

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

Thursday, July 23, 2015  
5:30 p.m.  
Washington County Quorum Court Room

FILED  
2015 OCT 16 PM 1:41  
CLERK OF COURTS  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OR.

- 377.1 The Washington County Quorum Court met for a special meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2015. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Marilyn Edwards.
- 377.2 Judge Edwards announced that the purpose of this special meeting was to consider three items; a County Equalization Board appointment, an Animal Shelter Appropriation Ordinance, and a County Extension Service Appropriation Ordinance.
- 377.3 A. Harbison led the Quorum Court in a prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 377.4 Judge Edwards announced that County Attorney Steve Zega would not be at the meeting as he had been called away on National Guard duty due to the five military men that were recently killed.
- 377.5 MEMBERS PRESENT: Daniel Balls, Harvey Bowman, Rick Cochran, Robert Dennis, Lisa Ecke, Ann Harbison, Sharon Lloyd, Tom Lundstrum, Eva Madison, Joel Maxwell, Joe Patterson, Butch Pond, and Bill Ussery.
- 377.6 MEMBER ABSENT: Sue Madison.
- 377.7 OTHERS PRESENT: County Judge Marilyn Edwards, County Chief of Staff George Butler, County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger; Interested Citizens; and Members of the Press.
- 377.8 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Judge Edwards asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- 377.9 E. Madison stated that Item #7 regarding the Extension Service appropriation was improperly placed on this agenda and needed to be removed. She explained that this ordinance failed to get a simple majority vote at the meeting last week, 5 voting yes and 9 voting no, and cannot be on a second reading. She further stated that it is not proper on a motion to reconsider because the person who placed it on the agenda did not vote in the majority.
- 377.10 **E. Madison made a motion to remove Item #7 from the agenda. T. Lundstrum seconded.**
- 377.11 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion.**

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- 378.1 VOTING FOR: J. Maxwell, J. Patterson, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, L. Ecke, S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, and E. Madison, ABSTENSION: B. Pond and A. Harbison. **The motion passed with eleven members voting for the motion and two abstentions. Item #7 was removed from the agenda.**
- 378.2 **R. Cochran made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. S. Lloyd seconded.**
- 378.3 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion**
- 378.4 VOTING FOR: J. Maxwell, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, L. Ecke, A. Harbison, S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, and E. Madison. **The motion passed unanimously by those present.**
- 378.5 COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD APPOINTMENT: Judge Edwards explained that the Quorum Court had two representatives on the County's Equalization Board, Mildred Runkle and Luther Freeman; however, Mr. Freeman recently resigned from the position. She reported that they currently had two candidates, J.P. Peters and Jennifer Still, who are interested in being appointed to this position if it is the desire of the Quorum Court.
- 378.6 **A motion was made and seconded to hear this matter. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 378.7 Judge Edwards asked both candidates to come forward.
- 378.8 A. Harbison stated that she did not have the votes for Ms. Peters to be appointed to the Equalization Board and had told her that she did not need to stay at the meeting.
- 378.9 **A motion was made and seconded to appoint Ms. Peters to the County Equalization Board. The motion failed by voice vote.**
- 378.10 **A motion was made and seconded to appoint Ms. Still to the County Equalization Board. The motion passed by a majority vote.**
- 378.11 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF \$10,500 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO VARIOUS LINE ITEMS IN THE ANIMAL

- SHELTER BUDGET FOR 2015:** R. Cochran introduced and read **An Ordinance Appropriating The Amount Of \$10,500 From The General Fund To Various Line Items In The Animal Shelter Budget For 2015.** This ordinance is on second reading.
- 379.1 R. Cochran explained that this ordinance is on second reading. It did not pass at the last regular Quorum Court meeting, but can be passed with a simple majority instead of two-thirds on a third reading, and the third reading could take place at this meeting if the Quorum Court chooses to do so which would save them from having another special meeting. He stated since they have so many people present at this meeting that are interested in this issue and probably would like to speak, suggested that they open the floor for discussion by citizens prior to the Court's discussion.
- 379.2 **R. Cochran made a motion to open the floor for discussion from citizens. A. Harbison seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote. The floor would be opened up for public comment.**
- 379.3 In response to a question regarding when Animal Shelter Director Angela Ledgerwood would speak, Chief of Staff George Butler stated that normally the procedure would be for Angela Ledgerwood to give her report, followed by the Quorum Court discussion, and then before voting there would be a citizen comment period. He stated this way might be better because there are a lot of myths out there that need to be dispelled and Ms. Ledgerwood is prepared to address those in her presentation.
- 379.4 Judge Edwards suggested that Angela Ledgerwood give her presentation first and then have the citizen comment period.
- 379.5 **R. Cochran made a motion to allow Angela Ledgerwood to give her presentation first. B. Ussery seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 379.6 Angela Ledgerwood, Director of the County Animal Shelter, addressed the Quorum Court stating that she did want to clear up some misunderstandings. She stated that she is there not to discuss a budget cut, but rather to discuss an additional amount of funding that she is asking for. She noted that budgets across the County were cut last year and those cuts are not solely the reason she is asking for more money. She stated that she has absorbed a substantial amount of expenditures that she had not budgeted for last year that came about after the budget was finalized, including janitorial supply costs. In addition, the intakes are up at



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the Shelter. In the first six months of 2015, they have taken in and processed 1,340 animals which puts them on track to process 2,680 animals this year which is an increase of 373 animals over 2014. She stated that all of these things are coupled together causing her to come back and ask for additional funding.

- 380.1 Ms. Ledgerwood noted that in 2014, the Shelter spent \$42,804 for janitorial supplies, equipment and repairs. She reported in the first six months of 2015, she reduced her janitorial supply expenditure by half, spending \$10,770, and estimates the second half of the year to spend \$9,620 for an overall total savings for the janitorial supplies line item of 52% over last year's purchases. Additionally, she noted that they have cut approximately \$3,000 out of their yearly budget by reducing the number of vaccines that they give to the somewhat healthy animals entering the Shelter. She reported that they have changed their dog food brand for a savings of approximately \$720 this year; and changed over to a completely different cat litter product for another savings of about \$3,000. She noted that they are always looking to find other ways to manage their money and working to find more economical products.
- 380.2 Ms. Ledgerwood stated that she does still need additional funding to handle the other 1,300 plus animals that will come into the Shelter this year. The full amount of her request was \$31,966 and would allow them to continue the services the Shelter provides through the end of 2015 without interruption. She stated that she understands if the money is not available and a lesser amount is available, they will just have to make cuts as to the number of animals they can take into the Shelter. Further, if there is no amount available to them, then they can drastically cut down the number of animals coming into the Shelter. She wanted to dispel the rumors that the Animal Shelter will have to close and employees lose their jobs.
- 380.3 A. Harbison stated something that people need to understand is that the \$42,000 that was in the Ron Wood's Buildings and Grounds Budget. The Animal Shelter had not budgeted for this expense and has cut that particular budget line item expense in 2014 by 52%. She stated that this was an oversight and she understands why Mr. Wood did not want that in his budget because there are a number of janitorial supplies for the Animal Shelter. She commended Ms. Ledgerwood for cutting the supplies.
- 380.4 E. Madison stated in the Years 2012 and 2013; the Shelter had janitorial supplies expenditures and questioned why she did not ask for janitorial supplies in 2014, noting that they did not get a proposal from Ms. Ledgerwood for her 2014 and 2015 budgets.

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- 381.1 Ms. Ledgerwood responded to E. Madison, stating that during the budget process for 2015, she really thought that the Buildings and Grounds Budget would absorb those costs, and it was not until after the budget was finalized that some discussion took place. Since they were Animal Shelter expenditures, they really should be coming out of the Shelter's budget and had she known about this during the budget process she could have asked for it. She further stated that the line item is in her budget, but had no expenditures because they had been made through the Buildings and Grounds Budget; but, after the budget process was finalized, Mr. Wood came back and, with the cuts made, stated that they would not be able to absorb the expenditures for the Shelter and it was decided that the Animal Shelter Budget would be take over its janitorial supplies beginning on January 1.
- 381.2 E. Madison pointed out that Ms. Ledgerwood hurt herself when she took it out of her budget for 2013 and 2014 because it mislead the Quorum Court that those expenses were not needed and it caught them by surprise to find out that those expenses were being covered in another budget. She stated that it was frustrating to her to find out that they had not known what the true cost of what the Animal Shelter was because all of last year \$42,000 was covered out of another budget. She stated that she was provided some information about non-profit donations to the Animal Shelter and does not believe that the Humane Society is doing anything financially for the Shelter other than maybe a little assistance in medical rehabilitation.
- 381.3 Ms. Ledgerwood responded to E. Madison that the Humane Society helped them with their Trap-Neuter-Release Program and explained that when they take in an animal in through the Feral Cat Program, they bill the Humane Society and they in turn pay them back for the vetting of the animal.
- 381.4 E. Madison stated that she is a former board member of the Animal League of Washington County and the numbers she received from them showed that in 2012 from the time the Shelter opened to roughly the end of February 2014, they gave \$44,000 in Shelter support dollars to the Animal Shelter for the very thing that they are talking about such as dog and cat food, cat litter and other supplies. She stated since February of 2014, those donations have went down to \$225 and she is curious about the relationship between organizations. People want to raise money and donate to the Animal Shelter. She stated she knows that there are benefits to having that money come through a non-profit and is troubled that this is not happening anymore. She explained that if you donate directly to the Shelter, that money goes into the County General Fund and is not tax deductible to the

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donor, but if you donate through a non-profit and designate it for the Washington County Animal Shelter, you get a tax donation and it goes directly to the Shelter.

- 382.1 Ms. Ledgerwood responded to E. Madison, stating that there are a couple non-profits that work with the Shelter. She recently spoke with Carmen Nelson, Director of the Animal League, and they are providing the transport programs for them. While this is not monetary, the League is doing a lot for the Shelter in that way. In addition, the League holds several events with the Shelter. In fact, this October they are going to hold their yearly Ozarks Electric's adoption event in addition to the Subaru adoption event that they do together every year. Animal League Director Carmen Nelson has said that transports, events and medical rehab are what they are providing to the Shelter. The Shelter has not requested medical rehab from the Animal League because they have another non-profit that they have been working with called Keely's Fund that has a medical rehab for the Shelter whereby they will assist when the Shelter has an animal that needs something in addition to what the budget can allow. Ms. Ledgerwood went on to say that in the past she asked Ms. Nelson what the shelter could do about cleaning supplies, and she was told that cleaning supplies was the Shelter's and that the Animal League is there to do events; however, Ms. Nelson recently suggested that the Animal Shelter and the Animal League get together and have a big fundraiser for the cleaning supplies.
- 382.2 E. Madison stated that Ms. Ledgerwood has plenty to do without having to be a fund raiser, but is suggesting that it is easier for all of the non-profits to raise money if they see exactly where it is going. She gave the example of where there was no adoption fees for the 62 adopters at the recent Pet Paloosa held at the Shelter. She believes there needs to be some kind of financial obligation that goes away with adopting an animal and suggests partnering with a non-profit agency to sponsor the adoption fees.
- 382.3 Ms. Ledgerwood responded to E. Madison stating that all of the adoption fees were sponsored and covered by non-profits. She noted that the Shelter has a large number of surrenders and the first thing they do is ask that the people that are surrendering their animals to sponsor the animals' adoption fees, which makes them easier to adopt.
- 382.4 T. Lundstrum stated that one of his major concerns about the Animal Shelter has been the difficulty in determining what it costs to own and run it, just like the \$42,000 in janitorial expenses that has been out in limbo. He stated that the Shelter has a budget of about \$600,000 and on top of that is the money that the Sheriff spends on providing Animal Control Officers,



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vehicles, a deputy to watch work release people, etc. In reality, they are spending around \$800,000 a year. He stated if they have the number of animals that are predicted; it will cost Washington County taxpayers \$298 per animal to run them through the County's Shelter.

- 383.1 T. Lundstrum referred to the detergent called Accel Concentrate purchased through MWI Veterinary Supply Company and asked what the disinfectant property was for that detergent, to which Ms. Ledgerwood responded that it is a hydrogen-based product with a dilution ratio that depends on what needs to be killed. He further inquired whether they would have an objection to using a dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride, or quaternary ammonium, product to which Shelter Veterinarian Dr. Susan Connelly responded she would because the Accel is the best product out there for killing the extenuated calicivirus which can wipe out a cat population, and for parvo virus and ringworm, it is the best product as well with only a 5-minute contact time before rinsing, and works in the presence of organic matter which is a huge problem with the staff that they have to use for cleaning. She stated that they could use bleach, but it is a lot more abrasive to human noses and does not work at all in organic debris.
- 383.2 T. Lundstrum stated that his family manufactures these detergents and sell thousands of gallons of quaternary ammonium to the food processing industry every month and is recognized by the EPA as a broad spectrum disinfectant. He stated that Accel is costing the Shelter \$33.26 per gallon and the quaternary ammonium-based product that he is talking about dilutes at ½ ounce per gallon and a gallon of concentrate makes 256 gallons of broad spectrum disinfectant detergent that according to the EPA is effective against every micro-organism except tuberculosis.
- 383.3 Dr. Connelly stated that she has read extensive research papers and been to four shelter-based conferences and the disinfectant that he is speaking of does have Parvo listed on their label, but it is only 80% effective.
- 383.4 T. Lundstrum stated that he was just trying to come up with some ideas as to where some money can be saved and this would have saved them \$500 on this one product and \$155 is a lot of money for a bucket of soap. He also stated that the dilution ratio is not that great as well; to which Dr. Connelly responded that their product saves in water usage.
- 383.5 In response to a question from T. Lundstrum, Ms. Ledgerwood stated that it is her understanding that the Buildings and Grounds Budget pays the utilities for all of the county buildings including the Shelter. T. Lundstrum

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- stated that this is another example of not knowing what it costs per year to run the Animal Shelter.
- 384.1 R. Dennis asked whether the grant from PetSmart was something that they could reconsider and try to get back; to which Ms. Ledgerwood responded that PetSmart Charities gives away over \$30 million a year to animal organizations and you do not have to be a part of their Rescue Wagon Program in order to apply for their grants. She has one opening in August that they will continue with their Trap, Neuter, Release and Community Cat Grant that is open to not just Rescue Waggin participants. She stated when they were a Rescue Wagon participant; it was just much easier to get the funding because they were a part of their organization already. Unfortunately, there is no way to get back on the Rescue Waggin Program short of PetSmart changing their contracts. She noted that she has been online researching to see what applies to them because not all grants apply to government entities, and they will definitely apply for the ones that are available to the Shelter.
- 384.2 R. Dennis stated he believes Ms. Ledgerwood has done a great job explaining why the Shelter budget fell short. The Quorum Court has told Ron Wood if he needed money for the Buildings & Grounds budget to come back and they would grant him money because they took money from his budget, and this would be almost equal to that happening. He asked if there was any way to amend the ordinance to read \$32,000 which is the amount Ms. Ledgerwood needs to finish out the year; to which it was pointed out that the ordinance would then have to go back on first reading.
- 384.3 Chief of Staff George Butler explained that it would just take a majority to amend the ordinance that would then place it back on first reading.
- 384.4 E. Madison stated that they would have to move to put it back on first reading for purposes of amendments.
- 384.5 R. Dennis noted that he bought \$100 in dog food and brought it tonight if for no other reason than to show his support for the Shelter and to offset the costs to the County for him to be at this special meeting. He spoke to the Mayor of Farmington who stated that this is a much needed service for Farmington and supports the Shelter as well because they use it so much. He stated if possible, he would rather amend the ordinance to read \$32,000 instead of \$10,000 and if everyone is in support, suspend the rules and move the readings forward tonight.



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- 385.1 Chief of Staff George Butler stated that they can amend the ordinance, but it would still be on first reading; to which R. Dennis noted if not, they give her \$10,000 tonight and then have to go through the same process again a month or so later, etc. and he hates to see them have to hold special meetings that cost additional money.
- 385.2 **R. Dennis made a motion to amend the ordinance changing the amount to the \$32,000 as originally requested. B. Pond seconded.**
- 385.3 H. Bowman stated that he really appreciates the update from Ms. Ledgerwood and had they had all of this information to begin with, they probably would not be having this discussion. He stated the fact that there was \$42,000 spent last year on sanitation products out of the Buildings and Grounds Budget and she has only spent \$10,000 for the first half of this year is commendable, and he appreciates the additional things that she has done to bring that to the Quorum Court. He pointed out that people do not realize that this Court has spent \$12.4 million during the last five years more than they have taken in; they have bridge and road problems, lawsuits coming at them, and their reserves have been dramatically reduced. The previous County Treasurer told them they needed \$15 million in reserves to be sure to make it through tough times and they are down next to nothing at this time. He wants people to realize that a vote against this motion is not against the Shelter, dogs or cats. He wants the Shelter to be successful and provide the service the county needs; however, everyone needs to know that they have to tighten their belts because they do not have any surplus and need to keep the County on a sound financial basis.
- 385.4 L. Ecke stated that Ms. Ledgerwood spoke earlier about how she works with non-profit organizations to raise money for things that they need. One of the issues Ms. Ledgerwood has is how they tend to dictate what the money is going to be used for as grants are very specific on how their money will be appropriated. She has suggested that Ms. Ledgerwood put together a list of things that they need and submit it to various non-profits and see what they can provide, to which Ms. Ledgerwood responded that this is feasible and something that they can do. L. Ecke addressed those present in the audience and to the emails she has received, stated she has a dog and a cat and does not have an incinerator in her backyard. They have to use common sense and she concurs with H. Bowman stating if they have money in the bank to spend, they can spend it, but how can they spend it if they do not have it. She stated that they will do whatever they can to help the Shelter and she applauds Ms. Ledgerwood on her presentation and being prepared.

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- 386.1 E. Madison stated with respect to R. Dennis' motion, her feelings are mixed and she has been frustrated between her animal-loving tendencies and her fiscal responsibilities. She stated that the misinformation out there has been significant. She stated that what struck her most about this week was nobody was trying to build consensus or bridge the divide that has split the Quorum Court over this issue that is very damaging to this Court, so she has spent a lot of time trying to come up with a way to build that consensus. She was with Ms. Ledgerwood on the majority of those items on her memo, but still has a problem with the gasoline cost because she does not believe that it is an emergency and this Court had previously said that they did not want the Shelter to have a car. Also, how is training an emergency? She stated that she had a hard time giving the Shelter all the money requested because they have to have those reserves.
- 386.2 E. Madison stated that she has a proposal that would give the Shelter \$10,000 that the majority of the Quorum Court voted to give out of their unappropriated reserves; the next \$10,000 from other budget cuts; and the third \$10,000 from non-profit involvement. Much like JP Dennis, she has a check written for \$200 to the Animal League to be designated for the County Shelter for her attendance cost tonight and urged everyone on this Court to do something as well.
- 386.3 H. Bowman stated that it is obvious from earlier comments that the Animal Defense League and Animal League has contributed about \$40,000 in years past to the Shelter through the tile, brick, and fence program and other fundraising events. He is disappointed that they are not as engaged as they have been in the past and wants to know why they are not engaged and what they can do to get it going again. He further stated that the reports that Ms. Ledgerwood gives the Quorum Court about the animals, the number that she takes in, the personality characteristics of the creatures, and the health issues are far less important to the Court than the kind of stuff that she reported tonight. He hopes that in the future she will bring more stuff to them that include what she is doing to minimize cost and the programs that she is looking into as this is more helpful to the Quorum Court when making financial decisions.
- 386.4 B. Pond asked Ms. Ledgerwood if he wanted to make a contribution to the Animal Shelter how should he make out that check; to which she responded if he brought a check to the Shelter it should be made out to the Washington County Animal Shelter. The Shelter would write a receipt for the contribution and deposit it into the General Fund.

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- 387.1 A. Harbison stated that she appreciates everyone's concerns about their low carryover reserves, but they have a situation where there was a mistake made in the Animal Shelter's Budget that they need to correct and address the cuts that they are going to make at a later meeting. She stated at this meeting they needed to decide how much money they can give the Animal Shelter and R. Dennis has a motion on the floor for full \$32,000.
- 387.2 **A. Harbison called for the question.**
- 387.3 E. Madison stated that the motion on the floor is to put the ordinance on first reading.
- 387.4 In response to A. Harbison, Chief of Staff George Butler and E. Madison discussed the proper procedure for the motion on the floor, it was decided that R. Dennis' amendment if approved would automatically put the ordinance back on first reading.
- 387.5 R. Cochran asked Ms. Ledgerwood to give a breakdown on the line items for the full amount so a proper ordinance could be written; to which she responded that this would breakdown as follows: 2001 General Supplies - \$10,844.31, 2003 Janitorial - \$8,192.82, 2004 Medicine - \$11,428.90, 2007 Fuel - \$500; 3101 Training - \$1,000, for a total of \$31,966.03.
- 387.6 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on R. Dennis' motion to amend the ordinance for the full \$32,000 amount.**
- 387.7 **VOTING FOR: B. Pond, D. Balls, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: J. Maxwell, J. Patterson, B. Ussery, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, L. Ecke, S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, and E. Madison. **The motion failed with four members voting for and nine members voting against the motion.****
- 387.8 Judge Edwards stated that they can now go back to the second reading for the ordinance asking for \$10,000.
- 387.9 **E. Madison made a motion placing the ordinance back on first reading for purposes of considering her amended ordinance distributed that would give the Shelter \$10,000 from unappropriated reserves and \$10,000 from other county budget reductions. L. Ecke seconded.**
- 387.10 A. Harbison stated that this amended ordinance cuts the total from \$32,000 to \$20,000 and she will support this because they need to appropriate some



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money tonight and it is more than the \$10,000. She is not happy with it, but can live with it.

- 388.1 J. Maxwell thanked Ms. Ledgerwood for her diligent cost management and presentation that helped clear up a lot of questions. It appears to him that Ms. Ledgerwood, who has been put in a very difficult situation, has managed the \$35,000 cut in her budget pretty well, but then she had an additional cut of \$42,800 that came around from the side door. If he understands this to be the correct issue, the conflict is coming from the two different agendas; how do they take good care of the Animal Shelter and the animals and then how do they be fiscally responsible. He is hopeful that there is a way to do that without dipping into the general reserves or putting the Shelter in an unfair position. He stated it seems like an easy solution for this would be to go back to where the problem started.
- 388.2 B. Ussery stated what they have seen here is the whole process which has not been easy, but Ms. Ledgerwood has a lot of supporters that she would not have had three weeks ago and because of this, it has caused the Quorum Court to take a hard look at how they manage and guide others to manage. He appreciates all that Ms. Ledgerwood has done on this and by a compromise they will be able to make this work.
- 388.3 L. Ecke stated that she wants to encourage the relationship with non-profits so that they can make up the \$13,000 needed and the Shelter can be fully funded. She will support the \$20,000 amendment that E. Madison proposed. She further commended Ms. Ledgerwood in answering the Quorum Court's questions.
- 388.4 A. Harbison stated that she believes this ordinance is very inappropriate because they are going to other departments to make cuts for this appropriation. The proposed amendment would be cutting line items in the Buildings & Grounds Budget by \$5,500, the County Judge's Budget by \$750, the Grant Administration Budget by \$1,500, the Comptroller Budget by \$1,500, and the Human Resources Budget by \$750 for a total reduction of \$10,000. She stated this is not acceptable and is not a compromise, but rather a slap in the face.
- 388.5 A. Harbison stated that they have problems with the budget. They have a jail that they have already given \$800,000 out of General Fund in 2015, \$1,300,000 in 2014, \$1,800,000 in 2012, and \$1,100,000 in 2011. They have a lot more issues than \$30,000 for the Animal Shelter. She loves Sheriff Helder and believes that he has done a wonderful job and is

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- managing well, but they are not looking at the real ticket items where the County's money is really going. This has been an elephant in the room for the past four years and no one has addressed it. She stated that if they cannot provide \$30,000 to the Animal Shelter, then they are not doing their duty as Quorum Court members. She also suggested that the Jail/Law Enforcement/Courts Committee get on the ball and get busy.
- 389.1 R. Dennis stated he was in favor of his motion amending to \$32,000; however, he cannot vote for E. Madison's amendment because he thought the \$32,000 appropriation was the right thing. He does not understand where everyone is coming from because Ms. Ledgerwood has shown where the budget pitfalls or changes were and he thought Ms. Ledgerwood would be headed home with \$32,000 in her budget by now. He is disappointed and does not understand it. He addressed Ms. Ledgerwood stating that when he votes no on this it is not because he does not want her to have the money; it is just that he does not like this proposal.
- 389.2 B. Pond asked whether anyone from the other departments where the cuts are to be made were present to tell them whether they were going to be able to operate efficiently without this money; to which Judge Edwards responded that she does not believe anyone was prepared for this or ready to comment because it has taken everyone by surprise.
- 389.3 **R. Cochran called for the question. T. Lundstrum seconded.**
- 389.4 **Judge Edwards called for a vote on R. Cochran's call for the question.**
- 389.5 **VOTING FOR: J. Maxwell, J. Patterson, H. Bowman, L. Ecke, and E. Madison. VOTING AGAINST: B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, A. Harbison, S. Lloyd, and T. Lundstrum. **The motion failed with five members voting for and eight members voting against the call for the question.****
- 389.6 Chief of Staff George Butler stated that E. Madison's motion to amend the ordinance for \$20,000 was on the floor and she was asked to further explain her motion.
- 389.7 E. Madison stated that her motion to amend was an attempt at a compromise. She found areas in the budget where she thought the sacrifice of animals took precedence. She stated that if these are cuts that people disagree with, they can work that out later because the point of all this is to work out budget issues as they go. She felt better about bridging the deep divide in this Quorum Court by making up for the additions to the

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budget with some revenue neutralization. She stated that it is a blending of all the proposals, not giving them everything and hoping the Shelter can rely on some non-profits which seems to be a missing component of what has been happening at the Shelter for a couple of years. She stated that part of it is just giving them what was actually in the original ordinance and the second component was some cuts, of which she tried to be very mild. She asked if it was more important for a county employee to drive a vehicle home every day or is it more important for the Animal Shelter to have the supplies that they need. She noted that budgeting is about making hard decisions, and she has regretted how divided the Court was and how negative the debate had become. E. Madison stated that the cuts made to the Buildings & Grounds Budget last year is not what Ms. Ledgerwood is being asked to endure as a result. She noted that Ms. Ledgerwood got hit with a \$42,000 cut; however, Buildings & Grounds did not have that much of a cut in their budget and believes they need to take some of that heat. She concurs that they do need to talk about the Jail, but she is seriously conflicted on this one because she worked hard to get the budget under control and to build those reserves but she also thinks that the Shelter deserves some money. She noted that they can either be behind that or they can put it on third reading and come back on Monday, costing the County another \$3,000 to hold another meeting.

- 390.1 R. Dennis questioned what was wrong with the \$32,000 appropriation; to which E. Madison stated that the miss in the \$32,000 is going from \$44,000 in donations to \$225 in donations, as well as she does not agree that gasoline and training is an emergency that warranted two special meetings. She stated if someone else has a compromise, she urged them to propose it.
- 390.2 J. Maxwell stated that the danger here is if they all hold out for everything they absolutely want, none of them are going to go home with some of what they want. He stated that he does not agree with everything but also knows that a compromise like this has some traction and some ability. For him the difference between this and the \$32,000 is where it comes from and how it works. He stated money that comes out of the General Fund reserves is money that would have gone to Buildings & Grounds, etc., so it is not like they have this separate money that is protected. He stated they can take the money out now with an amendment or if it is just not there when other departments come and ask for the same kind of important needs like Ms. Ledgerwood, than it is not going to be there, but the effect is still taking those monies away from those departments. They do not have extra money to make up the difference, so while these cuts are coming from



specific things, whatever money they appropriate to this is eventually coming from the same purse and that just leaves less for anything else.

- 391.1 **A. Harbison made a motion to amend E. Madison's proposal to appropriate the amount of \$20,000 from the General Fund to various line items in the Animal Shelter. The motion died for lack of a second.**
- 391.2 E. Madison made a point of information/order that the motion was actually to put the ordinance before them back on first reading for the purpose of making an amendment which is what she understands is what the Association of Arkansas manual states
- 391.3 A. Harbison read the ordinance proposed stating that they can agree or disagree whether they need a car or not, but they need a vehicle to pick up supplies. Training and education is important because if they do not have training and education then they will get behind on new laws and techniques which increase the efficiency of the Animal Shelter. She further stated that she wants to strike all of Article 2 pertaining to the cuts of other budgets. She stated she thinks it is unfair to reduce other budgets at this time, but rather when the department head is present. She reiterated that all of these departments reduced their budgets by thousands of dollars and the entire County budget was reduced by \$4 million last year, so coming back and starting to reduce because they want to neutralize what is going into the Animal Shelter is not fair to the other departments because they also have needs.
- 391.4 B. Ussery stated that he agrees that they need to compromise, but he will not vote to remove something from somebody's budget that is not present and has not been in on this discussion as he does not believe that is the right way to go about this. He stated that training and education might not be as important but sometimes people go to conferences and come back with an idea that will save the county \$20,000 or \$30,000. He will not vote for the proposed ordinance the way that it is written.
- 391.5 R. Cochran asked Ms. Ledgerwood about training and education line item and she verified that this is for the Shelter's veterinarian for ongoing professional training to stay current on veterinarian practices. R. Cochran noted the original ordinance that came through the Finance & Budget Committee was requesting \$35,500 and came to a vote of three in favor and three against the ordinance, and as Chairman he had to make a decision and voted against the ordinance. He immediately came back with the original appropriation ordinance for \$10,500 which would give her 1½ to 2

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months to get to where they could come back, not have to call a special meeting, and decide how they wanted to proceed with the remainder of the \$25,000 needed. That ordinance did not pass at their last Quorum Court meeting on its own. R. Cochran stated that he really would like to see this original ordinance to pass to take pressure off the Shelter and at their committee meetings work with Ms. Ledgerwood on how they are going to get there, but would not support the ordinance as amended for various reasons.

- 392.1 E. Madison stated, one thing that factored into her thought process on the training and education request was they already have \$1,000 budgeted for training, but also have \$1,000 budgeted for airfare, \$1,000 for meals and lodging, \$500 for travel, and \$200 for mileage. She stated that part of what Ms. Ledgerwood asked for was \$250 for airfare for a new conference and questioned if they had spent all of their airfare budget already which she looked at with some skepticism.
- 392.2 Ms. Ledgerwood stated that she does not have a copy of her budget in front of her to answer this question but explained that the whole purpose of the \$1,000 was to do early registration, which saves them money in the long run, and this is a conference specific to sheltering needs. She noted that Dr. Connelly is required to have 21 hours of continuing education every year and they have been able to make several cuts and changes based on some of the conferences she has attended that are shelter specific.
- 392.3 L. Ecke stated that she does not like to be blindsided, so does not want to blindsided any department heads in cutting their budgets without them being in the communication. She asked if there was a way to get \$20,000 from the unappropriated reserves to the Animal Shelter and try to raise the other funds, and whether this would get the Shelter through the rest of the year.
- 392.4 Ms. Ledgerwood responded stating that she will have to get through this year regardless of the amount appropriated, but would have to make cuts as far as the number of animals coming in. She stated her first order of business as soon as she returns to her office is to reach out to the non-profits with a list of the Animal Shelter needs and ask what they can help with, so she believes that is doable.
- 392.5 **L. Ecke made a motion to amend the amount of Ordinance #6.1 from \$10,500 to \$20,000 out of general reserves. R. Dennis seconded.**
- 392.6 B. Pond inquired about E. Madison's motion to amend; to which Chief of Staff George Butler stated that L. Ecke's motion was to amend the original

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#6.1 and her motion really should be to amend E. Madison's motion to which she stated her motion was to place the ordinance back on first reading for purposes of the amendment. Mr. Butler stated that there was nothing to place back on first reading until there has been a motion and second to pass her ordinance, and if an ordinance is amended to change the amount, it is automatically put back on first reading.

- 393.1 George Butler asked if E. Madison would agree that L. Ecke's motion to amend takes precedence over her motion; to which E. Madison agreed.
- 393.2 B. Pond requested a reading of the amended ordinance that they were voting on and R. Cochran asked for clarification on how they wanted the \$20,000 distributed between general supplies, janitorial, fuel, training and medicine. After discussion with L. Ecke and Ms. Ledgerwood, R. Cochran stated that the breakdown would be \$6,500 for janitorial, \$6,000 for general supplies, \$6,000 for medicine and drugs, \$500 for fuel, \$1,000 for training.
- 393.3 R. Cochran read the ordinance with the proposed amendment.
- 393.4 **A three-minute recess was taken at this time.**
- 393.5 Citizen Comments: Judge Edwards stated that they would now recognize the public, alternating pros and cons for three-minutes each. She further urged the public not to make personal attacks or comments, but just to address the issues.
- 393.6 B. Pond asked that after each speaker, those who agree instead of clapping, to raise their hands in support.
- 393.7 LaJoyce Duncan, resident of rural Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court and commended Ms. Ledgerwood for the wonderful job she is doing. She reported that they have adopted two dogs in the last six months and she challenges people of Washington County to make a donation to this cause. She took things that were donated from the Farmer's Co-Op to the Shelter. She knows that there are some that are against this but thinks that they need to stand for the people for Washington County. She stated that they have animals dropped off in the county all the time and need help with this issue.
- 393.8 Doris Forchceimer, resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court and stated that she has been involved in shelters and foster parenting for the last 20 years from Texas to Arizona. It is incredible that the Quorum



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Court would build this beautiful shelter and then not have the money to operate it, and she is taken aback that the Court would squabble for hours over this amount of money. She urged the Court to fund this request.

- 394.1 Mike Landry, resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court stating that he wished to follow-up on non-profit organizations. He stated whatever they appropriate tonight, this problem will not go away, but will come back every year. He thinks the solution is with the non-profit organizations; however, different organizations have different missions or agendas. He would recommend organizing a non-profit organization called "The Friends of Washington County Animal Shelter" where they can focus the fundraising, market it from that standpoint, and get sponsorships that are directly related to what goes on at the Animal Shelter. He stated that the money and resources can all be devoted specifically to that and that way there is an identification of what that non-profit organization does, to take care of the Washington County Shelter.
- 394.2 B. Pond noted that he wrote a check tonight to the Washington County Animal Shelter and will get a receipt that will be tax deductible; the check will be deposited into the General Fund, but the money that the shelter receives comes from the General Fund.
- 394.3 E. Madison responded to Mr. Landry stating that this was the intent behind the formation of the Animal League of Washington County, but they just have not been able to help for reasons she is unaware of. Mr. Landry stated that there is something to be said about a name that reflects the Washington County Animal Shelter; to which E. Madison responded that it is incorporated as Friends of the Washington County Animal Shelter, but due to similarity between that and the Friends of the Fayetteville Animal Shelter, it was too confusing so the professionals recommended that they adopt a d/b/a name to distinguish themselves because it is all about marketing.
- 394.4 Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger addressed the Quorum Court and explained the money goes into County General because in county government the revenue is by fund and expenditures are by departments. She stated if someone writes a check like JP Pond did then what happens is he will get a receipt and that money goes into County General. This will be brought to the Quorum Court as a donation to the County Animal Shelter and Ms. Ledgerwood can ask that the money be put in whichever line item she needs at the time. She noted that grant appropriations are often restricted to whatever they think you need.

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- 395.1 Judy Bond, resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court stating that she works with New England Brittany Rescue and Texas Springer Spaniel Rescue where she places dogs all the time from shelters. She thinks it is wonderful that they are making sure that their shelter is funded. With regard to donations of dog food, she stated that dogs need to eat a certain diet all the time and mixing the foods will cause digestive problems. She suggested that people check with the Shelter to see what brand they need.
- 395.2 Kathleen Lehman, resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court stating that someone estimated that the cost per animal coming through the Shelter was \$200 and she can easily spend that in one veterinarian visit for one cat, so she sees that as fantastic work. The emergency reserve fund does have the funds to cover this appropriation, so she urged the Court to pass this ordinance. She further stated that education is critical because a network is made when one attends a physical conference that can be called on to make efficient improvements. She stated that everyone is proud of the work that Ms. Ledgerwood has done at the Shelter. The public is doing their part by being at this meeting, and the Quorum Court can do their part by appropriating this money to the Shelter.
- 395.3 H. Bowman stated that he would like to hear from Animal League Director Carmen Nelson about the situation with non-profits and why there is not the same level of participation with the Animal Shelter that they have had before.
- 395.4 Carmen Nelson, Director of Animal League of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court and explained one reason why the support is not seen in their P&L statement for the Shelter this year is mainly because the money raised initially was to get the Shelter open. The League helped with particular needs such as outdoor kennel runs that were not in their budget; Phase I and II cost around \$10,000. They donated around \$7,000 initially for equipment needed in the Surgery Clinic. The following year there was additional equipment that the Shelter needed and the League wrote a grant for \$15,000 for clinic equipment. Ms. Nelson stated currently they are doing more with their Rescue Transport Program mainly in Colorado where they normally move the animals into foster homes until they go into transport. She noted that they have helped in medical rehab with heart worm treatment and with a dog that required full hip surgery. She personally has sponsored numerous animals where the money was not run through the Animal League and the money was written off of her personal taxes. She noted that if they can keep the numbers down at the

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- Shelter, they have saved animals. Whenever Ms. Ledgerwood needs help, the Animal League is there to do whatever they can.
- 396.1 Judge Edwards thanked Ms. Nelson for the Animal League's rescue transport help. The League has been there for the Shelter when it first opened and whenever their help was needed.
- 396.2 H. Bowman stated that he was interested in their Brick and Tile Programs; to which Carmen Nelson responded that the Animal League came up with a couple of fundraisers when the Shelter first opened. One was the wall tile project where individuals could purchase 8x8 photo tiles for \$200 that hang in the entryway of the Shelter. This originally was going to be an ongoing fundraiser, but the project was halted once the entryway wall was completed and has yet to be restarted. Further, they also had 4x8 mortar bricks that can be purchased for \$75 and can be engraved in memory or honor of a pet or loved one which will eventually be part of a dedication wall in front of the Shelter. She stated if they could get these projects back in motion, they could raise even more funds. This would only require the approval of the County Judge.
- 396.3 In response to a question from L. Ecke, Ms. Nelson stated that they originally came up with the tile program before the Shelter opened to help raise funds. She stated that it was for getting the Shelter what they needed and went towards fencing and they obviously did not raise all of the money that they spent; however, it was a way that community got involved and excited about the Shelter and also showcases their pets.
- 396.4 L. Ecke stated that she has seen this tile wall and it is beautiful and suggested that they should talk about getting the project back in motion.
- 396.5 Carol Hunter, resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court with her dog Joey that she adopted from the County Animal Shelter two years ago. She stated that Joey started out as a foster and in three months worked himself up to be a service dog for her. She worried that if the Shelter has to start turning away animals, dogs like her Joey would be on their own to possibly get hit by a car.
- 396.6 Mike Emery, resident of Washington County and former staff member at the Animal Shelter, addressed the Quorum Court and commended the staff at the Shelter who will get by with whatever budget they get because they are masters at making every penny count and should be proud of what they have done. With respect to the financial donations that are going into the General Fund, he would like to see them go into a fund that Ms.



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Ledgerwood can use at her discretion instead of having to return and ask for permission, because this money is coming from people who are giving of their hard earned money thinking that it is going specifically to the animals and it is rather going into the General Fund. There is a lot of misconception that the Shelter will not see a penny of those donations.

- 397.1 B. Pond stated that Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger explained that when a check is written to the County as donations for the Animal Shelter, it has to go through the General Fund, but then goes to Ms. Ledgerwood to be spent how she determines.
- 397.2 Paul Warren, husband to Shelter Veterinarian Dr. Susan Connelly, addressed asked if donations to the Shelter are an offset to the current budget or an addition to the current budget which is where he believes the confusion lies. He gave the example if someone came in and donated \$500,000 to the Shelter today, would that enhance the budget that they already have of \$600,000 or \$700,000 and then can be used over the next ten years or does it offset the budget, dropping the Shelter budget to \$100,000 to \$200,000.
- 397.3 E. Madison stated if a donation came in, it would not affect their budget, but the difficulty is the Comptroller knows well these realities that money by legislative audit has to go into the General Fund for accounting purposes. She stated if someone gave the County \$500,000 dedicated to the Animal Shelter, the Quorum Court would have to appropriate it. She does not know any way the County could do what Mr. Emery speaks to in regard to the Fayetteville Animal Shelter.
- 397.4 Tammie Cagle, new resident of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court with a quote from Gandhi, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by how it treats its animals." She stated that is why there are so many supporters and few against this ordinance as they want the Shelter to have the money it needs. She stated that Ms. Ledgerwood will need to beg, borrow, and steal to get the deficit of \$10,000 which puts her in a hard position. The Quorum Court needs to get more involved and help her, not just cut her numbers.
- 397.5 L. Ecke addressed the audience stating as a Texas girl and a former member of 4H, they love their animals, but she wants to assure everyone that several of them spent a lot of time with Ms. Ledgerwood going through the Shelter trying to gain an understanding for one purpose and that is to make the Shelter of Washington County the best shelter. She noted that this is a high wire act and they do not have a safety net if they were to get

slammed with a tornado or floods and that is what their concern is with the money, and this is why they are asking the non-profits to work together and be interdependent as a community because independently they will not work together. She wants the audience to understand that they are not the bad guys here.

- 398.1 H. Bowman stated with regard to the comment made about a \$500,000 donation, it is obvious that the way these kind of contributions need to be made is through a 501C3 organization like the Animal League because they had a very effective program working at the Shelter that has been minimized. He stated no one on this Quorum Court wants to touch that money, but endorse and encourage them to use non-profits so those funds can be directly applied to the needs of the Animal Shelter.
- 398.2 Donna Bloyd, volunteer at the County Animal Shelter since 2012, addressed the Quorum Court stating that as a tax paying citizen, she wants the animals looked out for and wants them to get their fair share. She stated she has seen a lot of bad things happen in counties that did not have adequate or any animal control or shelter. She stated that the County Animal Shelter is known for being one of the best shelters around and this is because of the hard working staff, a core group of volunteers that work very hard to support Ms. Ledgerwood and her staff. She further noted as professionals, they all know how important training is.
- 398.3 At Judge Edwards' request, R. Cochran read the ordinance again that they were voting on.
- 398.4 H. Bowman stated that he wanted to know that this appropriation would be for the balance of the year; to which Ms. Ledgerwood stated that she can live with the \$20,000 and work with the non-profits and others who will come together and raise the rest of the money. If the money is not raised, she will not come back asking for more, but they will just live within the budget that is allowed.
- 398.5 J. Maxwell stated that he wanted to make sure that they clarify that they have to decide as a Quorum Court, not just about animals, but about emergency services, jail, sheriff, etc. He has not heard anyone say that the Animal Shelter is not run well or are opposed to funding the Shelter, but does hear some conflict about where that money should come from.
- 398.6 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on L. Ecke's motion to amend.**

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- 399.1 **VOTING FOR:** B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Dennis, L. Ecke, and A. Harbison. **VOTING AGAINST:** J. Maxwell, R. Cochran, S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, and E. Madison. **The motion failed with seven members voting in favor and five members voting against the motion.**
- 399.2 R. Cochran stated that there is reluctance by some JPs to arbitrarily move the offset to someone else's budget which was his thinking when he originally made this ordinance. He will move to suspend the rules and place the original #6.1 ordinance for \$10,500 on third and final reading, which gives Ms. Ledgerwood the money for another couple months and allows the Quorum Court to go back and decide as a group without extra meetings.
- 399.3 **R. Cochran made a motion to suspend the rules and place the original #6.1 ordinance asking for \$10,500 on third and final reading. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 399.4 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on R. Cochran's motion.**
- 399.5 **VOTING FOR:** J. Maxwell, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, L. Ecke, A. Harbison, S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, and E. Madison. **The motion passed unanimously by those present.**
- 399.6 **R. Cochran read An Ordinance Appropriating The Amount Of \$10,500 From The General Fund To Various Line Items In The Animal Shelter Budget For 2015 by title only.**
- 399.7 **E. Madison made a motion to put the amended ordinance she distributed back on first reading for purposes of amendment. The motion failed for lack of a second.**
- 399.8 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt the ordinance.**
- 399.9 **Citizen Comments:** An unidentified member of the audience urged the Quorum Court to look for another option as it seems to him they are looking at time more than money. He questioned whether they could pass E. Madison's amended ordinance and make the cuts to other budgets after they speak to the department heads.
- 399.10 Dale Eldredge, resident of Washington County and volunteer at the Animal Shelter, addressed the Quorum Court stating that this shelter is extremely well-run. Watching this process tonight has been very disappointing to



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him; the bickering over such a small amount of money. He urged the Court to look at mandatory spay/neuter for Washington County, which would take care of the problem.

400.1 Teddy Cardwell, President of the Animal League of Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court stating that she has been involved with the Animal Shelter since the beginning and her understanding is that the Shelter asked for \$32,000. She reported from August 2012 until February 2014, the Animal Shelter received grants and funds from the Animal League of Washington County in the amount of \$45,000; from March 2014 until now the Shelter support has been only \$225 and had the Animal League been asked, they would have continued to give grants and money. She reported in March 2014, they were asked to let the Animal Shelter stand on its own feet by Judge Edwards which is what they have done and Judge Edwards advised her that they would call the Animal League if they needed them. However, nobody called and other than some rehab and medical transport, there has been no support. She stated that all of this could have been avoided if they had asked the non-profits to help out.

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

400.3 VOTING FOR: J. Maxwell, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, L. Ecke, A. Harbison, and E. Madison. VOTING AGAINST: S. Lloyd and T. Lundstrum. **The motion passed with ten members voting in favor and two members voting against the motion. The ordinance was adopted.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015-56, BOOK NO. 10, PAGE NO. 225**

400.4 OTHER BUSINESS: E. Madison that she will be unable to attend the upcoming annual meeting of the Association of Quorum Courts and asked that the Quorum Court approve S. Madison to be her back up representative at this meeting.

400.5 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt S. Madison as E. Madison's back up representative for the annual Association of Quorum Courts meeting. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**

400.6 CITIZEN COMMENTS: Kyle Sylvester, Circuit Clerk for Washington County, addressed the Quorum Court stating that he has been speaking with Chief of Staff George Butler about the possibilities of utilizing a fund

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that his office has called the Commissioner Fee Fund to help bolster the remaining funding for the Animal Shelter by removing monies from line items in his general budget and appropriating it to the Animal Shelter to finish out the year and then taking the Commissioner Fee Fund money and putting it back into the General budget. They will be working on this to help out the Animal Shelter.

- 401.1 Mr. Sylvester was given a round of applause and thanked by Ms. Ledgerwood.
- 401.2 Judge Edwards announced that the special Quorum Court meeting set for the following Monday was no longer necessary and would be cancelled.
- 401.3 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carly Sandidge  
Quorum Court Coordinator/Reporter