JUN 272023

COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

# QUORUM COURT MINUTES JUNE 12, 2023



#### **QUORUM COURT MINUTES JUNE 12, 2023**

Judge Day called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

The Invocation was led by Josh Taylor from First Assembly of God Northeast AR.

Assembly and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Justice Allison.

The roll was called. Justice Cline and Justice Barnes were absent.

The first order of business was the approval of Quorum Court Minutes from May 22, 2023. A motion to accept the minutes as sent was made by Justice Weinstock and seconded by Justice Pasmore. With no questions or comments Judge Day called for a vote, and it passed unanimously.

The special Finance Committee minutes from May 22, 2023, were read by Justice Longmire.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

2nd reading of **Ordinance to amend Exempt Employee policy.** Motion to read by title only was made by Justice Rogers and seconded by Justice Forrest. Judge Day called for a vote, and it passed unanimously. There were no comments or questions at this time.

Motion to suspend rules was made by Justice Rogers for the court to go to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of **Ordinance to amend Exempt Employee policy** and seconded by Justice Longmire. Judge Day asked for roll to be called. Motion was approved with two-thirds vote with only Justice Cook voting against.

3<sup>rd</sup> reading of **Ordinance to amend Exempt Employee policy**. Motion to suspend rules and read by title only was made by Justice Rogers and seconded by Justice Williams. Motion to read by title only passed unanimously. Ordinance was read. Judge Day asked for any comments or questions from the court. Justice Allison asked why we would move to the third reading instead of waiting until our next meeting. Judge Day said it was at the will of the court, just an option the court has. With no questions or comments from the audience, Judge Day asked for the roll to be called and the motion passed, with only Justice Cook voting against.

#### No NEW BUSINESS

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Judge Day made announcement of a grant we received for replacing the windows and doors in the old courthouse with some other upgrades. The award this grant cycle was \$179,000. Judge Day states we like grant money, but he has a little concern as this work must be completed by June of 2024, so we are going to have to hustle to get this one done.

Judge Day stated we were still in ongoing negotiations with Ramsons on courtroom expansion. As of last Friday, we were able to negotiate and save about a half million dollars. Judge Day still thinks we can save more.

With no other questions or comments a motion to move to committees was made by Justice Rogers and seconded by Justice Noel. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

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#### Road Committee minutes 6/12/2023

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Justice Couch called the meeting to order at 5:44 PM. Those present were Justice Couch and Justice Tennison.

Road Superintendent John James gave an update on road work. The Highway Department is doing some patching, getting them ready to resurface. Major road replacement is going on as well.

The committee reviewed a plat for Boling Investments, CR 761/Lots 2 & 3 of Hidden Creek, and a plat for Darrell Gann, CR 765/Pine Log. Justice Tennison made the motion to approve both plats and Justice Couch seconded. All were in favor.

Justice Tennison made a motion to adjourn with no other business, seconded by Justice Couch. All were in favor, and the committee adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Public Service Committee 6/12/2023 Minutes

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Those in attendance for the meeting: Committee Members: JP Linda Allison, JP Brad Noel, Chairman JP Richard Rogers, and JP Kevin Williams. Also attending: Sheriff Boyd.

The Public Service committee meeting was called to order at 5:44 p.m. by JP Rogers. JP Rogers read an Ordinance to increase jail fees for housing juveniles. Sheriff Boyd stated that he met with Judge Day and they calculated the inflation costs of food, labor, basic needs, and other factors for an increase in fees from \$65 to \$100 daily. JP Allison asked who currently pays the costs to house the juveniles. Sheriff Boyd explained that the fees are invoiced to other counties' juveniles being housed. Sheriff Boyd also stated that a juvenile fee increase was overlooked last year during the process of a request for a fee increase for the Adult division, and this ordinance will get the juvenile budget rectified. JP Williams made a motion to approve, and JP Noel seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 to move to the full court for approval.

With no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by JP Williams, and JP Noel seconded the motion. The motion was passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by JP Allison.

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#### Finance Committee Minutes June 12, 2023

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Chairman Longmire called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Present were committee members Justice Pasmore, Justice Weinstock, Justice Cook, and Justice Forrest. Also present were Treasurer McNatt and Collector Eddington.

Collector Eddington presented the tax collection report for May 2023. Delinquent real estate and delinquent personal collections were higher than in 2022. Total current taxes collected to date are up 2.4% from the previous year. Total tax collected in May was \$3.1 million. Collector Eddington said that this is the slow time of the year for the collector's office.

Treasurer McNatt reported on May's financial reports. The General Fund ended the month with \$20.76 million. The Capital Fund had \$1.56 million at month end, and Road Fund had \$9.43 million. Sales tax collections were down in May. Treasurer McNatt mentioned that the County has a lot of Grant money thanks to Lisa Lawrence. The 2023 budget has 72.35% remaining. Year-to-date comparison through May 2023 shows that the revenue is up, and spending is down.

Justice Longmire presented an Ordinance amending the 2023 Annual Operating Budget to add Fund 3598, Department 0422 to include Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Grant monies that were awarded through the Court Security Grant and should be incorporated into the Craighead County Annual Operating Budget and processed according to grant requirements for receiving and disbursing of these grant funds. A motion to adopt was made by Justice Cook and seconded by Justice Pasmore. Justice Cook asked if the panic buttons would be for the existing courthouse or the new build. Judge Day explained that it is grant money for both. Justice Longmire took a vote and the motion passed. The Appropriation Ordinance will be heard by the full court at the next meeting.

Judge Day asked for the opinion of the Finance Committee on what they thought about financing the building of the new courtrooms. He stated that at the last Judge's conference, they talked about financing big projects for 5 years. Justice Cook stated that we should use the money set aside for the project. Justice Pasmore asked if we have ever done something like this before. Judge Day said no, and he agrees with Justice Cook but felt he should at least discuss it with the committee.

With no other business, Justice Cook made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Justice Forrest. All were in favor and the Finance Committee adjourned at 5:52 pm.