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LESLI PENNY

COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

QUORUM COURT MINUTES

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

February 22, 2021 Quorum Court Minutes

13 Justices of the Peace were present. Justice Weinstock was present by Zoom. Also present were Lesli Penny and Marty Boyd. Wes Eddington and Terry McNatt were present by Zoom.

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

Invocation by Brandon Wright, Grace Missionary Baptist Church.

Assembly and Pledge of Allegiance.

First order of business was approval of Quorum Court minutes from February 8, 2021. A motion to accept was made by Justice Cline and seconded by Justice Pasmore. Judge Day took a vote and it passed unanimously.

Reports were read from February 8, 2021 Committees meeting. Road Committee minutes were read by Justice Cline, Public Service Committee minutes were read by Justice Rogers, and Finance Committee minutes were read by Justice Longmire.

No old business.

New business.

An Amendment Ordinance was read setting forth policies and best practices for fire districts and annual reporting to the Quorum Court. A motion to accept was made by Justice Pasmore, seconded by Justice Couch. This was the first reading.

An Appropriation Ordinance was read to amend the 2021 Operating budget to add funds to the Sheriff's 2021 annual operating budget to replace a vehicle that was totaled in a 2020 accident. A motion was made by Justice Cline, seconded by Justice Longmire. Roll was called and passed unanimously.

An Appropriation Ordinance was read regarding 2020 Fund transfers. A motion was made by Justice Couch, seconded by Justice Williams. Roll was called and passed unanimously.

A Resolution was read to reappoint Gary Barr to Egypt Fire District Administrative Board. A motion was made by Justice Williams, seconded by Justice Rogers. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Announcements: Judge Day stated that his office received a letter from the IRS informing the County that most of the fees had been waived, some interest was owed, but is significantly less, than a little over \$6000.00. The Governor's office helped with state penalties and were resolved. All of this is related to the embezzlement and lack of timely payment of taxes by the former County Clerk.

Public comments:

Andrew Strickland addressed the court concerning Eastern District Deputy Clerk, Sue Gurley, being fired by Circuit Clerk, Candace Edwards. He stated he has a huge problem with one elected official being fired by another elected official.

Justice Cline commended the road department during the bad weather.

Justice Couch said that a grievance needed to be filed in the matter of Sue Gurley to be handled by the Quorum Court. Conversation was had amongst the court concerning the matter and a grievance hearing.

Judge Day stated that according to the County Attorney, the Eastern District's elected officials are a straw poll position. Meaning that it is a recommendation, Act 667 of 2003. Judge Day stated that Candace is going against the recommendation of the people of the Eastern District.

Roger Kidd of District 13 wanted to know how the county will go about collecting money that is owed by the City of Bay. Judge Day said they have been contacted many times and if they do not pay, they will be taken to court.

A motion was made to adjourn by Justice Rogers and seconded by Justice Cook.

Meeting ended at 6:05 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-_____

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

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2020-24 FOR POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES FOR FIRE DISTRICTS AND ANNUAL REPORTING TO THE
QUORUM COURT OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, AND FOR OTHER MATTERS**

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2009-7, 1999-36, and 1999-34, and Ordinance 2020-24 established Craighead County Fire Protection Districts fee structures and policies for the county collector to collect assessments and dues for fire suppression and other emergency services, and

WHEREAS, Fire Protection Districts have reviewed various duties and policies and suggested modifications to those Ordinances previously adopted; and

WHEREAS, Fire Protection Districts are requesting further modifications that are consistent with the boundaries and guidelines set forth by Arkansas law and Act 210 of the Acts of Arkansas of 2011, codified as Ark Code § 14-86-2202. *et seq.*, and

WHEREAS, the modifications are subject to the approval by the legislative body of Craighead County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance 2020-24 shall be amended to read as follows:

Every fire district that is using the county collector to collect their assessment or dues shall on an annual basis file with the county clerk a copy of the agreed upon procedures review on or before *June 1, 2021*, and each successive year for the previous fiscal year reflecting the following:

Subparagraphs (a), (c), (d), and (e) shall remain as stated.

Section 2. Section 1 of Ordinance 2020-24, subsection (b) shall be amended to read as follows:

Confirm that this money was spent on fire protection expenditures as defined in the Act 833 funding guidance and additional expenses for *general operating expenditures of fire stations*.

Section 3.

Severability. If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of the ordinance, which remains effective, absent the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

APPROVED:

Marvin Day, COUNTY JUDGE

DATE SIGNED: _____

ATTEST:

Lesli Penny, COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____

Votes for: _____ Against: _____

Abstain: _____ Present: _____ Absent: _____

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

An Ordinance amending the 2021 Annual Operating Budget to add Fund 3553, Y20 Accountability Court Grant Veterans Fund to pay a claim for \$550.86. This fund should be incorporated into the Craighead County Annual Operating Budget and processed according to grant requirements for receiving and dispersing of these grant funds.

SECTION 1. That State grant monies have become available through the Administrative Office of the Courts in the amount of \$550.86. These grant funds are required to be included in and expended through the County's Annual Operating Budget for tracking and auditing purposes.

SECTION 2. That Fund 3553, Department 0422 will be created in the 2021 Annual Operating Budget to allow for accurate tracking, disbursing and accounting of these funds and will include budget totals as described below.

		<u>New</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Old</u>
FUND 3553	Y20 Accountabilty Court Grant Veterans Fund	\$550.86	\$550.86	\$0.00
	Dept 0422			
<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Old</u>
3009	Other Professional Services	\$550.86	\$550.86	\$0.00
	Total Department Budget	\$550.86	\$550.86	\$0.00

There is hereby appropriated \$550.86 into Fund 3553, Dept 0422, Y20 Accountability Court Grant Veterans Fund. These funds shall be established in the chart of accounts by the County Treasurer and entered into the accounts payable appropriations journal by the County Clerk, as described, upon passage of this appropriation ordinance.

Dated this _____ day of March 2021

Approved: _____
Marvin Day
Craighead County Judge

Attest: _____
Lesli Penny
Craighead County Clerk