

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

Thursday, October 16, 2014
6:00 p.m.
Washington County Quorum Court Room

REGINA M. ALLEN
CLERK & PROBATE CLERK
WASHINGTON COUNTY, AR

2014 NOV 24 PM 12:39

FILED

- 157.1 The Washington County Quorum Court met in regular session on Thursday, October 16, 2014. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Marilyn Edwards.
- 157.2 T. Lundstrum led the Quorum Court in a prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 157.3 MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Aman, Rex Bailey, Harvey Bowman, Diane Bryant, Candy Clark, Rick Cochran, John Firmin, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Ann Harbison, Tom Lundstrum, Eva Madison, Jimmy Mardis, Butch Pond, and Bill Ussery.
- 157.4 MEMBER ABSENT: Joe Patterson.
- 157.5 OTHERS PRESENT: County Judge Marilyn Edwards, County Chief of Staff Dan Short, County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger; Interested Citizens; and Members of the Press.
- 157.6 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Judge Edwards asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- 157.7 C. Clark stated that they needed to add an appropriation ordinance #6.12 concerning the Computer/IS Department Budget to the agenda at the recommendation of the Finance and Budget Committee.
- 157.8 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The agenda was adopted as amended.**
- 157.9 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judge Edwards asked for approval of the minutes of the September 18 regular meeting and the September 22 and September 30 Special Meetings of the Washington County Quorum Court.
- 157.10 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The minutes were approved.**
- 157.11 FINANCE REPORT: C. Clark stated that she had one resolution and eleven appropriation ordinances from the Finance Committee to address tonight.

- 158.1 A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PARTICIPATION OF PACIFIC VET GROUP – USA 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 Participation Of Pacific Vet Group – USA 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.
- 158.2 C. Clark noted that this was a presentation made by the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce for a business that is going to bring some very well paying jobs into the Industrial Park.
- 158.3 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the resolution. B. Pond seconded.**
- 158.4 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.
- 158.5 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the resolution.**
- 158.6 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis . **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The resolution was adopted.**
- RESOLUTION NO. 2014-18, BOOK NO. 3, PAGE NO. 84**
- 158.7 **A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules and read #6.2 by title only. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 158.8 AN ORDINANCE REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF \$351,604 FROM PERSONAL SERVICES LINE ITEMS IN VARIOUS COUNTY BUDGETS AND RESTORING THOSE FUNDS TO UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES; APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$34,939 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVES TO VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Reducing The Amount Of \$351,604 From Personal Services Line Items In Various County Budgets And Restoring Those Funds To Unappropriated Reserves; Appropriating The Amount Of \$34,939 From Unappropriated Reserves To Various Budgets For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance by title only.
- 158.9 C. Clark explained that this was their quarterly housekeeping ordinance.

- 159.1 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 159.2 B. Fitzpatrick asked if anyone knew why Emergency 9-1-1 needed \$5 to which County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger responded that in those divisions, they can't have a negative so they need to deposit \$5.
- 159.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 159.4 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis . **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-55, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 440

- 159.5 AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING MONIES OF \$8,232 WITHIN THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Transferring Monies Of \$8,232 Within The Buildings And Grounds Budget In The General Fund For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 159.6 C. Clark stated that she had no memory as to what this was for, but it is a line item transfer and is budget neutral.
- 159.7 County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger stated that this was for panic buttons.
- 159.8 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. B. Fitzpatrick seconded.**
- 159.9 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 159.10 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis . **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-56, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 443

- 159.11 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$5,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating \$5,000 From The General Fund To The**

Health Department Budget For 2014, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

- 160.1 C. Clark stated that this is to meet the increase in the AT&T bills for the rest of the year.
- 160.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**
- 160.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 160.4 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, E. Madison, and J. Mardis. VOTING AGAINST: R. Bailey and T. Lundstrum. **The motion passed with twelve members voting in favor and two members voting against the motion. The ordinance was adopted.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-57, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 444

- 160.5 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING REVENUE OF \$324,613 IN THE DEM GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$324,613 FROM THE DEM GRANT FUND TO VARIOUS HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGETS FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Revenue Of \$324,613 In The DEM Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$324,613 From The DEM Grant Fund To Various Homeland Security Budgets For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 160.6 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**
- 160.7 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 160.8 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-58, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 445

- 160.9 AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$55,253 IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$55,253 FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUND TO THE SCAAP 2014 BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance**

Recognizing Additional Revenues Of \$55,253 In The Law Enforcement Grant Fund; And Appropriating The Amount Of \$55,253 From The Law Enforcement Grant Fund To The SCAAP 2014 Budget For 2014, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

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

161.2 In response to a question from A. Harbison about what this money was to be used for, Chief Deputy Jay Cantrell responded that it will be used for building improvements and equipment.

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-59, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 446

161.5 **AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$27,282 IN THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$27,282 FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER GRANT FUND TO THE PET SMART – ADVERTISING GRANT BUDGET FOR 2014:** C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Recognizing Additional Revenues Of \$27,282 In The Animal Shelter Grant Fund; And Appropriating The Amount Of \$27,282 From The Animal Shelter Grant Fund To The Pet Smart – Advertising Grant Budget For 2014,** and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

161.6 C. Clark stated for clarification that every penny that comes into this County must be recognized and appropriated and that is what they are doing with this grant.

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

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-60, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 447

- 162.1 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING REVENUE OF \$10,000 IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND FOR 2014; AND APPROPRIATING \$10,000 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS GRANT FUND TO THE WC04-14 BUDGET OR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Revenue of \$10,000 In The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund For 2014; And Appropriating \$10,000 From The Environmental Affairs Grant Fund To The WC04-14 Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 162.2 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**
- 162.3 In response to a question from R. Aman about what this money was to be used for, Grant Administrator Wayne Blankenship stated that it was to be used to purchase an oil burning heater for the Road Department.
- 162.4 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 162.5 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis . **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-61, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 448

- 162.6 AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$40,000 IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$40,000 FROM THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND TO THE WHEELER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Recognizing Additional Revenues Of \$40,000 In The Rural Community Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$40,000 From The Rural Community Grant Fund To The Wheeler Fire Department Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 162.7 C. Clark stated that this money passed through the Quorum Court will benefit the Wheeler community.
- 162.8 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. D. Bryant seconded.**
- 162.9 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-62, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 449

- 163.2 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$3,500 IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$3,500 FROM THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND TO THE RHEAS MILL BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Additional Revenues Of \$3,500 In The Rural Community Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$3,500 From The Rural Community Grant Fund To The Rheas Mill Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

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

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-63, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 450

- 163.6 AN ORDINANCE ANTICIPATING ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$20,000 IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND; AND APPROPRIATING \$20,000 FROM THE RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND TO THE RHEAS MILL 2 BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Anticipating Additional Revenues Of \$3,500 In The Rural Community Grant Fund; And Appropriating \$3,500 From The Rural Community Grant Fund To The Rheas Mill 2 Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.

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

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

- 163.9 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, R. Bailey, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, T.

Lundstrum, E. Madison, and J. Mardis. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The ordinance was adopted.**

- 164.1 R. Aman thanked Renee Biby for all of the hard work she put into this matter.
- ORDINANCE NO. 2014-64, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 451**
- 164.2 C. Clark explained that Ordinance #6.12 is different in that they have not discussed it in Finance because they felt a sense of urgency to alleviate some billing between now and the end of the year.
- 164.3 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$81,072 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COMPUTER/IS DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR 2014: C. Clark introduced **An Ordinance Appropriating The Amount Of \$81,072 From The General Fund To The Computers/IS Department Budget For 2014**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance.
- 164.4 C. Clark suggested that County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger speak to where this money is coming from because they left the meeting simply asking that they put the ordinance together.
- 164.5 **C. Clark made a motion to adopt the ordinance. B. Fitzpatrick seconded.**
- 164.6 County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger addressed the Quorum Court stating that this money would come from reserves for this year, but she believes that they have some money in the budgets that would already cover part of this. She stated that this will cover the amount that they asked for previously to fix their FAX machines so that they can FAX through the computers and money that it would take to change the Extension Office and Health Department over to the voice over IP. She pointed out the document where it shows the breakdown of what is requested just to cover the FAX and phone lines for 2015 at a total of \$101,000; those 3-4 highlighted would not be affected; those in Buildings & Grounds is dedicated to fire alarms; and the Sheriff and Jail has a separate system, so the amounts for those would still appear on their budgets, but the remaining would completely go away once this is all put into place. Ms. Bolinger stated that they felt if they could get the money approved tonight, that the equipment could be installed this year so hopefully they would have no phone bills next year.
- 164.7 E. Madison stated that she is not following these numbers and stated her understanding that the cost is actually more than the \$81,000 that they are appropriating, but they are getting the rest of the money from page 3; to which

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 9

Ms. Bolinger responded that is what their savings would be with the cost of \$101,000 if they don't do this and if they do it, then the only costs to the phones would be the blue ones left. She further explained that all of those asked for are for the FAX and land lines that they currently have to have in order to do their jobs, so those would go away; if this is in place, then they wouldn't have to have the land lines for their FAX machines.

- 165.1 E. Madison stated that the blue numbers shown on page 3 is a savings issue; to which Ms. Bolinger responded it is what is in the budget right now, what they would need for their phone bills next year, and they would all go away for next year, except for the blue ones. She further verified that the true cost for this is \$81,000 for the Health Department and Extension Service getting the countywide FAX which would just come out of reserve and the County would then save that next year.
- 165.2 R. Bailey stated that he will not support anything from IT at this point. He stated that he was told the IT department would save them all this money and they have done nothing but spent money on it. He stated that while he understands that they need this, it has been a black hole ever since it started and he is tired of them spending.
- 165.3 J. Mardis stated that they have talked about every time they reduce these lines, the cost goes up. He asked if the blue were left in place, is that going to do the same crazy thing to them; to which Ms. Bolinger stated that he would need to ask someone who understands phone lines. She further stated that the phone lines at the Sheriff's Office would not be going up, but she can not answer on the Fire and Alarm, but believes that they would not go up.
- 165.4 Senior Programmer Alan Roy stated that they are analog lines and will be on COX.
- 165.5 J. Mardis stated that one of the problems they have every time they take someone off, it would just jack up someone else.
- 165.6 R. Cochran stated that he will support this ordinance as this is an investment for their future. He stated that the two items for the Health Department and Extension Office are items that are under consideration for next year's budget and they are things that are needed, so moving them up to do in this budget year is basically out of the same county registry, county general funds. He noted that there is an extreme savings long-term to get off of the dedicated lines because as long as they have this system going, they will have that fixed cost and they have to get off it. He noted that is why he held this up at their last Finance/Budget meeting because this is a very important step to save money. He pointed out that Building Superintendent

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 10

- 166.1 Ron Woods and his group are committed to doing the wiring at the Health Department which will save them \$15,000 to \$16,000 and everyone is working together to get this done as soon as possible.
- 166.2 D. Bryant stated that the footnote shown indicates that it did not involve the voice over internet protocol, so some of these systems still have to have a direct line for fire alarms and something with the jail; to which Ms. Bolinger responded that the Jail has a different system as they had already changed their system and reduced their costs. She further noted that the Jail is with COX, not AT&T. D. Bryant stated that this being the case, she can support the ordinance.
- 166.3 R. Aman stated that it looks to him like they are already paying \$101,527 and if they took the blue lines out, they would be saving about \$73,000 a year; and if they spend \$81,000 this year, so if nothing else changes, they would be saving about \$73,000 a year and he will support this ordinance.
- 166.4 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the ordinance.**
- 166.5 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Aman, H. Bowman, D. Bryant, C. Clark, R. Cochran, J. Firmin, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Harbison, E. Madison, and J. Mardis. VOTING AGAINST: R. Bailey and T. Lundstrum. **The motion passed with twelve members voting in favor and two members voting against the motion. The ordinance was adopted.**
- ORDINANCE NO. 2014-65, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 452**
- 166.6 COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT: Judge Edwards announced that John Luther, Director of Emergency Management, would be giving a report.
- 166.7 John Luther, Director of Emergency Management, addressed the Quorum Court stating that there has been one person who has been the biggest driving force for Urban Search and Rescue Team as well as for our regional team, covering a large portion of the State, and that is Willie Watts. Mr. Luther noted that Willie started as a volunteer in their office in 2002 to help out when John was away. Willie has, on numerous occasions, led a team where they have saved lives. John stated that he wishes to honor the team, team members and leaders, expressing appreciation and gratitude for their hard work.
- 166.8 Judge Edwards read a plaque and presented it to Willie Watts and he was given a round of applause by the Quorum Court.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 11

- 167.1 Judge Edwards stated that she would like to recommend the appointment of Charles Moore and John Gibson to fill two vacant positions on the Washington Water Authority; and further recommended the reappointment of Michael Lorenz and Kaye Trentham for another term to the WWA. Judge Edwards further stated that she would like to recommend the appointment of Shane Bell and Rick Johnson to fill two vacancies on the Rural Development Authority. In addition, she recommended the reappointment of Brad Hancock for another term on the RDA. She noted that sometimes it is very difficult to find folks to serve on these committees, but feels very fortunate to be able to find such qualified people to help the County.
- 167.2 **C. Clark made a motion to confirm these board appointments and reappointments. R. Bailey seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The appointments and reappointments were confirmed.**
- 167.3 Judge Edwards stated that the Road Department continues to work on CR1090 and CR191 near Round Mountain and Wolf Track near Summers, preparing the roads for chip and seal, but due to the weather the chip and seal will not be able to take place this year. She stated that they are further working on CR162, Smoky Bear Road off of Black Oak, widening some areas to make it easier for residents and buses to travel the road. She noted that in order to do this, land owners had to give right-of-way and this takes a little longer. She reported a couple of recent incidents where they thought they had right-of-way and all of a sudden, someone decides they don't want a tree cut, turn around and don't give right-of-way.
- 167.4 Judge Edwards reported that the Highway Department continues to survey the area around Woolsey Bridge, noting that Arkansas Highway Department has contracted out some of the surveying to a local company who sent letters to local property owners at the end of July. She reported that the Stonewall Bridge Project has started with all piers on the west side poured and the east side piers with concrete will be near completion this week. She noted that all of the rain they have received lately has put a damper on this, but they hope to finish the bridge by April 2015.
- 167.5 COMMITTEE REPORTS: In the absence of Chairman J. Patterson, J. Mardis reported that the County Services Committee met on September 29 and received two major presentations. He stated that they got a report from the Washington County Planning Office by Courtney McNair about the latest issues going on with their group. One major issue discussed was the denial of a plot. And learned more about STEP treatment systems and waste water than they probably ever wanted to hear, but Ms. McNair did a very good job of explaining the issues. He noted he has been doing this for 23 years, but

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 12

learned more on that subject than he ever knew. J. Mardis stated that they received an update on the Animal Shelter from Director Angela Ledgerwood, with no major issues reported.

- 168.1 E. Madison, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, reported that that this committee met on September 29 and received a report from Ron Wood, Buildings and Grounds Superintendent with regard to projects currently pending, including replacement of controls at the Juvenile Detention Center and panic alarms for the Circuit Judges that they just funded. She stated that the committee had a healthy discussion on County vehicles and expenses for those vehicles. She reported that they discussed the number of vehicles that are used by County employees and the number of vehicles taken home by County employees, and she provided a great overview on IRS guidelines, noting that they will continue that discussion at their next committee meeting.
- 168.2 T. Lundstrum, Chairman of the Jail/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee reported that this committee did not meet due to lack of an agenda.
- 168.3 B. Pond, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, reported that this committee met on October 6 and heard a report from Blair Johanson, Salary Consultant for Washington County on what JESAP committee has been doing. The committee then discussed and considered an amendment to the Employee Handbook which was tabled. B. Pond stated that committee reviewed a Resolution authorizing exempt employees of the Sheriff's Department to receive overtime compensation in certain instances, such as when some other entity request their presence at an event like a ballgame at the University and the county is reimbursed the overtime. He noted that the committee voted unanimously to forward the resolution to the Full Quorum Court with a do-pass recommendation.
- 168.4 C. Clark, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committees stated she had nothing further to report.
- 168.5 **R. Bailey made a motion to suspend the rules and read the resolution by title only. R. Cochran seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 168.6 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXEMPT EMPLOYEES OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE OVERTIME COMPENSATION IN CERTAIN INSTANCES: C. Clark introduced **A Resolution Authorizing Exempt Employees Of The Sheriff's Department To Receive Overtime Compensation In Certain Instances**, and County Attorney George Butler read the resolution by title only.

169.1 County Attorney George Butler explained that he decided it would be easier to memorize this in a resolution rather than to go back and have to look it up, noting in some instances they have had to go back and look through the old minutes from 3-4 years ago to dig something out, while this way there will be a resolution which are indexed.

169.2 **B. Pond made a motion to adopt the resolution. R. Cochran seconded.**

169.3 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-19, BOOK NO. 3, PAGE NO. 85

169.6 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RATIFYING CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS GRANTED BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD: T. Lundstrum introduced **An Emergency Ordinance Ratifying Conditional Use Permits Granted By The Planning And Zoning Board**, and County Attorney George Butler read the ordinance. The Planning Board granted Conditional Use Permits on October 8 for Witter Family and Cane Hill Historic Structures. This ordinance contains an emergency clause making it effective immediately upon passage.

169.7 T. Lundstrum noted that the Witter property is only 1.79 acres and they need to do a split on this piece of land. He stated his understanding is that there were three property owners that complained mildly about it; however, the Planning Board does not see a problem because they reworked some things that seemed to satisfy everyone. Regardless, he explained that this does not eradicate anyone's right to appeal at a later date by passing this. T. Lundstrum stated that the Cane Hill Historic Structures are located in downtown Cane Hill, it has been approved, and he sees no need to be concerned about appeals.

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

169.9 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-66, BOOK NO. 9, PAGE NO. 453

170.3 A RESOLUTION ORDERING THAT AN ELECTION BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2014 INVOLVING THE ISSUE OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE CITY OF JONESON, ARKANSAS: T. Lundstrum introduced **A Resolution Ordering That An Election Be Held On November 4, 2014 Involving The Issue Of The Sale Of Alcoholic Beverages In The City Of Johnson, Arkansas,** and County Attorney George Butler read the resolution. Signatures have been obtained to place this issue on the November 4 ballot and action is required by the Quorum Court.

170.4 County Attorney George Butler noted that a couple of years ago, they had to do this for Springdale and Tontitown. He stated that there is a glitch in the statutes and they were trying to order the election, even though it was a city election. He stated that when you read statutes that really don't make sense and Jennifer Price alluded to the fact that the City of Johnson didn't realize, nor did their attorney. Therefore, so there won't be any problems with the election, they need to pass t his resolution as a kind of ministerial duty that they are required to perform.

170.5 T. Lundstrum stated that this is simply a formality that requires these actions of the Quorum Court to allow the people to vote this either up or down.

170.6 **T. Lundstrum made a motion to adopt the resolution. R. Bailey seconded.**

170.7 C. Clark noted that it states that they have to do the publicity and asked if that was going to cost them as well; to which County Attorney George Butler responded that those costs would be the responsibility of City of Johnson.

170.8 Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments made.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-20, BOOK NO. 3, PAGE NO. 86

- 171.2 OTHER BUSINESS: T. Lundstrum stated that he wished to address some comments that have been made about the Quorum Court's pay. He reported when he started on the Court under Judge Hunton, they made either \$100 or \$125 per meeting which some have disputed, saying that it was per day. He noted that it has been written in the newspaper that the JPs gave themselves a 70% raise and if you go from \$125 to \$200, that is true, but what they didn't mention was that this Board voted to stack those meetings in order to give an example to other department heads to reduce the cost of operating this county. He stated if his memory serves him correctly, the results of that the first year was a reduction in this Quorum Court's pay of almost \$30,000. He stated that they have not ceased stacking meetings; they are doing two meetings at a time so instead of getting \$125 a meeting, they are getting \$100 a meeting or \$25 per meeting less now than he did 8 years ago. Therefore, they are actually saving the county money and not costing the county more money. T. Lundstrum stated if in the budget process, the court decides they want to reduce their salaries to impress somebody that would be fine, but the first time they did it he didn't see any other department heads very impressed with it and this was a considerable savings to the county.
- 171.3 T. Lundstrum stated that R. Cochran recommended in his budgetary proposal that they reduce the Quorum Court's pay and this is fine with him, noting that he is one that would probably do it for nothing if everyone else would agree. He stated that he wanted to bring this up tonight because they are on television and he wants the people of Washington County to know what they are actually dealing with here and he wishes that the newspaper would report accurately. He knows that a lot of people watch these meetings on television and he appreciates that there is interest in what they are doing on the Quorum Court.
- 171.4 T. Lundstrum stated that he wants the public to understand that these meetings are not all the Quorum Court JPs do and there is a lot more that goes along with the job than what people see in the meetings. He noted that they have all put a lot of time in on this budget; many of them visit CUP issues which they don't get reimbursed for mileage, etc. He pointed out that C. Clark has put hundreds of hours into this budget and she did the same thing last year, talking to all Department Heads and the Treasurer, so this is a lot bigger issue than it appears to be.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 16

- 172.1 E. Madison stated for those JPs who do a lot of weddings for which they cannot charge, that is a tremendous time commitment. She noted that she spoke with the County Clerk's Office recently and discovered that in less than four years, she has performed 160 weddings and every one of those involved phone calls, e-mails or text messages, people coming to her office, meeting up with people for rehearsal dinners, etc. She stated that this is a service that she likes to do, but for it to be reported that they are being paid an outrageous amount of money for what they do is ridiculous.
- 172.2 T. Lundstrum stated that he did a wedding at the Springdale Roller Rink during which he actually broke his foot for which he should have filed for workers' compensation. He noted that he has performed weddings in truck shops, pawn shops, or anywhere people want to meet to get married, they do it. He noted that an awful lot of people in Washington County don't even know what a "JP" is and some think all they do is marry people. T. Lundstrum stated that they are the legislative body of county government and he wishes people of Washington County to understand some of this.
- 172.3 R. Bailey stated that he has performed weddings in his shop, below the AQ Chicken House in the rain, and in a jail.
- 172.4 C. Clark stated the bottom line is if the public just watches the Quorum Court meetings that are televised, they get a very limited view of the actions of this group. She urged the public to attend some committee meetings, noting that the Finance and Budget Committee didn't leave last Tuesday night until 9:15 because they are working on the budget. She stated that this collectively is a very hard working group who attends all committee meetings and they all contribute. She stated that they do a lot more than shows at these meetings, they enjoy meeting and working for the people of Washington County.
- 172.5 R. Cochran stated the he wanted to speak to the fine job that their Emergency Preparedness Group did today with the train accident near West Fork. He stated that they are so blessed to have the funding and not only our citizens' money, but the grants they have to have this program that can pull together so many agencies around the area and the cooperation is amazing. He pointed out that the last major disaster they had was the Cincinnati tornado. He stated that the four individuals that were taken to Washington Regional Medical Center are stable and being treated, having been in critical condition when they arrived. He stated without this coordinated effort, lives are not saved and he is so proud of what they do, commending John Luther, the Director of the Emergency Preparedness Group.
- 172.6 Judge Edwards stated that she was on site this morning and agreed that they are absolutely amazing.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 17

- 173.1 H. Bowman stated that he is unaware of the total amount of grant money they receive, but he is constantly amazed by the quantity and size of these grants. He noted that Wayne Blankenship, Grant Coordinator for Washington County, is owed a great amount of gratitude for a job well done because without that, there are thousands and maybe millions of dollars that the County would miss out on.
- 173.2 Judge Edwards stated that she wanted to take this opportunity to report that with the budget cuts that they saw for some of the budgets, Wayne Blankenship will not be able to participate in any of the training, will not be able to go to Washington, Little Rock or Harrison for meetings, will not be able to drive his vehicle and has told her that he will most likely have to quit.
- 173.3 H. Bowman responded to Judge Edwards' report, stating that they need to give serious consideration to that because he believes Wayne Blankenship has done an absolutely fabulous job for them. He noted that he has spoken to some of the Department Heads about the number of vehicles that are being used and asked them to bring some proposals to reduce the number of vehicles and they have agreed to do that. He stated having been a salesman who traveled many years himself, he appreciated the flexibility, availability and expenses required to travel and entertain and this is one vehicle that they need to take a second look at because it would be a great loss to loss him.
- 173.4 Judge Edwards stated that there are a lot of meetings in Harrison and other places that she can't attend and Wayne Blankenship goes for her.
- 173.5 T. Lundstrum noted that Wayne Blankenship's job is very much like their jobs on the Quorum Court as he does a lot more than just administer grants, being involved in the water lines and in the Rural Fire Departments. He agreed that they have taken some pretty deep cuts and he will be taking a closer look at that himself.
- 173.6 R. Bailey stated that the Budget Committee hasn't cut anything yet, this is justified, and he can guarantee that Wayne Blankenship will not lose his vehicle.
- 173.7 CITIZEN COMMENTS: Jay Cantrell addressed the Quorum Court regarding the train collision today, stating that about 10:32 a.m., a passenger train was going up a grade just north of Brentwood and spun out on wet tracks that may have had been covered with leaves, so backed back down and called Van Buren for an engine to assist them. He stated for whatever reason, the Van Buren didn't have a clear picture of where the stalled engine was and when he came around the corner, saw the train but wasn't able to stop in time causing an engine to engine collision. Mr. Cantrell reported that the driver of

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Washington County Quorum Court
October 16, 2014
Page 18

the Van Buren train was one of the most seriously injured. He reported that Washington County had training going on at the old Winslow School and so they were able to have twelve units on site within 10 minutes and one of their deputies is a certified paramedic and was able to render care before ambulances arrived. He noted that they had several walking wounded and 27 were transported in their prisoner transport vans to various hospitals. Mr. Cantrell reported that all agencies worked hand-in-hand and made a bad situation probably as good as it could be.

174.1 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Ims
Quorum Court Coordinator/Reporter