

**Quorum Court Minutes**

**1.25.16**

**Proposed Appropriation Ordinance 2016-1 - FAILED**

**Resolution 2016-1 - PASSED**

**FILED**  
**JAN 27 2016**  
**KADE HOLLIDAY**  
**COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK**

**AGENDA**  
**CRAIGHEAD COUNTY QUORUM COURT**  
**JANUARY 25, 2016**  
**5:30 p.m.**

Assembly and Pledge of Allegiance

**OPENING PRAYER**

Briefing by Judge Ed Hill to Court Members.

**I. Roll Call**

**II. Approval of minutes for December, 2015 meeting.**

**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:**

- A. Resolution to appoint Rick Stripling to serve a three year term on the MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Commission) to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors due to an expired term.

January 25, 2016

12 Justices of the Peace present, Justice Ken Stacks was absent.

Judge Ed Hill called the meeting to order.

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Justice Barbara Weinstock moved to approve the minutes from the meetings for December 2015 with no changes, Justice Billie David Tennison seconded. All voted to approve the motion and accept the minutes from the December 2015.

Justice Billie Sue Hoggard read the Public Service Committee report. – *Appendix 1*

Justice Josh Longmire read the Finance Committee report. – *Appendix 2*

Justice Longmire presented an ordinance addressing the sales tax split change discussed during the Finance Committee meeting. Justice Longmire moved to pass, Justice Meadows seconded. Justice Ray Kidd opposed the idea of decreasing the Road Departments portion of the sales tax from 60% to 40% due to the bad condition of county roads. Justice Longmire stated that the Road Department has seen a surplus for the past three years and could sustain a decrease in the sales tax split percentage being received. Justice Terry Couch raised concerns about natural disasters and how the possible split change would affect the Road Department during times of emergencies. Justice Longmire explained that the Court would, at any time, be able to move funds when and if needed. Justice Garry Meadows expressed his support for the ordinance to build up the Capitol Fund. Justice Kidd repeated that the condition of the county roads were bad and to pull any money from the Road Department would be detrimental to the county and to taxpayers who voted for the sales tax. Judge Hill agreed that the Capitol fund did need improvement and that he had spoken to Treasurer Terry McNatt at length several times about investing money from the Road Department into interest bearing accounts. Justice Hoggard supported the building up of the Capitol Fund and using the proposed 20% as potential for a savings account that will accrue interest. Justice Weinstock also agreed that increasing the Capital Fund would be beneficial to the county. Justice Cline disagreed with the ordinance and wanted to keep the sales tax split as is. Justice Max Render encouraged those who agreed with the change in the sales tax split to go drive the roads echoing Justice Kidd's concern of the poor condition. Justice Kidd stated that the roads were good and in better condition than they had been



in the past but the increase in rain the past several months was going to cost money to repair. Justice Longmire pointed out that while the rain was a factor for the past few months the sales tax had been in place since 2013. Justice Kidd encouraged Justice Longmire to go look at the county roads. Justice Longmire stated that he knew the conditions of the roads having made a presentation to the Court concerning poor road conditions a few months ago with no repairs ever being completed. Discussion continued.

An Appropriation Ordinance was read – *Appendix 3*. The ordinance failed 5 for (Hoggard, Weinstock, Rogers, Longmire, Meadows) 7 against (Bowers, Bryant, Render, Tennison, Cline, Couch, Kidd).

Justice Couch read the Road Committee Report – *Appendix 4*.

Resolution 2016-1 was read – *Appendix 5*. Justice Weinstock moved to pass, Justice Fred Bowers seconded. The resolution passed unanimously.

Judge Hill spoke to the Court concerning the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce annual Washington, D.C. trip encouraging participation.

Judge Hill announced that the last meeting in February would take place in Lake City at 6:00pm. Justice Richard Rogers motioned to pass, Justice Hoggard seconded. All were in favor.

Justice Bowers commended Tax Collector Marsha Phillips on the good job her office has done.

Justice Meadows requested that the Court consider hearing from the Operation of Emergency Management Department to get an update on their processes and procedures. The Court agreed to hear from the department during a meeting with little on the agenda.

Justice Jim Bryant moved to adjourn, with a second from Justice Rogers, all were in favor.

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting  
Public Service Committee  
January 11, 2016

Public Service Committee assembled after briefing by Judge Ed Hill.

Members present: David Tennison, Richard Rogers, Fred Bowers, and Billie Sue Hoggard.

1. Recommendation to appoint Rick Stripling to serve on the Board of Directors of the MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Commission) to fill a current vacancy. Motion made by Justice Hoggard and seconded by Justice Bowers. All members in agreement to bring the Resolution before the full court at the next meeting to approve.
2. The Committee agreed to meet on Tuesday, January 19 at 5:15 p.m. in the Conference Room to hear a Grievance Hearing from a County Employee.

With no other business to discuss, Committee members adjourned at approximately 6:10 p.m.



## Finance Committee Meeting

January 11, 2016

Finance Committee Members present: Vice Chair Jim Bryant, and Justices Ken Stacks, Barbara Weinstock, and Gary Meadows.  
Chairman Josh Longmire was absent.

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

Justice Stacks called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at the request of Vice Chair Bryant at 6:00 PM after the full court meeting. Stacks asked Treasurer McNatt to bring the committee up to date on revenues and expenditures. Revenues recorded December 31, 2015 were above forecasts in both the general and road funds. Sales tax increased 4.7% in 2015. There is approximately \$760,000 of the 2015 general fund appropriation that still remains, however, 2015 bills for December will continue to be paid through January of 2016. With revenues going in the right direction, Treasurer McNatt recommended fixing the salary issues once and for all this year.

Justice Meadows revisited the sales tax split for the road and general funds. He would like to see a 50% 50% split between the general and road funds. Current split is 40% general and 60% roads. Meadows noted that road equipment costs will decrease once the road fleet reaches the full replacement ratio. However, after further discussion on this issue, the committee voted by a 2 to 1 vote to recommend to the full court to consider a sales tax split of 40% for the general fund, 40% for the road fund, and 20% for the capital fund with a disclaimer that when the four lane state tax ceases, the sales tax split would revert back to the current ratio.

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting stood adjourned at 6:25PM.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY,  
ARKANSAS; AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:**

An ordinance to change the county sales tax split from 60% Road, 40% County to 40% Road, 40% County, 20% Capital:

**WHEREAS;** on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 voters in Arkansas approved Ballot Issue Number One by a vote of 597,215 (58.21%) to 428,745 (41.79%) to provide additional funding for state highways, county roads, city streets, bridges, and other surface transportation for the coming 10 years to end payments in August 2023. Money from approval of the ballot issue began accruing with the County Treasurer in September 2013. Monthly deposits are received from the state averaging to \$64,000 dollars which are restricted to the explicit use of the Road Department averaging \$768,000 dollars yearly, and

**WHEREAS;** considerable expenditures since the construction of the Bono Lake have cause a dramatic decrease in county capital fund decreasing from 2.8 Million in December 2008 to 1.9 in December 2015 due to various incurred liabilities, and

**WHEREAS;** the County Road Department has come in under budget at least \$600,000 dollars year over year for the past 3 years, and

**WHEREAS;** it has come to the attention of the Finance committee that a shift in the sales tax split could be considered for the duration of the reception of Ballot Issue Number One monies to rebuild the depletions of the capital fund while remaining revenue neutral for the County Road Department and that the new split could be revisited at the expiration of said reception of funds,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT;**

- 1.) The county sales tax split is changed from 60% Road, 40% County to 40% Road, 40 % County, 20% Capital, and
- 2.) The county sales tax split must be revisited in May 2023 in order to readjust monies flowing to each of the county accounts to be equal to revenue lost due to the expiration of funds received from the state in accordance with Ballot Issue Number One, and
- 3.) All monies flowing into the Capital fund upon passage of this ordinance shall be available for use to the Road Department and County General Funds at the discretion of the Quorum Court.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Ed Hill, Craighead County Judge

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Kade Holliday, Craighead County Clerk

Craighead County Quorum Court Meeting  
January 11, 2016  
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, Ray Kidd, and Max Render.

Others present included Road Superintendent Eugene Neff and Judge Hill.

The meeting was called to order after the meeting of the full court:

1. Eugene Neff updated the committee on the monthly road report also distributed during the meeting of the full court.
2. Drainage improvements in the Caraway area were discussed by the committee. The discussion centered on replacing tank cars in an effort to allow more water to flow in a specific area.
3. An update was provided on work completed on CR 608. Justice Kidd also requested Neff look at CR 607 as additional gravel may be needed.
4. Updates were provided on several gravel roads that are underwater due to the Cache River flooding.

With no other business, the committee stood adjourned.



## RESOLUTION NO. 2016-1

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A BOARD MEMBER TO THE METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

WHEREAS, ACT 742 of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, states that the County Judge of each County is the appropriate person to appoint and reappoint board members to the (MAPC) Metropolitan Area Planning Commission Board of Directors.

WHEREAS, Mr. Rick Stripling has been recommended to serve a three (3) year term on the MAPC Board of Directors (Metropolitan Area Planning Commission.) A vacancy exists due to the expiration of the term of Ms. Kim Elmore Schrantz.

WHEREAS, Said term shall be become effective upon approval of the Quorum Court and filing in the County Clerk's Office. This term shall run from January 25, 2016 through January 25, 2019.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS THAT MR. RICK STRIPLING, 5112 KOALA DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72404 BE APPOINTED TO SERVE ON THE MAPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

Dated this 25th day of JANUARY, 2016.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE ED HILL  
CRAIGHEAD COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

KADE HOLLIDAY  
CRAIGHEAD COUNTY CLERK

**FILED**  
**JAN 26 2016**  
**KADE HOLLIDAY**  
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK