

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

Tuesday, September 2, 2014  
5:00 p.m.  
Washington County Quorum Court Room

2014 SEP 22 PM 3:49  
BERRY LAWLER  
CO. & PROBATE CLERK  
WASHINGTON CO. LA.

FILED

- 124.1 The Washington County Quorum Court met in special session on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Marilyn Edwards.
- 124.2 Judge Edwards stated that the purpose of this meeting was to consider the third reading of an appropriation ordinance concerning the Election Commission Budget for 2014; and to consider an ordinance anticipating and appropriating grant revenues to the Juvenile Court Grant Budget in the Law Enforcement Grant Fund.
- 124.3 T. Lundstrum led the Quorum Court in a prayer and C. Clark led them in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 124.4 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.
- 124.5 MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Aman.
- 124.6 OTHERS PRESENT: County Judge Marilyn Edwards, County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger; Interested Citizens; and Members of the Press.
- 124.7 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Judge Edwards asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- 124.8 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The agenda was adopted as presented.**
- 124.9 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$9,000 IN THE GENERAL FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$28,587 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE ELECTION COMMISSION BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Additional Revenues Of \$9,000 In The General Fund; And Appropriating \$28,587 From The General Fund To The Election Commission Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance that is on third and final reading.

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- 125.1 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. B. Fitzpatrick seconded.**
- 125.2 R. Bailey stated that he had planned to support this ordinance but voiced his disappointment that the Election Commission would even consider having three early voting sites in Fayetteville and only one in Springdale and stated that this would never have happened when John Burrows was Election Commissioner. He stated that they had worked out a deal with Arvest Ball Park but was quite angry at statements made in a newspaper article yesterday by the Election Commissioner Chairman that they "hated to loose, but on the other hand did not like to play games." R. Bailey stated that he is not playing a game and has tried to compromise but this was flawed from the start and should never have happened. He suggested that they may just want to return to having one early voting site in Fayetteville and one in Springdale. He stated that he and the other JPs representing Springdale take their representation very seriously. R. Bailey stated at this time, he would not support the ordinance.
- 125.3 T. Lundstrum stated that everyone already knows his position on this issue, but he wanted to clarify that he does not come from Tontitown as has been published in the newspaper several times. He stated that he comes from Elm Springs and represents folks in Tontitown and Johnson as well, and folks in those towns are very conservative. He stated that the newspaper keeps pointing out how this was only .05% of the overall budget and how insignificant it was, but he wants to keep encouraging people to start adding those numbers because in the eight years he has served on this court they have spent over \$22 million to make parking and courts more convenient. He noted that everything seems to be for convenience, and he would like to see them start spending the taxpayers' money for necessities.
- 125.4 C. Clark stated that she will take a different approach than R. Bailey and T. Lundstrum have taken. She stated that convenience for early voting can be used, but this is \$22,000 that is spent directly on every registered voter in this county. She stated that she supports Planning Director Juliet Richey's request to get mapping right for flood insurance; and she will support JDC Director Jeanne Mack's request for door locks, but these requests do not affect everyone in the county. She stated that this \$22,000 expenditure affects potentially every registered voter in Washington County and is a relatively small amount to spend on every registered voter. C. Clark stated that she is hopeful that this will get registered voters to the polls and give them the opportunity to vote in different locations early so they do not have to

worry about just getting to the two locations. She stated that she hopes they can get this ordinance passed and felt like it was the best investment that they have made in a very long time.

126.1 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.

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

126.3 VOTING FOR: E. Madison, B. Pond, B. Ussey, D. Bryant, C. Clark, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: T. Lundstrum, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, and R. Cochran. **The motion passed with eight members voting in favor and six members voting against the motion. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO.2014-48, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 418**

126.4 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$16,600 IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$16,600 FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUND TO THE JUVENILE COURT GRANT BUDGET FOR 2014; C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Additional Revenue Of \$16,600 In The Law Enforcement Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$16,600 From The Law Enforcement Grant Fund To The Juvenile Court Grant Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

126.5 C. Clark explained that this has been requested by County Grant Administrator Wayne Blankenship and was put on this agenda as it is a time sensitive item.

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

126.7 County Grant Administrator Wayne Blankenship addressed the Quorum Court stating that the Department of Health wants to send both Benton and Washington County Juvenile Courts for onsite visits to California and Oregon to see how the facilities are being operated. He explained that they want to leave the middle of September and have to get everything purchased and rooms paid for as soon as possible.

126.8 In response to a question from D. Bryant, Mr. Blankenship explained that these are federal funds coming through the state to the counties.



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- 127.1 In response to a question from R. Cochran, Mr. Blankenship stated that there are seven going from Washington County and eight from Benton County.
- 127.2 Norma Frisby, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Washington County Juvenile Court, addressed the Quorum Court and explained that in 2013, the Division of Youth Services approached Benton and Washington County to participate in a pilot program called the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. Their hope is to be able to spread this initiative throughout the state. She stated that they created a governing board and two groups of seven from the governing board making the site visits. She further noted that these were three-day trips during which they will be meeting with staff at these facilities to discuss what works for them and bring back ideas to improve our services here. Ms. Frisby stated that ultimately they do not want the wrong kids going to detention, and they want services to be provided for those who end up in detention as well as for those who do not.
- 127.3 Judge Zimmerman addressed the Quorum Court stating that there are different model sites throughout the nation and Washington and Benton Counties were approached by Division of Youth Services to be model sites for Arkansas, and the sites were chosen as they most closely resemble the kids and families that they serve. She noted that they chose Santa Cruz, California that has a very large Latino population, as well as Multnomah County in Portland, Oregon as it has a very large Marshallese population. She noted that the Marshallese population in Northwest Arkansas is the largest outside the Marshall Islands. Judge Zimmerman stated that the grant will reimburse the county for the costs. She further noted that their goal in Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative is to reduce the number of kids who ultimately end up in prison.
- 127.4 Judge Zimmerman gave the names of those going to Santa Cruz, California which included Circuit Judge Zimmerman, Prosecutor Seth Creed, Public Defender Suanne Jeffus, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Norma Frisby, WACO DCFS Supervisor Nirika Morris, Youth Bridge Program Director Kath Lott, and Lead Intake Officer Jennifer Bryant. Those going to Multnomah County, Oregon were Circuit Judge Zimmerman, Prosecutor Seth Creed, Public Defender Suanne Jeffus, Lead Probation Officer Jeremy Kelley, School Marshallese Interpreter Rillan Kaisha, School Resource Officer Hunter Carnahan, and ASN Family Supports Advocate Irene Clark.
- 127.5 In response to a question from D. Bryant, Judge Zimmerman stated that they would be making two trips.

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- 128.1 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.
- 128.2 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 128.3 VOTING FOR: T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, J. Mardis, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, and A. Harbison. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**
- ORDINANCE NO. 2014-49, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 419**
- 128.4 CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were no citizen comments made.
- 128.5 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jessica Ims  
Quorum Court Coordinator/Reporter