

Quorum Court Minutes

8/25/2014

Resolution 2014 – 12 - PASSED

FILED
AUG 27 2014
KADE HOLLIDAY
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

AGENDA
CRAIGHEAD COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
August 25, 2014

NOTICE:

THIS MEETING WILL BE AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE AT:
611 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
JONESBORO, AR 72401

EVENING MEAL SERVED BEGINNING AT 5:30, COURT
MEETING WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 6:30 P.M.

Assembly and Pledge of Allegiance

OPENING PRAYER

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of minutes for July, 2014 meeting.
- III. Committee Reports:
 - a. Public Service Committee Report.
 - b. Finance and Administration Committee Report.
 - c. Roads and Transportation Committee Report.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. None
- v. New business:
 - a. Resolution to reappoint Jay Scholtens to an additional term on the Craighead County Nursing Center for a five (5) year term.

August 26, 2014 Quorum Court Meeting

11 Justices of the Peace present, Justice Dana Watkins and Justice Jim Bryant are absent.

Judge Ed Hill called the meeting to order

Justice Barbara Weinstock moved to approve the minutes from July. The motion was seconded by Justice Couch.

Judge Hill invited Juvenile Probation Department Supervisor Ashley Boles to address the Court. Boles is asking to create a line item with \$5000 from his Juvenile Fund to support an effort to expand the reach of the community service his office provides. In addition to the highway cleanup he would like to add public events such as high school football and basketball games. Justice Ken Stacks asked if this would mean a need for more employees. Boles responded that no additional staff would be needed. Sheriff Marty Boyd added that he was in support of this idea and is looking to do this with his department. An ordinance for this line item addition will be presented next meeting.

Tax Collector Marsha Phillips addressed the court on a purchase her department was considering. She has met with Data Scout who can place tax information online for the citizens of Craighead County. The price will be \$10494.00 with half of the total to be paid now and the other half next year. Justice Jeff Provost asked when the new service would be live. Phillips stated that if an agreement could be made by September 2nd they could be up and running by October 15th.

Justice Stacks read the minutes from the Public Services Committee meetings of August 11, 2014 – *Appendix 1*

Justice Bob Blankenship read the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting of August 11, 2014 – *Appendix 2*

Justice Terry Couch read the minutes from the Road Committee meetings of August 11, 2014 – *Appendix 3*

Judge Hill communicated that the Road Department was short some 6 employees. This is due to those who have retired and quit but not had their positions filled, though these positions are still budgeted. Justice Josh Longmire questioned what the outcome of the Road Committee meeting was. Justice Provost and Justice Barbara Weinstock stated that there was lively discussion and many good ideas expressed. Justice Longmire referred to the poor state of county roads, questioned the shortage of employees, and asked for the status for the 9 road graders. Judge Hill answered that because all the road graders were bought at the same time they are also wearing out at the same rate. Justice Mike Hawkins stated that the Road Department budget is cut to the bone. Justice Blankenship encouraged the Court to look at redistributing sales tax. Justice Provost urged the Court to look more closely at the budget so that they may distribute the more bloated areas as well as look at other options with sales tax. Justice Stacks used a neighboring county as an example stating that they created a sales tax to fund a new jail as well as its upkeep,

suggesting this may be an option to look into. Justice Weinstock urged the Court to meet before the next meeting to discuss the Road Department stating that a broad meeting would allow for better solutions.

County Clerk Kade Holliday read Resolution 2014-12 concerning the reappointment of Jay Scholtens to the Craighead County Nursing Center Board of Directors. All voted in favor of the reappointment. – *Appendix 4*

Judge Hill updated the Court on the procurement of a building in Lake City. The cost is estimated to be \$80,000 including the closing cost.

Justice Max Render moved to adjourn. Justice Blankenship seconded.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting
Public Service Committee
August 11, 2014
7:00 p.m.

Public Service members assembled after full court business. Chairperson Ken Stacks called the meeting to order. Those present were Ken Stacks, Barbara Weinstock, and Josh Longmire, and Fred Bowers.

1. Recommendation to reappoint Jay Scholtens to a second term on the Craighead County Nursing Center Board of Directors. Motion made to accept recommendation, seconded motion, all members present unanimously agreed to the reappointment. A Resolution will be brought before the full court on August 25, 2014.

With no other business to address, the committee adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting

August 11, 2014

Finance Committee Members present: Justices Bob Blankenship, Kenny Hendrix, and Brett Provost.

Chairman Jim Bryant and Vice Chair Dana Watkins were absent.

Others present: Al Haines, County Clerk Kade Holliday, County Treasurer Terry McNatt, Sheriff Boyd, John Reeves and several other guests.

Press: Dustin Azlin, Jonesboro Sun

Justice Blankenship sat in for Justice Bryant and called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 7:30 PM after the full court meeting and discussed the following:

Reviewed revenue and expenditure reports for July 2014.

Holliday indicated that he is applying for \$15,000 security grant for the election building to pay for a cable run, cameras, and other security devices.

McNatt indicated that the highway monies are coming in ahead state expectations and tax rebate claims are down.

Justice Provost believes the local sales tax monies breakout could be changed without sacrificing road needs. He believes an equitable redistribution of the local tax revenue would be Roads 50%, General 47.5%, and Capital 2.5%.

Justice Hendrix would like to repay the Capital Fund, but not at the expense of the Road Fund. He says there are miles of county paved roads that are in desperate need of asphalt overlay and cutting the Road Fund will greatly hinder these repairs.

Sheriff Boyd says the Sheriff's Office has not increased his personnel since 2006 and the county has grown by 16% and believes the shift of tax monies to the general fund could help several county departments.

No formal action was taken on any of these issues.

With no other business to be discussed, the Finance Committee stood adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting
August 11, 2014
Roads and Transportation Committee

Members of the Roads and Transportation Committee assembled after the meeting of the full court. Members present included: Terry Couch, Mike Hawkins, Ray Kidd, and Max Render.

Others present included Judge Ed Hill, Eugene Neff—Road Superintendent, Tony Thomas, and Ty Koons.

Justice Couch called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm and the following business was discussed:

Eugene Neff delivered his monthly road report (also distributed to the full court) and updated the committee regarding on-going projects. An update was provided on current paving projects and bridge repairs.

Crews have been active at the Kathleen Street bridge project with 26 of the 45 concrete boxes laid as of the end of the day August 11. It was anticipated the remaining concrete boxes would be installed the next day with work beginning on the roadbed immediately after installation.

After being asked about gravel needs, Neff indicated that gravel pits were still producing quantities needed at the desired quality. A secondary pit has already been located in the event the quantity or quality of this one diminishes.

The two new dump trucks arrived and are in operation by road personnel. The department still one of the Mack Trucks that is currently being repaired (under warranty).

Finalize paperwork from AHTD on the state-aid paving/overlay project with work expected to begin soon.

Justice Kidd mentioned desired an update on the repair of a stretch of Lawson Road that constituents had brought to his attention. Neff indicated that he would look at scheduling of that stretch once it was inspected.

With no other business, the committee adjourned 7:54 pm.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting
August 18, 2014
Roads and Transportation Committee

Members of the Roads and Transportation Committee assembled after the meeting of the full court. Members present included: Terry Couch, Mike Hawkins, Ray Kidd, and Max Render.

Others present included Judge Ed Hill, Dustin Azlin, Brett Provost, Barbara Weinstock, and Tony Thomas.

Justice Couch called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm and the following business was discussed:

Justice Provost briefly updated the committee on the informal discussion held by the Finance Committee. This discussion focused on a temporary change of the one (1) cent general sales tax collection distribution from a 60/40 split to a 50/50 split. There was some general discussion to ensure that everyone was on the same page in reference to the actual funds being discussed. Later he shared that this discussion began in the Finance Committee when information was shared regarding over \$1.7 million not being used by the Road Department last year. He indicated this actually led to questions being asked and the consideration for the potential reallocation of the funds in the event this type of yearly excess revenue did exist. Information was shared related to the actual expenses versus revenue for the 2013 budget year—which resulted in unused appropriation or unappropriated funds of approximately \$500,000.

Discussion was held related to current line items in the budget—specifically the asphalt budget and lack of increases in this area related to increased costs for the product. Judge Hill indicated that we are doing half as much as we once did due to the increase in pricing. He also informed the committee that it is time to place a significant investment in overlays. In the past a 1 million was set aside for a large overlay project approximately every 10 years.

Justice Render indicated he thought the discussions related to this redistribution were to build up Capital or General Funds, not to turn around and place the funds in the appropriation process to expend. Justice Provost reinforced his interest in consideration of a change is to stop being reactive and to find a proactive approach to the needs of County government—specifically public safety although no one has indicated a specific use for the funds. As growth continues throughout the County, providing adequate personnel in the public safety arena will grow as well. Various

opinions and views of Justices were discussed about this issue with all members agreeing this is the type of dialogue that is needed to bring forward the information needed to make sound decisions.

This discussion ended with a consensus that consideration for maximizing every resource available to the county from a revenue perspective is needed. Some potential avenues were discussed. Justice Provost indicated he would bring this before the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

With no other business, the committee adjourned 7:15 pm.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-12

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF A BOARD MEMBER TO THE CRAIGHEAD NURSING CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS;

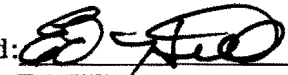
WHEREAS, That on June 26, 2000, Ordinance 2000-9 was passed by the Craighead County Quorum Court that created a five-member administrative board for the Craighead Nursing Center.

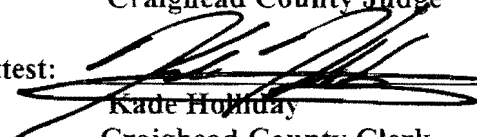
WHEREAS, Board member Jay Scholtens currently serves on the Craighead Nursing Center; and, has been recommended to serve an additional term on the Craighead Nursing Home Board of Directors. He has agreed to serve an additional term.

WHEREAS, The Craighead County Judge and the Quorum Court has accepted the recommendation of the Craighead County Nursing Center Administrator, Ms. Karen Clark to reappoint Mr. Jay Scholtens, 1509 Frierson Street, Jonesboro, AR 72401 to fill this vacancy; said term to be for five (5) years.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CRAIGHEAD COUNTY QUORUM COURT THAT Jay Scholtens, 1509 Frierson Street, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401 be reappointed to the Craighead Nursing Center Board of Directors for a five (5) year term, said term to become effective September 1, 2014, and expire on September 1, 2019.

Dated this 25th day of August, 2014

Approved: 
Ed Hill
Craighead County Judge

Attest: 
Kade Holliday
Craighead County Clerk

FILED
AUG 26 2014
KADE HOLLIDAY
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK