

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING
MARCH 17, 2022 10:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Rick Ash; Economic Development Clif Chitwood; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood.

2. Resolution R-2021-16 needed to be repealed on the Work Here-Live Here Program. Advice of counsel the Resolution could not be a direct County program. Industries could be encouraged to support the goal. Conversations with the industries had been positive. Friday Firm was preparing a letter for the County that would clarify the program and answer the questions the industries had raised. A foundation had been formed called Grow Mississippi County. 5014C. Funding was voluntary with the industries. State Statutory Incentives were not being used at this time. Industries were giving money to a tax deductible foundation. Fund allocations made last month should be repealed. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to move the new Resolution to the Quorum Court and repeal Resolution R-2021-16. Second was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan. Motion passed.

3. Tax back recommended for EVT in Osceola. State was finishing their incentive package. Copy of Resolution was given to the Finance Committee and had been moved to Quorum Court.

4. Mr. Chitwood had been contacted by a real estate agent from Memphis, TN. They were interested in the property at the southern Blytheville exit. Across from Love's Truck Stop. 7.65 acres. If purchased they would be responsible for environmental hazards. Justice Ash asked if the proposal should go to Energy & Property. Judge Nelson wanted a Resolution of Support from the Court. Motion was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan to present a Resolution of Support to the Quorum Court. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.

5. Mr. Chitwood requested the Court reconsider the Resolution for projects to have 10 new hires and change to one or two new hires. Exception was made for Mr. Pickle and Bertinelli Enterprises. Jobs still had to be manufacturing. Request tabled.

6. Call center remained active. Another date to view properties was scheduled because of the ice storm. Two plants had expressed an interest in coming to Mississippi County.

7. EVT had the first auto manufacturing license in Arkansas.

8. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George