratulated for running a really high quality institution.
- 54.6 Judge Edwards reported that her husband was in WRMC for four days with pneumonia, and they have never received better care anywhere.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 11

- 55.1 Becky Stewart, Central EMS Chief, provided the Quorum Court with Washington County Regional Ambulance Authority's annual report. She referred to their 2013 Annual Report and stated that she would mirror everything stated by Mr. Bradley about the Affordable Care Act and how insurance and reimbursement has been affected, noting that it essentially affects them in the same manner; however, they have not quite seen specifically how their reimbursements and collections will be affected. She stated that their call volume has increased as far as emergency ambulance calls and the non-emergency ambulance is pretty steady.
- 55.2 Ms. Stewart stated that their fleet is second to none in the state with 16 ambulances that traveled 660,000 miles last year using over 56,000 gallons of fuel at \$4 a gallon. She noted that their ambulances are 2007 to 2014 vehicles, and they are on a pretty good schedule with that. She reported that they added one ambulance on south Crossover Road from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. which has helped improve their response time in the County, particularly on the east side of the County. She pointed out that their response time has improved in the unincorporated areas of the County where 88% of the time, they are to unincorporated areas in 20 minutes or less. She noted that they have not asked for an increase in dollars from the County or members of the interlocal agreement for ambulance service since 2009 when they formed the ambulance authority, and she believes that they have been a pretty good steward of the public money and provided a quality service.
- 55.3 In response to a question from E. Madison, Ms. Stewart stated that the location on south crossover that she referred to is at 210 South Crossover in a rental property on the east side just before Wyman Road.
- 55.4 C. Clark stated that this was across the street from Happy Hollow, and she is glad to know that there is an ambulance there because they are very busy.
- 55.5 In response to a question on the age of their ambulances and their life expectancy, Ms. Stewart stated that they trade their ambulances out every 5-7 years. She pointed out that they use the older ambulances for non-emergency double wheelchair runs. She further explained that many of their 16 ambulances are spare reserve and during the day they have 8 emergency ambulances and 2 non-emergency ambulances in service, and these front line units are 2010 and 2011, but they rotate them and manage the mileage.
- 55.6 R. Bailey stated that Central EMS is very respected by the Springdale Fire Department.
- 55.7 J. Patterson commended Central EMS on a wonderful job.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 12

- 56.1 Ms. Stewart stated that Lloyd Swope served as the Washington County Representative to their Executive Committee for at least ten years and recently stepped down with Ron Wood accepting the appointment. She noted that this committee meets monthly and gives them direction on financial and operational issues.
- 56.2 Judge Edwards announced that Shawn Shrum was in attendance to give the Road Department report.
- 56.3 Shawn Shrum from the County Road Department addressed the Quorum Court and stated with the rough winter they had, they continue to incur costs in damage to roads and equipment. He noted that some roads were so bad that they took the paver out and asphalted over them instead of just patching holes. He stated as of yesterday, they have spent almost \$70,000 in asphalt patching roads with a few others to complete. He noted that they are on a 7-year chip-seal cycle and some of those roads will be moved up because of the shape that they are in. He reported that their Morrow crusher has been down in the southwest portion of the County and although it has saved them time and money, when it is down, it is expensive and to date this year they have spent just under \$50,000 in repairs.
- 56.4 Mr. Shrum stated that it is time to start chip-seals and they are beginning to clean shoulders and ditches if needed, and they will be starting those as soon as it warms up enough. He stated that they have two state aide projects this year; they are finishing the last section of Blue Springs Road, which will be paved from Goshen city limits to Highway 412. He noted another road they started last year with a mile of Bush Valley south of Lincoln, and they will be working to complete approximately four miles.
- 56.5 As far as bridge update, Mr. Shrum stated that they are still waiting to hear from the State Highway Department on Woolsey Bridge with this being in the design phase currently, after which they will be meeting with the County to figure out a location for this bridge. He stated that the Stonewall Bridge was the next bridge that the County will be replacing, and they are now waiting on ADEQ permits and will they start tearing it down with the designs nearly done.
- 56.6 Mr. Shrum stated that he wanted to give an update on the ½ cent sales tax and what the Road Department has spent out of that and what they have spent it on for this year-to-date. He reported that the majority has gone for asphalt for paving roads, the first being Wyman Road east of town which is now paved from the Fayetteville city limits to the Goshen city limits at a cost of \$126,117 for asphalt alone. He stated that they then finished Harvey Dowell Bridge and paved that from the Fayetteville city limits all the way to

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 13

- 57.1 Wyman Road which gets a lot of traffic, especially with the work being down on Hwy. 16 east at a cost of \$29,722 for asphalt alone. On these two roads, he noted that they further spent \$4,438 on tack oil. Mr. Shrum stated another asphalt job that they did was Lincoln/Cane Hill Road, CR436 which comes in behind the new Lincoln High School. He reported that they had chip-sealed that road and for whatever reason, had problems with it and had to go back and re-asphalt 1½ miles of that road at a cost of \$117,529 for the asphalt alone. He stated that they also completed a short section of road just out of Farmington for which he just received the bill today. Mr. Shrum stated that they will further plan on spending these funds on the Stonewall Bridge with \$10,000 to date on engineering services and a No Rise Certificate that they are required to have and \$200 for one of the permits from ADEQ. He further noted that their Ozark Regional Transit dues amounting \$51,237.50 for January through May of was also paid. He stated that the total of all projects mentioned is \$339,244.87 that they have spent to date of the ½ cent sales tax money.
- 57.2 H. Bowman asked if the salt and beet juice that was being used by Missouri was going to help the County to reduce the damage and cost of maintaining ice and snow on roads; to which Mr. Shrum responded that they do not use salt or beet juice but rather ½" limestone chips which gives them traction. He stated that he has talked to the State Highway Department and others to look into other alternatives for maintaining ice and snow. He explained that there are so many variables that go into a storm, noting that the storm they had in December hurt them because of the amount of sleet they received before the snow, and the temperature dropped with no sunshine for many days; and in that case, the beet juice would not have worked as this deep layer of ice and snow was not going to come off. Mr. Shrum stated that they did what they could and received many complaints, stating that they want to be at home during these times just like anyone else. He noted that there are conditions that the beet juice works perfectly on, but the County has 1000 miles of roads, and with the number of storms they had, supplies were hard to find; he does not believe beet juice is the magic solution.
- 57.3 In response to a question from H. Bowman, Mr. Shrum stated that the beet juice is mixed with salt to make a brine mixture and using the limestone chips is a whole lot less expensive.
- 57.4 R. Bailey commented that the jury is still out on the salt and beet juice, noting that the City of Springdale was using it this past winter.
- 57.5 Judge Edwards pointed out that it is a lot easier for urban people to use the salt and beet juice because they have so fewer miles than when you get out on over 1000 miles of county roads.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 14

- 58.1 Mr. Shrum stated that over the years they have added buildings in Morrow and CR97 to store chips in because it does not take long to run out requiring them drive back into the shop in Fayetteville on the snow and ice, refill and return.
- 58.2 R. Cochran commended the County Road Department for the job well done on the roads over this past winter. He noted that it was a bad winter and our Road Department put in a lot of hour; he noted many County roads that were in a lot better shape than Fayetteville had on their main thoroughfare.
- 58.3 B. Pond stated that the County Road Department did an excellent job taking care of and staying ahead of the ice and slick roads, noting that he saw a difference where the ½" limestone chips stopped.
- 58.4 Judge Edwards noted from Mr. Shrum's ½ cent sales tax update, the jobs were not just in one portion of the County, but rather in every segment of the County and commended Mr. Shrum for a job well done.
- 58.5 D. Bryant stated that she lives in Farmington where there was a one-lane bridge on Highway 170 that was paved and is now a two-lane bridge. She asked what happened to the old one-lane bridge as she thought it was part of the Historic Registry; to which Mr. Shrum responded that this is a State highway in the City of Prairie Grove, and he is not sure what they did with the bridge. He explained in the case of an historic bridge, there is a process that you have to go through to try to sell or give away such a bridge and he is not sure whether this particular bridge fell under that or not. Mr. Shrum suggested she check with City of Prairie Grove or the Jeff Stroud with the State Highway Department who serves as the County's Resident Engineer.
- 58.6 Judge Edwards explained that the County has the option of appointing two different Equalization Board members, and one of those seats is becoming vacant due to an expired term. Mildred Runkle, a real estate agent, has been representing the Quorum Court on this board and has agreed to serve another term.
- 58.7 **A. Harbison made a motion to confirm the reappointment of Mildred Runkle to the Equalization Board. R. Bailey seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The reappointment was confirmed.**
- 58.8 COMMITTEE REPORTS: J. Patterson stated that the County Services Committee met on April 28 and heard a report from Courtney McNair, Senior Planner with the Washington County Planning Office who reported 6

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Washington County Quorum Court  
May 15, 2014  
Page 15

exemption land splits, 1 family lot split, and 6 property line adjustments. She further reported that four land developments were approved and one conditional use permit was approved for Blue Springs RV, while the Gulley Additional Final Plat was tabled. She further noted that there are four conditional use permit hearings scheduled this month.

- 59.1 J. Patterson stated that although Director Angela Ledgerwood was unable to attend the committee meeting due to a family obligation, a report was distributed on the Animal Shelter statistics for the month of April, and R. Bailey asked that someone be present to represent the Animal Shelter every month.
- 59.2 J. Patterson stated that Sophia Stephenson, Environmental Affairs Director, reported to the Committee that during the first three months of the year with the cold and icy roads, a lot of services were compressed and only 2.5 tons were collected, in comparison to 5 tons last year. She further reported that in the first quarter there were 143 new customers at the HHW building with over 70 new customers in April alone. She reported that the numbers for the Spring Cleanup are not completed, but at Boston Mountain over 104 tons were collected. Ms. Stephenson stated that she would be willing to give quarterly reports, and T. Lundstrum complimented her on a fine job.
- 59.3 E. Madison, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, reported that this committee met on April 28 and heard a report from Ryan Parrish of CLEAResult, the energy advisors for SWEPCO who is doing all of the energy upgrades in county buildings. She noted that those upgrades have consisted primarily of lighting projects and replacing fixtures or types of lighting. She stated that this is obviously costing the County, but they are doing it based on current incentives and based just on what had been done in 2012 and 2013, they have saved \$28,000 a year in utility bills from these measures. Mr. Parrish noted that they also work with the Gas Company and he was asked a lot of questions about water usage and hot water heaters. E. Madison noted that there were a lot of options available for them to take advantage of in terms of incentives to help the County look at ways to save energy and money.
- 59.4 B. Pond, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, reported that this committee did not meet this month due to lack of an agenda. He noted that Blair Johanson, Salary Consultant for Washington County, is compiling more information that members of the court had requested that presented in the near future.
- 59.5 T. Lundstrum, Chairman of the Jail/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee reported that this committee met on May 12, a week later than their normal

meeting because of the Sheriff's Annual Golf Tournament on May 5<sup>th</sup> and it is his understanding that they raised around \$30,000. The Committee heard monthly reports from Jeane Mack, Juvenile Detention Center Director and from the Sheriff's Office on enforcement and adult detention, everything is running normal.

- 60.1 T. Lundstrum reported the majority of the meeting was spent in discussion with Sheriff Tim Helder on medical care for the Adult Detention Center as he received a notice from the two doctors currently working at the Sheriff's Office that they will not be providing medical care to the detainees as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. In their letter, they stated the reason for this was due to the voluminous number of ridiculous lawsuits that seem to put forth without restraints and that these do not properly represent the excellent and conscientious medical service 24/7 that they and the nurses have provided. He noted that it was the consensus of the committee that Sheriff Helder pursue pricing and estimates for contracting out new doctors and try to maintain the three nurses that they currently have employed in that program and will report back to the court. T. Lundstrum stated that they saved about \$400,000 in food expenses, and they talked about using that to offset some of the additional costs in the doctor program. He further stated that this will cost them, but should be relatively budget neutral.
- 60.2 C. Clark, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, stated that County Treasurer Roger Haney reported that sales tax to jails is up which indicates a decline in earlier months due to weather; and in terms of the road sales tax, they are receiving about \$105,000 average every month which will exceed their projections if it continues; and all budgets are in good shape.
- 60.3 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RATIFYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT GRANTED BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD: J. Patterson introduced **An Emergency Ordinance Ratifying A Conditional Use Permit Granted By The Planning And Zoning Board**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance. The Planning Board granted Conditional Use Permits on May 1 for Kerry Pitts, W. Wheeler Cell Tower, and B&R Meat Taxidermy Shop Expansion. This ordinance contains an emergency clause making it effective immediately upon passage.
- 60.4 **B. Pond made a motion to adopt the ordinance. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 60.5 C. Clark asked whether there had been any complaints from the public on this cell tower; to which Planning Director Juliet Richey replied that there have not been any complaints.
- 60.6 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.



61.1 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

61.2 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-29, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 382**

61.3 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE DISTRICT COURT CLERK OF THE ELKINS DISTRICT COURT AS THE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTION OF FINES IN THE ELKINS DISTRICT COURT: T. Lundstrum introduced **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Elkins District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Elkins District Court**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance that is on first reading and being recommended by the Jail/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee.

61.4 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading by title only. A. Harbison seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**

61.5 County Attorney George Butler read **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Elkins District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Elkins District Court** by title only.

61.6 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third and final reading by title only. C. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**

61.7 County Attorney George Butler read **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Elkins District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Elkins District Court** by title only.

61.8 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to adopt the ordinance. B. Pond seconded.**

61.9 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.

- 62.1 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 62.2 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**
- ORDINANCE NO. 2014-30, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 389**
- 62.3 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE DISTRICT COURT CLERK OF THE PRAIRIE GROVE DISTRICT COURT AS THE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTION OF FINES IN THE PRAIRIE GROVE DISTRICT COURT: T. Lundstrum introduced **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Prairie Grove District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Prairie Grove District Court**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance that is on first reading and being recommended by the Jail/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee.
- 62.4 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading by title only. R. Bailey seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 62.5 County Attorney George Butler read **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Prairie Grove District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Prairie Grove District Court** by title only.
- 62.6 **C. Clark made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third and final reading by title only. B. Pond seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 62.7 County Attorney George Butler read **An Ordinance Designating The District Court Clerk Of The Prairie Grove District Court As The Official Responsible For Collection Of Fines In The Prairie Grove District Court** by title only.
- 62.8 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to adopt the ordinance. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 62.9 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.
- 62.10 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

- 63.1 VOTING FOR: D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, and H. Bowman. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-31, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 390**

- 63.2 OTHER BUSINESS: E. Madison stated that she wanted to report from the Quorum Court Association meeting that she attended in Little Rock on April 26. She stated that they have no idea where the "Justice of the Peace" license plate came from, but it costs \$20 for any JP interested. She stated that she has decided that someone else should take this role next year because the majority of topics discussed have been the same at every meeting she has attended. E. Madison reported that the Ethics Commission reported on campaign finance, and there is an Attorney General's Opinion stating that JPs cannot charge to perform marriages and any fee would have to go into the General Fund. JPs also cannot accept donations because it then becomes an Ethics Commission issue in terms of declaring it.
- 63.3 E. Madison reported that they heard a very interesting presentation from the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care on the different kinds of Wellness Programs that they are implementing with counties. She stated that she found it very interesting that there is a foundation that would help you look at what kind of wellness measures can be used in the County. She noted they demonstrated that there are definitely cost savings in keeping people healthier. She further reported that the Foundation will do claims analysis to determine what is being paid out the most for and try to target those specific illnesses that are costing the most.
- 63.4 E. Madison stated that they heard a presentation on the Freedom Of Information Act from an attorney in the Attorney General's Office. They further heard a Legislative recap from Chris Villines, including the 9-1-1 funding that this court earlier passed. She explained that there was a \$2 million fund created in the 2013 Session to increase 9-1-1 funding to counties and the smaller rural towns are getting more, but we will get something.
- 63.5 E. Madison stated that primarily in the 2014 Fiscal Session, the Association of Counties work was devoted to fighting off changes in the turnback procedures and they managed to keep them as they were. The 2015 Legislative Packet will primarily focus on financial issues. There has been a lot of interest in looking at four-year terms for county officials and going to non-partisan. They discussed potentially changing the Justice of the Peace title to Commissioner because of the confusion that they are judges. E. Madison stated the report back is that there has not been a lot of interest shown in two-year terms

because the Legislature serves two years, and they are the ones that have to put it on the ballot which is unlikely given that they have two-year terms. She noted that the non-partisan title is gaining some traction for some offices, but likely not for the County Judge or JPs as Legislators tend to feel that those offices should remain partisan because of the nature of the work that they do. With respect to the title, the Constitution calls us "Justices of the Peace" so there is not really a likelihood that our title will change. She stated that some folks were interested in having an alternate title which she thinks would be more confusing. In closing, E. Madison stated that it appears that they will remain Justices of the Peace, serve 2-year terms and on a partisan basis.

- 64.1 E. Madison reported that they discussed what seems to be a concern to every county – the reimbursement from the State for housing state prisoners in county jails. She stated that while they think nothing is being done, the AAC says that they think it would be worse had they not been doing what they have been doing; that without the negotiations that have been taking place, there would be an even greater shortfall and while this is not fixing the problem, they have been able to mitigate it. She noted that there was some deal struck early on in Governor Beebe's tenure where they took money out of a property tax relief fund to fund some of the prisoners so it was like the counties were getting money in another way that was not seen as reimbursement. She stated that there was not a great outlook for a solution for this problem.
- 64.2 E. Madison stated that she did ask on Sheriff Helder's behalf why they do not have bunk beds in our State Prisons since they have them in our jails and she was told this is because prisons are accredited and the state prison system is very concerned about their prisons being accredited and this is something that causes them to lose accreditation, so the state has been very adamant about adding bunk beds.
- 64.3 E. Madison reported on retirement for JP's which they currently do not get, but some folks were very interested in this and they think it may be possible in the future because County Judge Mike Jacobs who currently serves as head of the Association of Counties Board is retiring as County Judge and running for JP Office and he sat on the APERS Board. She stated that they are doing a study for retirement options for Justice of the Peace.
- 64.4 E. Madison stated that the District Court Conversion Process which is a process started by the State where District Courts are being converted where the Clerk and Judge were going to be funded by the State instead of the current split between city and county which resulted in some cost savings to the counties. It was reported that Phase I already in place has been funded

there needs to be some more creative management of decreasing the operating expenses at the Animal Shelter. Ms. Landry stated that she has toured the Animal Shelter, and she believes that it is beautiful, classy, state of the art and something to be proud of. She stated that she is a very common sense person. She has a set budget at her house and finds ways to live comfortably without exceeding her budget or pulling from her reserves or she has to do without. She stated that she is only asking that the Quorum Court to manage their multiple departments in the same manner.

66.1 Ms. Landry stated that in discussions about this Animal Shelter's style and square footage, she heard the comment, "We have the money", and this attitude offends her when it comes to the way taxes are spent. She thanked the Quorum Court for lowering her taxes recently, but maybe now that our county reserve has dropped dramatically from \$12 million to \$5 million, the Quorum Court's priority list will shorten and their creativity will increase. She looks forward to reading those types of stories in the future.

66.2 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Ims  
Quorum Court Coordinator/Reporter