

# **Quorum Court Minutes**

**3/27/17**

**FILED**  
**MAR 28 2017**  
**KADE HOLLIDAY**  
**COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK**

**AGENDA**  
**CRAIGHEAD COUNTY QUORUM COURT**  
**MARCH 27, 2017**  
**5:30 P.M.**

ASSEMBLY AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of minutes for February, 2017
- III. Committee Reports:
  - a. Public Service Committee Report.
  - b. Finance and Administration Committee Report.
  - c. Roads and Transportation Report.
- IV. Old Business:

None
- V. New Business:

March 27, 2017 Quorum Court Meeting

12 Justices of the Peace Present, Justice Josh Longmire was absent.

Judge Ed Hill called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

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Justice Barbara Weinstock moved to approve the minutes from the meetings occurring during February 2017 with no changes, this was seconded by Justice Billie Sue Hoggard. All voted to approve the motion.

Justice Richard Rogers read the Public Service Committee report. – *Appendix 1*

Justice Jim Bryant read the Finance Committee report. – *Appendix 2*

Justice Steve Cline read the Road and Transportation Committee report. – *Appendix 3*

Justice Weinstock questioned if with recent legislation if it was not legal for appropriately licensed individuals to carry a firearm in the courthouse. Judge Ed Hill said that he would check into the issue; however, believed that this was still not permitted under the new laws.

Judge Ed Hill asked if there was any discussion on the Lake City Courthouse situation. Justice Fred Bowers stated to leave it alone. Justice Terry Couch said that he was heading to Little Rock tomorrow again to fight SB 535 as he had been informed that it would be ran again in committee with an amendment only to do away with the 2003 portion of law. Questions from the public surfaced on the true location of the divider line which Judge Ed Hill informed all present that numerous individuals are looking for the location and any legislation or county orders that would have moved and set the line as such from the original location stated in the 1883 bill. Justice Couch stated that he is disturbed by the number of people stating that this is a situation between us and them as that is not what his constituents in the east are portraying to him and seems to him to be only what is being portrayed by the individuals in the Jonesboro offices. Justice Max Render stated that he thinks it is bad that so many people are talking so badly about the county when we are blessed with a Road Department that goes to work each and every day and works very hard. Justice Cline stated that the DFA office in the Lake City courthouse is much quicker and more efficient than the one here in Jonesboro; however, Justice Rogers pointed out that the DFA office is not part of courthouse operations and is just there as a courtesy. He went on to state that the misinformation that the courthouse was being shut down in Lake City if Coopers bill had passed needs to end as it is a main driving force of divisiveness. He also stated that he wanted all elected officials to meet and come to a conclusion so that this could be put behind us. Some discussion on the financial situation of the west supporting the east was brought up and Justice Couch stated that the large number of people who come from the east to spend money in Jonesboro justifies the expenditures since those are their tax dollars as well. Justice Billie Sue Hoggard concurred with this as she stated she used to live in Caraway and came here to spend money as there was no place to shop there. Justice Dan Pasmore stated that he goes to Lake City because it is much quicker, he did ask if the DFA office located in the Lake City Courthouse paid rent to the county which Judge Ed Hill stated that there was an agreement in place to provide that space free of charge so they could be of service to those citizens. Fred Couch stated that the courthouse in Lake City functioned just fine until Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017

when all of the duties were segregated. He went on to state that this is due to the elected officials not acting as servant and rather acting self-centered. He also stated that the straw poll should stay as it is a courtesy to the citizens of the Eastern District.

With no other business to be discussed, Justice Rogers motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second from Justice Cline. All were in favor and the meeting stood adjourned at 6:00pm.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting  
Public Service Committee  
March 13, 2017  
5:30 p.m.

Public Service Committee assembled after the opening of the court meeting and briefing from Judge Ed Hill. Others: Jeanne Taylor, from Judge Hill's office.

Chair Richard Rogers called the meeting to order. Those present included Justice Rogers, and Justices Fred Bowers, Billie Sue Hoggard, and Aaron Harris.

- a. Brief discussion concerning grant monies for the Fire Districts.

With no other business for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jeanne Taylor

**Finance Committee Meeting**

March 13, 2017

Finance Committee Members present: Chairman Jim Bryant, Vice Chair Barbara Weinstock, and Justice Dan Pasmore.

Press: Jonesboro Sun

Justices Ken Stacks and Josh Longmire were absent

Others present: Al Haines, County Treasurer Terry McNatt, County Clerk Kade Holliday, Tax Collector Wes Eddington, and other guests.

Justice Bryant called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 PM after the full court meeting. Bryant asked Treasurer McNatt to bring the committee up to date on revenues and expenditures. McNatt noted that revenue for the general and road funds are approximately 1% above the previous year. Another item highlighted by McNatt is that local sales tax is just shy of the 2 million dollar mark for February.

Collector Eddington brought the committee up to date on software conversion for the collector's Office. He noted that the Apprentice System has been up and running as of March 1<sup>st</sup>. Utility notices in the amount of \$3,000,000 has been mailed. Tax statements are moving ahead on schedule and will be prepared and mailed out soon by a local vendor.

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting stood adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting  
March 13, 2017  
Roads and Transportation Committee

Members of the Roads and Transportation Committee assembled after the meeting of the full court. Members present included: Steve Cline, Terry Couch, David Tennison, and Max Render.

Others present included Eugene Neff, Judge Hill, and Tony Thomas.

Justice Cline called the meeting to order after the meeting of the full court:

1. Eugene Neff updated the committee regarding the monthly road reported distributed during the meeting of the full court. He provided an update on recent work and upcoming activities. He also addressed a number of questions regarding the projects from members of the committee.
2. Judge Hill and Eugene updated the committee on equipment acquisition and made the committee aware of the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) cooperative pricing for equipment. More information on this cooperative would be provided at future meetings.

With no other business, the committee adjourned.