

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

Tuesday, October 13, 2015
5:30 p.m.
Washington County Quorum Court Room

2016 FEB 24 PM 1:38
REGINA M. WALLER
CLERK
CO. & PROBATE CLERK
WASHINGTON CO. OR

FILED

- 638.1 The Washington County Quorum Court met for a special meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. The meeting was called to order by County Judge Marilyn Edwards who stated the purpose of this meeting was to continue working on matters pertaining to the 2016 budget process.
- 638.2 G. McHenry led the Quorum Court in a prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 638.3 MEMBERS PRESENT: Daniel Balls, Harvey Bowman, Rick Cochran, Robert Dennis, Ann Harbison, Sharon Lloyd, Tom Lundstrum, Eva Madison, Sue Madison, Joel Maxwell, Gary McHenry, Joe Patterson, Butch Pond, and Bill Ussery.
- 638.4 MEMBER ABSENT: Lisa Ecke.
- 638.5 OTHERS PRESENT: County Judge Marilyn Edwards, County Comptroller Cheryl Bolinger; Interested Citizens; and Members of the Press.
- 638.6 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Judge Edwards asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- 638.7 **A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 638.8 REVIEW 2016 BUDGET REQUESTS: Angela Ledgerwood, Director of the Washington County Animal Shelter, addressed the Quorum Court stating that everyone has had a chance to review her budget request and asked if there were any questions.
- 638.9 E. Madison stated that she is prepared to make a motion to approve the Animal Shelter budget minus the capital item request. She stated that she does not want to start down the path of JPs doing business with the County as it makes her feel awkward and is an issue she would rather not deal with.
- 638.10 **E. Madison made a motion to approve the Animal Shelter budget minus the proposed capital outlay. S. Lloyd seconded.**
- 638.11 R. Cochran stated it seems from what he has read that there is merit of the water-based cleaning solution. There is not just one source that Ms. Ledgerwood can buy it and asked if she can buy it at the same price from another source; to which A. Ledgerwood responded that as she understands it she can. She has not done a lot of research of comparable

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products, but feels it has some merit. What she has been able to determine is that it is a bleach producing machine.

- 639.1 Chief of Staff George Butler stated that there are other electrolyzed water machines that may be less expensive, but there is no one locally that he has found that sells them.
- 639.2 R. Cochran stated that he would support the motion as is, but will also support her if she finds a good vendor that will save her some money.
- 639.3 J. Maxwell stated that one of things A. Ledgerwood mentioned on the extra personnel was that they would free up her time to be able to go out and generate revenue outside of county revenue streams and asked if she had a good estimate of what a year's worth of additional revenue generated might be; to which A. Ledgerwood responded that during the first part of the year a lot of great opportunities will be coming up. Since facing some of the recent budget issues, she has been able to secure a Zaxby's fundraiser; they have received a \$500 donation for a Kuranda Bed wish list that she signed up for; the Animal League is sponsoring a fundraiser for them in October; they have received a \$1,000 donation from another local non-profit; they received a \$1,200 product donation from another local non-profit; and Walmart will be giving them dog food at a value of \$200 to \$300 a month. She believes that there is a lot of opportunity but it is hard for her to commit to a dollar figure because you just do not know. In 2014, she secured \$34,000 in grants, so the money is there, it is just a matter of having time to find and apply for them.
- 639.4 J. Maxwell stated this is the kind of leadership and innovation that they all benefit from and he commended A. Ledgerwood for her efforts.
- 639.5 H. Bowman stated that over 75% of the Animal Shelter Budget is in labor and it sounds like A. Ledgerwood is doing some great things to raise funds. He stated that he was surprised that food was not a larger part of the budget and would like her to look at possible choices that would help limit labor requirements as that would probably be the source of the largest potential savings that they can come up with, such as only being open half days a couple days a week.
- 639.6 A. Ledgerwood stated that she put some figures together and they are helping roughly 4,000 visitors in a month; 100 plus people a day. If you shorten the hours you shorten the number of people coming, which will shorten the adoptions, resulting in longer length of stay, and she believes they would see their costs actually increase.

- 640.1 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to approve the Animal Shelter Budget minus the proposed capital outlay.**
- 640.2 **VOTING FOR: E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: S. Lloyd, T. Lunstrum, and J. Patterson. The motion passed with eleven members voting for and three members voting against the motion. The Animal Shelter Budget was approved minus the proposed capital outlay.**
- 640.3 Shawn Shrum, Assistant County Road Superintendent, addressed the Quorum Court stating that he would like to open up for questions of the Road Department's Budget request as submitted.
- 640.4 E. Madison asked about the number of employees at the Road Department; to which S. Shrum responded that they currently have a little over 80 employees and he can think of at least six positions that are unfilled. He stated he has been with the Road Department since 2006, during which time the headcount for number of employees has remained about the same.
- 640.5 E. Madison stated one of the things she has been struggling with is the shift in population. She has been doing research on the changes are in the geography of the County. About 10% of the County is underwater in terms of the lakes, then there are the cities, and what is left over is the County's responsibility. She stated that it seems over time, the Road Department's responsibilities are shrinking just by the cities annexing our roads and bridges and at some point, they need to accept that fact and she is wondering how they are responding to that on a departmental, expenditure level. She asked S. Shrum if he has any sense of what has changed in terms of miles of roads that the County is responsible for and how that has changed over the years.
- 640.6 S. Shrum responded stating that he does not have any numbers to compare, but when he started in 2006, the cost for chip seal oil was less than \$1 a gallon, last year it was up over \$2 a gallon, and this year they got a break and are currently paying \$1.75 a gallon. He stated that there are so many areas where the costs have increased since the 1980's.
- 640.7 E. Madison stated that someone contacted her stating that the Road Department was having trouble getting the chips to adhere and some supplies had been essentially dumped because of that; to which S. Shrum stated that to his knowledge, some of the chips were dustier than they

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should have been, so the Road Department made adjustments. Those can go right to their buildings to use in snow removal, so nothing was wasted.

- 641.1 E. Madison stated that she missed the Public Works Road Tour and understands that some information was shared as part of the Smokey Bear Road tour about the lake or pond that is being installed on private property and questioned whether they have any way of tracking the projects that they do on private property; to which S. Shrum responded that over the years, even with prior administrations, if there is dirt available close by for a project, such as Smokey Bear, it only makes sense to short haul at 1 mile vs. hauling from their closest red dirt pit which would be 46 miles round trip in Smokey Bear's case. He explained when they get dirt on private property, they cannot just dig a hole and leave it. The owners will ask that they make it into a pond or put it back to a certain slope.
- 641.2 E. Madison asked how they make sure that what the county is getting in exchange for what they are putting out is equivalent and would they not be better off paying for dirt rather than doing a barter.
- 641.3 In response to a question from Judge Edwards, S. Shrum stated that they hauled around 900 loads of dirt free of charge within a mile from the project.
- 641.4 E. Madison questioned how they determine that 900 loads of free dirt is worth the time and expense that they are putting into private property and is a good deal for the taxpayers.
- 641.5 R. Dennis commented that his calculations show that this would amount to \$24,840 in fuel costs saved.
- 641.6 County Road Superintendent Donnie Coleman addressed E. Madison stating they used two of their dump trucks which allowed them to take the other nine trucks over to the west side and start working on other roads with those. He stated if they had used their dump trucks to haul all that dirt from 97 Pit, they would probably still be hauling and could not have been working on any other roads the entire time they did Smokey Bear.
- 641.7 E. Madison asked how they decide who to ask for their dirt and gets the benefit of this process; to which D. Coleman stated when they go out and talk to the property owners, usually someone will offer to furnish the dirt.
- 641.8 Judge Edwards stated that the questions E. Madison is asking is not budget questions; to which E. Madison responded that they are because they are talking about personnel, equipment, and supply costs that are being used

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on private property which is valid as whether this budget is a proper request.

- 642.1 In response to a question from E. Madison about how often it happens that they do work on private property, D. Coleman stated in his 19 years and under every County Judge, it has been that way and he has never known of a time when a citizen paid the County Road Department to do work; and Judge Edwards concurred.
- 642.2 D. Coleman stated that they have people all over the county calling them often to offer to donate the dirt if the Road Department will work on their road. He stated that he is trying to save money when building roads and when he can build a road over a mile long with over 900 loads of dirt with two trucks and then take nine trucks over on the other side of the county and haul dirt to build another road, it seems to him that they are doing the right thing. These questions make it sound like the Court does not believe they know what they are doing.
- 642.3 E. Madison asked if the Road Department has an agenda of the roads that they want to work on for 2016 or is it dependent on who calls and asks for road repairs; to which D. Coleman stated that they have a list of roads from years back of different people who have come in and talked to them about their roads that get put on a list and they try to do what they can when they can. He stated that they look for where the road is and for connectivity, but there have been a few dead end roads where someone donates all the dirt and it only takes one to two trucks to do it.
- 642.4 E. Madison asked what kind of assessment they make that a job is in line with the priorities of the Road Department; to which G. Butler responded connectivity, number of people living on the road, amount of traffic, right-of-ways, etc. He stated that someone giving dirt for a project definitely helps and he believes Smokey Bear needed widening because the school buses were having trouble getting down there.
- 642.5 **A. Harbison made a motion that they approve the Road Department's Budget as presented. R. Dennis seconded.**
- 642.6 R. Dennis stated that his figure is that they saved the county \$106,740 on the Smokey Bear Road project in fuel, labor and red dirt.
- 642.7 Judge Edwards stated that the County does not sell to anybody gravel or anything else because that is competing with private industry. She stated some of the previous County Judges had sold gravel, but when she came in she stopped that because that is illegal.

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- 643.1 T. Lundstrum stated that he has reviewed the Road Budget and sees a few small increases and several nice decreases and the budget for this year is about \$1.0 million below what it was in 2013, so it is obvious that they are working to try to keep it as level as they can. He stated that they know that fuel prices fluctuate dramatically. He concurs with E. Madison that every time a city gets bigger, the County gets smaller. He would like to see them take the \$7.0 million they are spending and do a higher quality job on the roads whereby they spend less money on maintenance and ongoing work on these roads as time goes by. He believes that the budget would start to decline if they do higher quality work because the roads would not need that much labor and materials to take care of. It is a high priced issue if they do not do anything other than grade the roads.
- 643.2 D. Coleman agreed that the cities are annexing roads, but they are annexing up to the shoulder of the road or annex up just to the bridge, leaving the shoulder of the road and bridge to the County. He noted that there are roads all over the State, not just in Washington County, that are having the same issues that they are having on their county roads.
- 643.3 B. Pond stated that he went on the road tour. With respect to Smokey Bear, it was explained that a man offered to give the County the field dirt needed who wanted a better road for his neighborhood, for the school buses to be able to travel safe. He stated that R. Dennis indicated how much fuel, time and materials that saved the County; and you cannot just dig a hole to take a man's dirt and not do any reclamation work to either grade it out or put up a bank to where the man can have a pond. He stated that he takes issue with the word "bartering" being used and he is tired of their county employees being trashed and bullied by elected officials because this is getting in the way of them having an efficient government process.
- 643.4 S. Madison stated that it should be obvious to all of them that the Road Department certainly last year had considerable slack in their budget. They tore down parts of two nearly completed bridges that they remediate without asking for additional appropriation, and this indicates to her some slack in a budget. Add to that the controversy of the widening of a dead end road where not a huge number of families living on it. She has a longtime acquaintance on that road that is very unhappy and a new person introduced to her that is also unhappy. The rumor keeps coming up that it was done to accommodate school buses. One side of the road is Elkins and the other side is Greenland. She talked to the Elkins Bus Superintendent and they never send a bus down that road. She talked to the Greenland Bus Superintendent who said that they take the bus down there but never had any issues turning around or navigating the road.

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- 644.1 S. Madison stated that the analysis given by S. Shrum on the road tour was the cost of fuel from the county pit of \$18,933.60 vs. cost from the onsite pit of \$493.92. This was the only analysis that was done and she would like to ask that a more thorough comparison be done of the expense of onsite dirt vs. county road department dirt.
- 644.2 S. Madison stated if they had hauled from the county road pit, would they have had to do a similar amount of land reclamation, grading, hydro-seeding, etc.; to which S. Shrum responded that they are doing it as they go and they do have to keep up; however, on Smokey Bear they have more area and are able to plan and keep that grading as they go.
- 644.3 S. Madison questioned whether they have accounted for depreciation of their vehicles and the equipment being tied up from other projects for some time. Neighbors have told her that days and days have been spent with numerous county vehicles and equipment working on grading and hydro-seeding to fix the bank. If we are to compare then we need a proper analysis done of the County's expense. People are disgruntled with the result of this road widening and that has to be weighed against the real need for that road to be widened to begin with. She stated that the way they are doing this is not good enough for her and it is important to look at this issue as they consider the Road Department Budget.
- 644.4 G. Butler stated that there is not slack in the Road Department's Budget and they cannot keep up with everything being said and are not being given the courtesy of being able to respond. He noted that S. Madison has asked several questions, made several allegations, and quoted several anonymous sources. He would like for these people to come forward who that are unhappy to speak with him or the Road Department. This has gone way overboard and he is tired of county employees being badgered and berated. It is as if they are witnesses in a court proceeding.
- 644.5 E. Madison stated that she has made one request and that was looking at the total cost analysis. She would rather move on and ask questions now about the take home vehicles.
- 644.6 **A short recess was taken at this time.**
- 644.7 Judge Edwards stated that they are here for budget studies and cannot argue every project that the County has done over the last seven years. She stated if there is something that needs to be discussed, they can call any of the departments and visit with them. She stated that she wanted to maintain order and civility from here on and if anyone gets out of line, she will call a point of order.

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- 645.1 S. Madison asked how many employees take vehicles home every night and how many pool vehicles there are in the Road Department; to which S. Shrum responded he did not have that information tonight as he thought they were just talking about the budget items.
- 645.2 **A. Harbison called for a point of order because S. Madison's questions do not have anything to do with them passing the budget tonight.**
- 645.3 S. Zega stated that a point of order is not debatable and does not open the floor for debate. The question before Judge Edwards is to rule on A. Harbison's point of order and she is objecting to the line of statements and questioning not being germane to the topic at hand.
- 645.4 **Judge Edwards stated that she will rule in favor of A. Harbison's point of order.**
- 645.5 **S. Madison stated that she would like to appeal that ruling.**
- 645.6 S. Zega stated that an appeal to overturn Judge Edward's ruling that the point of order was well-taken is a simple majority vote on whether the decision of the chair be sustained.
- 645.7 **VOTING FOR: J. Maxwell, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, and H. Bowman. **The vote to sustain Judge Edwards point of order is overruled with seven members voting in favor and seven members voting against the ruling.****
- 645.8 S. Madison stated her point is to try to understand how much the Road Department is spending on maintenance for vehicles that are used to transport employees to and from their residences which is germane to the budget. As much as they have discussed this, she is surprised that S. Shrum does not have those answers and asked if he can make a guess.
- 645.9 S. Shrum responded that he should not make a guess on something like that. He stated when it comes to maintenance, it is very important to understand that driving from the shop to the job, back to the shop to bring a truck back, would be more costly in most cases than those people who live near their home and have a shorter distance to their grader or jobsite. Also, you have to look at the loss in productivity. He questioned how the Court cannot look at that if it is looking at what is best for the citizens and Washington County.

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- 646.1 S. Madison stated that she agrees that they look at that, but she believes employees come to the Road Department at least once a week to drop off or pick up uniforms and she would like to see a careful analysis whether it is a benefit or not to the county dollar wise. She asked where on the budget would she find maintenance on county vehicles and do they do their own maintenance. She further asked if there are any county vehicles going out of the county and what guidelines do they have as to where county vehicles are parked.
- 646.2 S. Shrum stated that the Road Department does its own maintenance and the expense is found under repair, parts, tires and tubes, fuel and oil. He further stated that they have no county vehicles going out of the County, noting they have one grader operator who lives in Crawford County and he parks it at another operator's home and drives his own personal vehicle to that point. He stated that their guidelines for where county vehicles are parked fall in line with the Sheriff's that they be parked in what he deems to be a safe location, and they really like them to be parked at employee's houses that have the room so they can keep an eye on them.
- 646.3 S. Madison asked where our insurance company presumes the county vehicles are parked at night; to which G. Butler stated he can check on that, but this is quite common throughout the state.
- 646.4 S. Zega stated that he asked that question of Insurance Consultant Nelson Driver several weeks ago and did not get a definitive answer from him and has not followed up on that.
- 646.5 S. Madison stated she would like to see the Road Department come up with some methodology to help them understand the expense of vehicles going home with employees. She stated that they need to figure depreciation on vehicles, exposure to accidents, employee's time, wear and tear on trucks, etc., and weigh that to see if it truly is a cost savings. She stated that surely the next time they have this discussion, they will have better answers.
- 646.6 Judge Edwards stated that she has asked S. Zega and G. Butler to work on a vehicle policy and they are in the process of doing so.
- 646.7 G. Butler stated that he had previously sent a memo and asked that all departments of the county with vehicles that go home with employees be treated the same in this regard, and that they all be subject to the same level of scrutiny that the Road Department has been subjected to with regard to county vehicles.

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- 647.1 Judge Edwards stated that she would like to think that all county employees are treated the same equally all the way around.
- 647.2 S. Shrum pointed out that the Road Department is called out for a lot of after hour emergencies such as downed trees and that is something that must be considered with the take home vehicles.
- 647.3 R. Cochran stated looking at the cost of the 900 loads at 46 miles for a total of 41,400 miles. This is about the quarter of the life of a truck saved or about \$25,000 of cost savings, plus the cost savings on dirt and labor. It appears the cost benefit on this road improvement were good and positive for the County. He further noted if you combine the Road Fund Budget with the ½-Cent Sales Tax Fund Road Budget, it is \$8,556,000; back in 2014, the budget was \$8,591,000 so their budget is staying fairly level. He stated if you look what they have accomplished each year, taking into account the diversion of funds this year towards bridges, all in all the Road Department has managed to keep the roads in good repair and balance their budget.
- 647.4 **R. Cochran called for the question. B. Pond seconded.**
- 647.5 VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, R. Cochran, and A. Harbison.
VOTING AGAINST: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, D. Balls, H. Bowman, and R. Dennis.
The call for the question failed with four members voting for and ten members voting against the call for the question.
- 647.6 R. Dennis stated that with his calculations and what he saw at Smokey Bear and the common sense of using the product that was there that was given to us, it just makes common sense that it would save the County a tremendous amount of money even doing the amount of work that they did. Jealousy among neighbors is always going to exist and we cannot legislate that. The Road Department has his complements.
- 647.7 S. Lloyd stated that she appreciates the Road Department for the recent road tour and it was very informative. She feels good about the barter system with the people who will donate the dirt. The Education and Training Line Item 3101 increased by \$3,000 and asked what kind of things they have planned for 2016; to which S. Shrum stated the reason for this increase is there is a new law that requires training to be taken by crane operators before 2017.
- 647.8 B. Ussery asked how many miles of dirt and non-dirt roads they have in the county; to which S. Shrum responded there are approximately 550 miles of

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dirt road vs. around 450 miles of paved road. He further stated that the cities have not annexed many dirt roads.

- 648.1 B. Ussery asked if in theory they should grade a dirt road twice a year and asked how much it costs to grade a road, chip seal and asphalt pave per mile; to which S. Shrum concurred with grading at least twice a year, and stated that is costs around \$220 to \$250 a mile to grade a road, taking 5-6 hours per mile depending on the terrain. They try to reseal with chip seal every seven years and the cost today is around \$13,000 per mile for materials only.
- 648.2 B. Ussery pointed out that even when cities take part of the responsibility away from the County when they annex, 90% of the responsibility of what the Road Department does is still with the County so there is not a lot of cost savings there.
- 648.3 B. Ussery stated that it has been alluded to that the Road Department has a big pile of money so that they were able to do the bridges and doing fine, so it does not need more money. He asked how the Road Department managed to shuffle the money to cover those costs; to which S. Shrum stated it has been mentioned that they had about \$2.0 million and he explained that not knowing the cost of those bridges, they held off on doing their reseal program of about 43 miles due this year. There are a lot of roads that they have not done and those that they have still have around \$250,000 for asphalt and gravel to be paid. The fuel costs being lower have helped them to offset some of the bridges. He stated that they also have to pay for the remaining expense of Harvey Dowell Bridge which will be over \$100,000; the crusher at Morrow went down last week which will cost over \$25,000 for repairs that they were not expecting; paint striping for the roads that they have resealed will cost around \$60,000 to \$80,000, noting that there are roads that should be re-striped that they will not be able to do this year. He stated that there are a lot of projects that they have cut back on to make this year's budget work.
- 648.4 B. Ussery stated that a point that he is making is that sooner or later we are going to have to pay for what we are not paying for today. While it may look like the Road Department is getting by, it is because they are doing a very good job of managing the budget they have for which he is very grateful. He will support the Road Department Budget as requested.
- 648.5 H. Bowman stated as Chairman of the Public Works Committee he has been working on some ideas about the vehicle issue that he thinks will be a great deal of help, so would like them to hold off on any further discussion on this until he presents this at their next meeting.

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- 649.1 Judge Edwards noted that S. Zega is also working on a plan for the county vehicles and asked that H. Bowman take his ideas to him to discuss together.
- 649.2 J. Patterson commented that history has shown that they probably win some and lose some with the bartering system, but it is a pretty good way to go.
- 649.3 E. Madison stated that she is trying to compare projected revenue numbers to the actual budget request for the Road Fund; to which C. Bolinger stated that all the revenues that go into the Road Fund is listed in the Treasurer's projections and this include the ½-cent sales tax. If you will look in the budget book, Page 31, Line 2000 Road Fund, it shows that the projected carryover for 2016, projected revenues, required holdback, the amount available to budget, the total of the budget requests, and the amount of unappropriated reserve that remaining. The budget requests in the Road Fund include the Road Budget and the ½-Cent Sales Tax Budget.
- 649.4 County Treasurer Bobby Hill stated that the amount available to budget in the Road Fund is \$8.3 million if you subtract the ½-cent sales tax from the projection. This would leave \$1,114,000 in unappropriated reserves.
- 649.5 E. Madison asked if the Road Department was aware that it was leaving money unappropriated; to which S. Shrum commented yes as part of what they have been hearing is to build up the reserves and save money, so he has tried to give them a true budget, still cutting back. It is important to have reserves pointing out that this budget does not know what type of winter they are going to have as they may need to ask for more money to be appropriated.
- 649.6 E. Madison stated at some point they need to start looking at why the General Fund is in bad shape and the Road Fund is in good shape; and part of that she feels is because they are dedicating 40% of a general purpose 1-cent sales tax to the Road Department. One can look at the amount the Road Department has in reserves is really general purpose revenue and not earmarked like the ½-cent sales tax.
- 649.7 S. Shrum stated that he would disagree because there are a lot of things that the Road Department has cut back on, which is what they have continually been requested to do. This is what they are trying to do. We have tile to replace, boxes that need replaced and many uses for those reserves. He was unaware that the amount in unappropriated reserves was \$1.0 million.

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- 650.1 C. Bolinger reminded the Quorum Court that if all the money came in, and if they spent everything budgeted, then the projections are what they would have at the end of the year. They will need money in January and February of the next year and you have to have cash flow as you do not know what is going to happen, especially with a department this size.
- 650.2 E. Madison felt that the Mr. Hill's projections have been spot on so she feels good about them. She is struggling with this and does not have the answer. What she is looking at a really big budget that is taking 40% of general purpose revenue from the 1-cent sales tax that is almost \$3.0 million that could be shifted to general fund purposes that are in need.
- 650.3 S. Shrum stated that the Quorum Court should exercise caution on this because you cannot get behind on a road system that is almost 1,000 miles. Washington County has always been the top of counties in the State for maintaining and having good roads. This is what Washington County residents expect and deserve. Go and look at the roads in neighboring counties and across the state line. Washington County currently has good roads but cutbacks are heading us toward having bad roads.
- 650.4 E. Madison stated that she shares S. Madison's comment that it was surprising that the Road Department did not have the need to come back to the Quorum Court to ask for more money with the additional budget expenditures that came about as a result of the bridge repairs. After the May bridge investigation report, she stated that if the Road Department needed money for safety equipment that she would be glad to help them with that. The Road Department did not need any more money and it gives her concern that was able to absorb all of these additional costs.
- 650.5 S. Shrum again stated that the budget was able to absorb the additional costs at the expense of the roads. He has already gone over all the things that they have not been doing this year such as not restriping roads, not paving road, etc. We are trying to do what has been asked of us by saving money and increasing the reserves, and had thought they had done a good job.
- 650.6 E. Madison stated that if you are leaving money on the table, then why you are telling us you are being forced to not do projects that you think you need to be doing; to which S. Shrum first stated that he was not aware of the amount of the balance. He continued by stating that last year the Road Fund balance got the lowest he had seen it since he has been with the County and that concerned him. During the Months of January, February, and March when there is not much revenue coming in, they have to be able to make the expenditures during those three months.

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- 651.1 S. Shrum stated that he is going to be honest with the Quorum Court. With what the Road Department has seen this year along with what the Animal Shelter has gone through, employees are scared to death to before the Quorum Court. He feels intimidated, uncomfortable and dreads coming before them because it has become the employees against the Quorum Court which is not how this County should be, which is all on the same team.
- 651.2 E. Madison stated that tight budget times make it harder for the Quorum Court to do their jobs; to which S. Shrum responded tight budget times does not have anything to do with what he is talking about.
- 651.3 E. Madison stated until she has a better feel for what is going on in the Road Department; she will not be able to support their budget.
- 651.4 A. Harbison stated that the Road Department get 40% of the 1-cent sales tax and that is reduced every time there is a census and the County went from 22% to 18%, so they are talking about the Road Department receiving 40% of 18%. The Road Fund revenues amount to 35% from turnback, 15% from the ½-cent sales tax, 15% from the road millage, and 33% from the 1-cent sales tax.
- 651.5 **E. Madison called for a point of order.**
- 651.6 E. Madison stated they have been trying to keep on topic and she was asking questions about the sales tax to try to compare it to the budget and A. Harbison is going into a full discussion on a revenue source that is not up for vote right now.
- 651.7 **Judge Edwards stated that she wants to move forward and sustained E. Madison's point of order.**
- 651.8 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on A. Harbison's motion to approve the Road Department budget as presented.**
- 651.9 **VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: E. Madison and S. Madison. The motion passed with twelve members voting for and two members voting against the motion. The Road Department budget was approved as presented.**

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- 652.1 S. Shrum, Assistant Road Superintendent, addressed the Quorum Court with respect to the Road ½-Cent Sales Tax Budget, opening up for questions.
- 652.2 R. Cochran explained that this budget is basically kissing cousins to the main budget.
- 652.3 **R. Cochran made a motion to approve the Road-½ Cent Sales Tax Budget as presented. G. McHenry seconded.**
- 652.4 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to adopt the Road ½ Cent Sales Tax Budget as presented.**
- 652.5 **VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: E. Madison. The motion passed with thirteen members voting for and one member voting against the motion. The Road ½-Cent Sales Tax Budget was approved as presented.**
- 652.6 **A short recess was taken at this time.**
- 652.7 Ron Wood, Building Supervisor, addressed the Quorum Court stating that his budget this year is basically the same as approved last year. He stated that they did move some money around from one line item to another, but the total budget numbers are the same.
- 652.8 R. Cochran stated that they discussed the big number at a previous meeting and that money is reflected for the \$149,000 for the road roof which is good project. The only thing he noticed as being different are current expenditures are just under \$17,000 in Line Item 2003 Janitorial Supplies, yet there is the same \$60,000 request for both years, asking if there were some heavy expenses coming up in the third and fourth quarter.
- 652.9 Ron Wood stated a part of this was for the Animal Shelter and now that expense has decreased. This item should be reduced and was an over site on his part.
- 652.10 **R. Cochran made a motion to decrease line 2003 from \$60,000 to \$30,000. E. Madison seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 652.11 R. Wood stated that \$35,000 would probably be more in line with expenditures for the year as they have currently expended \$28,110 in this

line item with three months remaining. In response to a question from R. Cochran if the amount needs to be changed, Mr. Wood stated that they have been doing some things in this area to save money, so hopefully they can make up the difference.

- 653.1 **A. Harbison made a motion to approve the Buildings & Grounds Budget as amended. R. Cochran seconded.**
- 653.2 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to approve the Buildings & Grounds Budget as amended.**
- 653.3 VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The Buildings & Grounds Budget was approved as amended.**
- 653.4 Jennifer Hinkle, Buildings & Grounds Accounting Manager, addressed the Quorum Court regarding the Jail-Buildings & Grounds Budget stating that they needed to increase their request in Line Item 3020 Telephone/Fax-Landline by \$600 to pay for the fire alarm and emergency elevator lines. She explained that Cox had two of their lines on a different account and in the middle of the year that was switched. She further stated that they also needed \$600 placed in Line Item 3031 Common Carrier for training purposes. Both of these additions amounting to \$1,200 can be taken out of Line Item 3009 Other Professional Services making the total budget request the same.
- 653.5 **R. Cochran made a motion to approve the Jail - Buildings & Grounds Budget as amended. The motion was seconded.**
- 653.6 E. Madison asked what the Other Professional Services Line Item is expected to be used for next year; to which R. Wood responded that it was mostly for contractor labor to repair the bigger equipment that they cannot do in-house.
- 653.7 T. Lundstrum stated he is assuming this is the budget that they approved in an early meeting to put the new truck in; to which R. Wood confirmed.
- 653.8 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to approve the Jail-Buildings & Grounds Budget as amended.**
- 653.9 VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H.

Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. **The motion passed unanimously by those present. The Jail-Buildings & Grounds Budget was approved as amended.**

- 654.1 John Adams, Director of the Computer/IS Department, addressed the Quorum Court asking if there were questions in regard to his department's budget request.
- 654.2 A. Harbison stated that the other night the Quorum Court discussed personnel and capital outlay. After talking with Mr. Adams, she would like to readdress their personnel request and consider adding one additional person to the IT Budget, with IT deciding which position is the most needed.
- 654.3 **A. Harbison made a motion to add one person to personnel in the Computer/IS Department budget. R. Dennis seconded.**
- 654.4 R. Cochran stated it is his understanding that J. Adams wants to add a Programmer/Systems Analyst, Grade 24 at \$48,046 annual salary plus benefits, and asked if they could give him a total number; to which C. Bolinger advised that the total request for this position would be \$63,752 which includes health and life insurance, retirement and FICA.
- 654.5 S. Madison stated that this personnel request had been previously denied and asked if it was standard to consider these requests twice; to which S. Zega responded that he believes it is a valid motion on two points. In a general sense, until they vote on the budget nothing is permanent; and secondly, it is not exactly the same motion as the other night they were voting on three positions and this is one position.
- 654.6 Responding to R. Cochran question on the need for this employee, J. Adams stated that this new position would give him the opportunity to help some of the departments bring in third-party applications from the outside. He gave the example of the Treasurer's program this year to be upgraded and if they had taken it outside, it could have potentially cost \$250,000. He stated their long term goals with this is that their SunGard Program that cost them quite a bit when they first originally bought it, now has an upgrade that would cost \$70,000 and if his department had adequate staffing, they could bring that in and not just incorporate time clock into it, but incorporate it into HR. He explained that HR has three different programs that they have to go to look up information and if they had one centralized place to get this information, it would be much easier and efficient for them and the maintenance fees can disappear. J. Adams stated that he would really like to have more people; however, he will take just one which would help him get at least a couple of projects that some of the elected officials have

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asked him to bring in house. One of the projects, the Data Scout Project that he has been asked to bring in house is \$60,000 plus the maintenance. He explained that the previous Assessor outsourced everything. For cost savings, they now want to bring it in house and it would take about 6 months to develop that program.

- 655.1 R. Johnson pointed out that then in 6 months, there would be \$32,000 spent for this position and it would save \$60,000.
- 655.2 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on the motion to add one person to the personnel in the Computer/IS budget.**
- 655.3 **VOTING FOR: B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, and H. Bowman. **The motion failed with six members voting in favor and eight members voting against the motion.****
- 655.4 E. Madison stated that other budgets have stayed flat in personnel services and this budget has a considerable increase in their health insurance matching from \$34,000 to \$49,000, and she asked for an explanation; to which C. Bolinger provided the updated number of \$39,456 for the health insurance.
- 655.5 E. Madison asked about the large jumps in Line Items 3009, 3023, 3101, and 3112 in the Other Services and Charges Category; to which J. Adams stated that the \$5,000 increase in Line Item 3009 Other Professional Services is for anticipated projects that they are going to have. For example, next year is a big year for product and Microsoft has announced they are replacing the servers with 2016 and other things and to be able to accomplish this, he will need some outside resources. The increase in 3023 Internet Connection is due to internet charges will be increasing by 15% starting November 1. This request is to accommodate the Extension Agency and Health Department for their connections for next year. This also includes the increases needed due to the Circuit Clerk's Contexte project that required the internet connection to go from 10 megabits up to 100 megabits to accommodate all people throughout the County who anticipate using that program based on a formula that the Arkansas Office of Courts Supports gave them that would be needed.
- 655.6 J. Adams addressed the \$15,000 increase in Line Item 3101 Training/Education. Because of the products coming out for the maintenance of the 2016 Office, there will need to be training for two people with 2016 SQL, 2016 Server, and 2016 Exchange. He did not increase his

travel line items as there is potential that these training sessions can be done as webinars. With respect to Line Item 3102 Software Support Maintenance, the \$100,000 increase is to bring the software that they have that is currently out-of-date to be compatible with some of the businesses and people that they communicate with such as Office 2007 needs to be brought up to Office 2016. They will also need to upgrade all of their operating systems because once they lose support for a product, they have to move on to the next product. Windows XP has expired, Windows 7 is about to expire, and they he will need to buy operating systems with using updated software. J. Adams further explained that that these licenses are a different type of licenses from when you buy the system. For example, when you buy a system from Dell, you are buying a license for that particular hardware; where with this you are buying a license that that can be transferred to any hardware and not have to be repurchased.

- 656.1 E. Madison stated that the Computer/IS Department's budget is unique in that there are expenses for other departments included; to which J. Adams responded sometimes he thinks that while he is not a profit center, but one of the advantageous having these expenses in his budget is then it is a central focal management control point and having that, he is able to pay the license fees and get these programs out quick.
- 656.2 E. Madison stated that she does not doubt that there is efficiency in this but it is a struggle for the Quorum Court when they try to determine the actually cost of a department. Recently, the Quorum Court addressed the need to upgrade of the video camera because the system the Sheriff used to monitor this building was out-of-date and broken. The expense for that came out of the Buildings & Grounds Budget, but she understood that the Computer/IS Department installed it.
- 656.3 J. Adams stated that the IT Department took care of the entire project. The Quorum Court approved the money in the Buildings & Grounds Budget to purchase the equipment that they needed, and IT team and staff put that in place and trained the deputies on the new product. The IT Budget covered the cost for the cabling and other miscellaneous parts needed. It is a joint effort.
- 656.4 E. Madison asked if IT was responsible for putting up the video monitoring signs in the Quorum Court's breakroom; to which J. Adams stated that he did not nor did he install the camera system in this area.
- 656.5 Judge Edwards stated she had the monitoring equipment installed because there were things missing from this area. The funds needed were taken out of the IT Budget.

- 657.1 **A. Harbison called for a point of order.**
- 657.2 **Judge Edwards ruled the discussion was not pertinent to the budget and sustained A. Harbison's point of order. She stated that she would find out information regarding the monitoring system.**
- 657.3 **R. Cochran made a motion to approve the Computer/IS Department's Budget with the amendment to Line Item 1009 Health Insurance Matching from \$49,320 to \$39,456. A. Harbison seconded.**
- 657.4 S. Madison stated she considers it a serious issue that someone has installed video/audio cameras in a private break room. She will vote against this budget since they do not know who did this and out of which budget.
- 657.5 Judge Edwards stated that she is in charge of every County building in this County and again stated that she asked that those cameras and audio be installed.
- 657.6 S. Lloyd addressed Line Item 3023 Internet Connection stating that she went back through all of the budgets and this line item in all the budgets totaled 86,476; to which J. Adams verified that he pays for everyone's internet connection and if someone has budgeted charging for internet it should only be the Collector, Assessor and Sheriff.
- 657.7 S. Lloyd expressed concerned that this is an overcharge with the departments asking for internet connection cost as well; to which J. Adams stated that as far as he knows, the internet connection cost should be coming out of his budget; however, there may be a potential need for it in some places.
- 657.8 C. Bolinger added that the Internet Connection also includes fire alarms and alarms in elevators. This would be in Buildings & Grounds and the Sheriff Budgets.
- 657.9 J. Maxwell asked if there are any internet connections that IT does not provide, monitor or install; to which J. Adams stated there is a possibility, but most of those accounts should be between \$40 and \$80 each. He explained that the Tax Collector is one who would show this on his budget because he has a circuit to Lincoln and Springdale, as well as the Assessor. The County Clerk has the own as well.
- 657.10 G. Butler stated that he would research this and get this information to the Quorum Court.

- 658.1 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on R. Cochran's motion to approve Computer/IS Department's Budget with the amendment to Line Item 1009 Health Insurance Matching from \$49,320 to \$39,456.**
- 658.2 **VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, B. Pond, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. VOTING AGAINST: T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Patterson, and B. Ussery. The motion passed with nine members voting in favor and five members voting against the motion. The Computer/IS Department Budget was approved as amended.**
- 658.3 Grants Administrator Renee Biby addressed the Quorum Court stating that the Grant Administration Budget request has decreased about \$15,000 from the 2015 Budget.
- 658.4 **E. Madison made a motion to approve the 2016 Grants Administration's Budget request as presented. R. Cochran seconded.**
- 658.5 R. Cochran noted that this year they have had grants presented and pushed through well in excess of \$2.0 million. If they were to hire an outside grants administration process, they would pay 10-15% of that or about \$250,000 which is twice this budget and a good investment.
- 658.6 A. Harbison added that R. Biby informed her that she currently had 50 grant applications out at this time.
- 658.7 **With no further discussion, Judge Edwards called for a vote on E. Madison's motion to approve the 2016 Grants Administration's Budget request as presented.**
- 658.8 **VOTING FOR: S. Lloyd, T. Lundstrum, E. Madison, S. Madison, J. Maxwell, G. McHenry, J. Patterson, B. Pond, B. Ussery, D. Balls, H. Bowman, R. Cochran, R. Dennis, and A. Harbison. The motion passed unanimously by those present. The Grants Administration Budget was approved as presented.**
- 658.9 C. Bolinger asked whether the County Library budgets needed to come back to be reviewed further.
- 658.10 S. Zega stated that the Quorum Court would need to suspend the rules to add it to the agenda now, pass with a 2/3rds vote, and then move to approve it.

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- 659.1 **E. Madison made a motion to suspend the rules and add the County Library budgets to the agenda. T. Lundstrum seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 659.2 **E. Madison made a motion to approve the County Library Budgets. T. Lundstrum seconded. The motion passed unanimously by those present by voice vote.**
- 659.3 CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were no citizen comments made.
- 659.4 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carly Sandidge
Quorum Court Coordinator/Reporter