

QUORUM COURT MINUTES

02/24/2020

FILED

FEB 28 2020

**KADE HOLLIDAY
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK**

February 24, 2020 Quorum Court Minutes

11 Justices of the Peace present. Justice Price and Justice Weinstock were absent.

Judge Day called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The first order of business was the approval of the February 10, 2020 Quorum Court minutes. Justice Cline made a motion to approve and Justice Rogers seconded.

Committee Minutes: Justice Rogers read the Public Service committee meeting minutes from February 10, 2020. A copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum A.***

Justice Longmire read the Finance committee meeting minutes from February 10, 2020. A copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum B.***

Justice Cline read the Road Committee meeting minutes from February 10, 2020. A copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum C.***

Old Business: None to discuss.

New Business: The first order of new business was a Resolution entitled Arkansas Rural Community Grant Program Assistance which authorizes Judge Day to apply for a grant on behalf of the Brookland Fire Protection District. The Deputy Clerk read the Resolution, a copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum D.*** Justice Tennison made a motion to approve and Justice Cline seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The second order of new business was a Resolution recommending the reappointment of Ms. Louise Rose to the Board of Directors of Egypt Fire Board. The Deputy Clerk read the Resolution, a copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum E.*** Justice Couch made a motion to approve the Resolution and Justice Forrest seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The third order of new business was an Appropriation Ordinance appropriating 2019 funds for expenditures that have already been incurred. The Deputy Clerk read the Appropriation Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum F.*** Justice Cline made a motion to approve and Justice Percy seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The fourth order of new business was an Appropriation Ordinance to amend the 2020 Annual Operating Budget to add Fund 3581, Department 0422, Y20 Accountability Court Grant Mental Health Fund. The Deputy Clerk read the Appropriation Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as ***Addendum G.*** Justice Cline made a motion to approve and Justice Williams seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The fifth order of new business was an Appropriation Ordinance amending the 2020 Annual Operating Budget to add Fund 3579, Department 0414, 2020 Juvenile Officer Grant Fund.

The Deputy Clerk read the Appropriation Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum H**. Justice Cline made a motion to approve and Justice Tennison seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The sixth order of new business was an Appropriation Ordinance amending the 2020 Annual Operating Budget to add funds in Fund 1000, County Sheriff, Department 0400, Line 4005. The Deputy Clerk read the Appropriation Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum I**. Justice Rogers asked how many vehicles this would purchase. Sheriff Boyd confirmed that these funds would purchase 6 new vehicles. Judge Day reminded the Court that the funds appropriated in the 2019 budget were never used because the General Motors strike prevented the purchase of the vehicles. Justice Forrest made a motion to approve and Justice Pasmore seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed.

The seventh order of new business was the first reading of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2014-3, updating the Craighead County Employment Policy for vacation and paid time off. The Deputy Clerk read the Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum J**. Judge Day opened the floor for discussion. Justice Longmire stated that on page 2, paragraph 2, sentence 2, there was a contradicting statement to the chart above. Justice Rogers stated that the chart shows what employees are allowed to accumulate up to but are only going to be paid out for the number of accumulated hours as of the date of the passage of the Ordinance. Judge Day stated that time off could be taken but there would not be a lump sum pay out on paid time off. Judge Day then opened the floor for public comment. David Vaughn, from the Sheriff's Office, stated that the chart states the amount of hours allowed on the date of departure but the next paragraph says the amount accrued on May 1, 2010. Justice Couch asked for confirmation on the section regarding "as of May 1, 2020" and if it means that number of hours accrued of that date will be paid out but hours are still able to be accrued up to the amount on the above chart dependent on years of service? Judge Day stated the hours could be used to take time off past the amount that was accrued by May 1, 2020. Treasurer Terry McNatt stated that after reading the Ordinance, there is only a conflict in the one sentence that is being discussed. Treasurer McNatt further commented that anything else said is from hearsay only from previous discussions, not his opinion. County Assessor, Hannah Towell, said the paragraph under the chart contradicts the chart and that employees should be paid for all time accrued, not by the amount they have on a certain day. Justice Rogers asked if the hang up is because of time being frozen. Treasurer McNatt replied no, stating that the hang up is the contradiction in the paragraph under the chart. Judge Day stated that the committee put together to make recommendations was given a deadline of January 2020 but there were never any recommendations made so the Elected Officials assisted in the matter. Treasurer McNatt stated the Ordinance was a solid piece minus the one sentence. Justice Longmire said every time he reads the Ordinance, he sees the contradiction and that he believes it will cause legal interpretation issues in the future. Shellie Graham, from the Assessor's office, stated she was a member of the committee and that they were unaware of a deadline. Ms. Graham went on to state they requested a time to meet with the Elected Officials but the meeting never took place so the committee was not able to see what

was being proposed. Judge Day stated that during the meeting in November 2019 the goal date of January 2020 was set. Justice Williams stated the hours have to be used because there would not be lump sum payments on paid time off at departure, that this is a way to look out for Craighead County employees as well as the taxpayers of the county. Chief Deputy County Clerk, Mary Ann Nimmo, stated that everyone that is an employee is a taxpayer as well, so each person has double the amount of interest in the matter. Justice Couch inquired how would someone be given 720 hours of paid time off before their departure date if they have not used all their accrued paid time off hours? Judge Day stated it would have to be worked out within the department but that it is possible. Justice Longmire asked if the AAC (Association of Counties) attorneys have looked at the proposed Ordinance and if they seen any contradictions? Judge Day confirmed the AAC attorneys did review the Ordinance and that there were no contradictions seen. There was no further discussion on this matter.

The eighth order of new business was an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2014-3 updating the Craighead County Employment Policy for DOT Drug and Alcohol use and testing. The Deputy Clerk read the Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum K**. Justice Cline made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Justice Rogers seconded. Roll was called and the motion to adopt unanimously passed.

The ninth order of new business was the first reading of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2014-3 updating the Craighead County Employee Policy for anniversary date, implementing and adopting job descriptions, and classifying exempt and nonexempt employees. A list entitled Craighead County Job Titles was provided to the Justices. A copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum L**. The Deputy Clerk read the Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum M**. Judge Day did confirm that the list provided was a revised list because the previous list that was sent out via email had discrepancies. The Circuit Deputy Clerk position in Lake City is now listed as nonexempt. The Detention Center Maintenance Supervisor position is now listed as nonexempt. The Eastern and Western District Road Foreman are now listed as exempt. The Deputy Sheriff position is nonexempt. Justice Cook made a motion to accept the corrected list and Justice Pasmore seconded. Roll was called and the motion unanimously passed. There was no further discussion.

The tenth order of new business was the first reading of an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2014-3 to amend the County Employment/Personnel Policy handbook for travel. The Deputy Clerk read the Ordinance, a copy of same is attached hereto as **Addendum N**. There was no discussion on the matter.

Announcements: Judge Day announced that Ace One Technologies was contracted to help with updates on the Craighead County website to make it more transparent to the residents of Craighead County. Judge Day went on to state that the goal is for our website to be more transparent than Washington County. Judge Day also stated that the cost is only one third of the original budgeted amount.

Judge Day then announced that Mr. Larry Pierce is the new Craighead County Veteran's Services Officer and he is the only man in Northeast Arkansas with the credentials that he has. Judge Day asked the Court members to go by his office to say hello and to welcome him to Craighead County.

Judge Day then reminded the court that the Primary Election day is approaching on March 3rd, 2020.

Judge Day mentioned the 2020 Census and asked the Court to be an influence so that we will get a more accurate count on the population of Craighead County.

Public Comment: Judge Day opened the floor for public comment. Andrew Stricklin, a Craighead County resident, informed the Court that the Washington County Judge would be speaking at the Republican meeting on 02/25/2020 at 6:30 p.m. at Lazzari's and invited everyone to join.

With no further business to discuss, Justice Rogers made a motion to adjourn and Justice Cline seconded. Judge Day adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.