

Quorum Court Minutes

02/25/2019

FILED
MAR 07 2019
KADE HOLLIDAY
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

February 25, 2019 Quorum Court Meeting

All Justices of the Peace Present.

Judge Day presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Minutes for February 11, 2019 were approved by Justice Cline and Justice Pasmore after corrections were discussed to add the relationship of Judge Day to the co-owner of Associated Engineering, a sub-contractor of Little and Associates.

Sheriff Marty Boyd led an educational program giving details of how the county jail is ran and maintained, as well as, introducing members of his staff.

Old Business: None to discuss.

New Business: Deputy Clerk, read the resolution entitled Arkansas Rural Community Grant Program. Justice Pasmore made a motion to pass the resolution and was seconded by Justice Cline. Judge Day explained that no money would come from the county. Deputy Clerk called the roll and the resolution passed unanimously.

Deputy Clerk read the resolution regarding filling vacancies for the Judge's and Sheriff's office during emergencies and in the event Sheriff Boyd is unable to perform duties due to death or disability. Justice Cline motioned to pass the resolution followed with a second by Justice Couch. An inquiry about how often the list of successors is updated was made by Justice Longmire. Sheriff Boyd stated that the list is updated every term but can be amended with passing votes by the Quorum Court at any time. Deputy Clerk called roll and the resolution passed unanimously.

Deputy Clerk read the resolution entitled Entering into a contract with Little and Associates to draft construction plans for the Crisis Stabilization Unit. Justice Rogers made a motion and was seconded by Justice Cook to pass the resolution. Justice Price asked what the reasoning was behind choosing Little and Associates over the other companies. Judge Day informed the Quorum Court that all 3 of the companies interviewed submitted a Statement of Qualifications and Little and Associates ranked the highest in accordance with Arkansas Law. Justice Price then asked was there anything that stood out about Little and Associates. Judge Day stated that Little and Associates has done work for the county in the past and their process made the most sense. Sheriff Boyd commented that Little and Associates have designed this type of facility before as well. Justice Cook made comment that to this point, all wording has said up to \$1.6 million and this resolution states to utilize a \$1.6 million grant, how can we say for sure that we are utilizing the \$1.6 if we only use \$1.2. Judge Day confirmed that it is the documented operational cost of the facility up to \$1.6 million. Deputy Clerk called roll and the resolution passed unanimously.

Justice Couch made a motion on the Ordinance at hand and was seconded by Justice Williams. Deputy Clerk read the first reading of the Ordinance entitled An Ordinance to Authorize the County of Craighead, Arkansas, to Transact and Conduct Business with Associated Engineering and Testing, LLC, and for Other Purposes. Roll was called and the first read of the Ordinance passed. Justice Cline made a motion to suspend the rules and do the second reading by title only. Justice Weinstock seconded. Deputy Clerk called the roll and the motion to suspend the rules passed unanimously. Deputy Clerk read the title only of the Ordinance. Justice Cline made a motion to suspend the rules and do the third reading title only. Justice Tennison followed with a second. Deputy Clerk called the roll and the motion to suspend the rules and read title only for the third reading passed. Deputy Clerk read the title of the Ordinance. Justice Cline made a motion to pass the Ordinance and Justice Price seconded. Deputy Clerk called the roll and the Ordinance passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Justice Cline to read the Appropriation Ordinance entitled an Ordinance Appropriating Funds from Special Revenue Accounts into County General for Expenditures that have already been incurred and paid. Justice Couch seconded the motion. Deputy Clerk read the Appropriation Ordinance. Justice Weinstock asked if this would be the end or if there would be another Appropriation Ordinance. Judge Day said that he expects one other when the books close for 2018. Deputy Clerk called the roll and the Appropriation Ordinance passed with more than two thirds voting in favor.

Announcements: Judge Day made an announcement that Blue Sky Technologies will be donating their labor and materials to the Crisis Stabilization Unit to do all the wiring within the building. Internet, security, phone, Etc.

Judge Day also announced that Craighead County is involved in a class action lawsuit, but not leading the charge, the county was asked to go in on the lawsuit. Pine Bluff A&P Commission is suing Online Booking Services, like Expedia and Travelocity, because they have not been paying their full amount of hotel taxes or sales tax. Pine Bluff A&P Commission won their first judgment before the Supreme Court. Craighead County will not be out any money, attorney's fees will come out of whatever settlement is reached. There could be money in it for Craighead County from the sales tax of the properties. We are working with the same attorney as the city of Jonesboro on this lawsuit.

Circuit Clerk, Candace Edwards, announced that the E911 Bill was filed and requested that the Quorum Court contact their representatives to encourage voting in favor of the Bill. There are 56 sponsors in the House of Representatives and 16 in the Senate for this Bill.

Justice Longmire asked for updates on County Roads due to the flooding. Judge Day said there have been no dust complaints, but that there are bad areas. The Cache River Basin has dropped a little bit. Lost Creek Basin and Big Creek Basin areas did show issues. Judge Day stated that NRCS reached out because they have a grant program for emergency repair and that he will

be getting with them to see if any of the locations in the county will qualify for the grant to repair some of the roads.

Justice Cook announced that AT&T wanted him to share that they offer a First Responder Discount and a type of text technology that will send out emergency text messages to all First Responders.

With no further business to discuss, Justice Weinstock made a motion to adjourn and Justice Cline seconded. Judge Day adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.