
**QUORUM COURT
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS
Tuesday, August 23, 2022
Osceola, Arkansas**

**6:00 p.m. REGULAR SESSION OF QUORUM COURT IN THE CIRCUIT COURTROOM OF THE
OSCEOLA COURTHOUSE**

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Prayer**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Roll Call**
- 5. Reading/Approval of Minutes**
- 6. Treasurer's Report**
- 7. Committee Reports**
 - Planning & Development Committee (7/27/22) Chairman Justice Michael White
 - ARP Committee (8/11/22) Chairman Justice Molly Jackson
 - Insurance Committee (8/12/22) Chairman Justice Reggie Cullom
 - Sanitation Committee (8/15/22) Chairman Justice Neil Burge
 - Finance Committee (8/15/22) Chairman Justice Michael White
 - Planning & Development Committee (8/16/22) Chairman Justice Michael White
 - Fire, Police & Safety Committee (8/18/22) Chairman Justice Rick Ash
 - Personnel Committee (8/18/22) Chairman Justice Rick Ash
- 8. Resolutions:**
 - Resolution – Remuriate Tax Back
 - Resolution – Next Era Energy Tax Back
 - Resolution – FrigorTec Incentive
- 9. Ordinances:**
 - Appropriation Ordinance – HSA Extension
 - Appropriation Ordinance – Burdette Water (Grant-in-aid)
 - Appropriation Ordinance – KATV
- 10. New Business**
- 11. Old Business**
- 12. Announcements**
- 13. Adjourn**

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT
July 26, 2022

The Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. in the Circuit Courtroom of the Osceola Courthouse with County Judge John Alan Nelson presiding. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Rev. Glenn from 1st Baptist in Osceola gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Ash
Justice Burge
Justice Cullom
Justice Hepler
Justice Jackson

Justice Lewis
Justice Mangat
Justice McClanahan
Justice McDonald
Justice White

Absent: Justice Fleeman. Also in attendance was County Attorney Jacob Holmes.

Justice White moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as copies had been provided to the members. Justice McDonald seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

In the treasurer's report, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte reported the interest rate at Farmers Bank in Blytheville was 1.25% on \$100,000.00 for one year. She reported the sales tax revenue was up considerably and one of the highest ever and expects the trend to continue the coming month. She also stated county general funds were in good shape.

Committee Reports:

Fire, Police and Safety: Justice Ash reported the committee met on June 30 and discussed:

- Upgrading the Sheriff Departments radios.
- 18 police cars for the Sheriff's Department
- The heat exchanger in the boiler for the jail has gone out. The cost to repair would be \$12,000.00; to replace would be \$21,268.00.
- Funds for phone cabling in the Osceola Courthouse approved.
- Collection of old fines had been authorized
- Ballistic vest grant received
- Sheriff Department changing out guns
- The county was awarded a Courtroom Security Grant in the amount of \$11,520.00

Insurance Committee: Justice Cullom reported the committee met on July 15, 2022 to discuss:

- Insuring the Blytheville Courthouse with AAC through the end of the year.
- Finding a new health insurance for 2023

Energy and Property: Justice Jackson reported the committee met on July 18, 2022 and discussed:

- Heat tape in the sally port.
- Doors on the north needing a canvas wall to keep the pipes from freezing
- New pumps for the air conditioning units to prevent condensation leakage.
- Netting for the birds at the Osceola Courthouse
- Farmland update

Finance Committee: Justice Jackson reported the committee (no quorum) met on July 18, 2022 and topics of discussion were:

- Monthly expenses
- Grant for Juvenile Officers
- Courtroom Security Grant
- Budget amendment for \$50,000.00 for the purchase of small equipment at the Sheriff's Department.
- Law Enforcement Stipend
- Insuring Blytheville Courthouse
- Starting the renovation process on the Health Units
- Adopting an Administration Policy in order to accept federal grants.
- \$50,000.00 needed for change orders

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A FEDERAL GRANT AWARD ADMINISTRATION POLICY FOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS. Following the reading, Justice Ash informed the court this ordinance required three readings and moved to suspend the rules and move on to the second reading by title only, Justice White seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. Following the second reading by title only, Justice Ash moved to suspend the rules and proceed to the third reading by title, Justice McClanahan seconded. The vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. Following the third reading by title only, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-40 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING EXTRA COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO REPLACE DISCONTINUING HRA ACCOUNTS. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-41 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS BY MISSISSIPPI COUNTY FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH CHANGE ORDERS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE BLYTHEVILLE COURTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT. Following the reading, Justice Burge moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-42 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE COURTROOM SECURITY GRANT. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-43 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE BLYTHEVILLE COURTHOUSE. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice McDonald seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-44 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS TO PAY JUVENILE OFFICER HAZARDOUS DUTY AND RETENTION BONUS. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-45 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-2021-35, WHICH ADOPTED THE BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022, TO AMEND THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STIPEND. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-46 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING INVOICES ISSUED BY REVIVAL ARCHITECTURE. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Hepler, Jackson, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, McDonald and White; Nay --- None; Absent --- Fleeman. O-2022-47 was adopted by the court.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice White moved to adjourn, Justice Cullom seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Janice Currie
County Clerk/Secretary

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING
JULY 27, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Cecil McDonald; Economic Development Clif Chitwood, Mallory Darby; Mr. Carl NextEra; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood. Proposed contract with Frigotec was to sell them the building for \$500,000.00. Grant them \$12,500.00 per job 30 jobs. \$375,000.00. Frigotec was planning to put up to \$600,000.00 in improvements to the building. Mold needed to be removed. Building would be transferred at no cost if 30 jobs were made. Great River Board recommended the incentive. Expansions could be done in the future. Frigotec would take care of all expenses connected with the building. Projected salary between \$17.00 & \$21.00 an hour plus benefits. Motion was made by Justice McClanahan to proceed with the contract presented by GREDA for Frigotec. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.

2. NextEra was a solar project and the third largest project in Mississippi County. North of Blytheville on the west side of the interstate. Roughly a \$300 million project and asking for 65% property tax abatement. \$100 million in taxes. Mr. Carl from NextEra Energy Resources stated they were the largest energy producer in the world. American owned and based in Florida. Operated in 38 states. National contractors did the work but were encouraged to hire locally. End of 30 to 35 year life of the solar farm panels would be removed and restored to original state. Once completed 1 to 3 jobs would be permanent. Member of the local Chamber of Commerce. \$4,000.00 was given to the local food pantry after the tornadoes, helped pack boxes for families that were affected. Company had two projects in West Memphis. \$50,000.00 was given to a school for a stem grant. Project around 1,800 acres. Entergy was a customer. Biggest expense was mowing. Justice Burge asked if the 65% tax abatement had been given to the other solar projects. One had been given the abatement. Motion was made by Justice McClanahan to move the Resolution to the full Court as presented today for a 65% tax abatement. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.

3. Housing Needs Assessment. GREDA voted at their last full session to commission a housing needs assessment by a company Novogradac a National Company. Cost \$17,500.00 GREDA would be paying the cost. Several housing developers that were looking at Miss. Co. asked for the assessment. A comprehensive study of primary markets in Miss. Co., Blytheville, Manilla, Osceola, Wilson. Economic analysis on the Co. at the community level. Analysis of future needs for single family owner occupied housing, multi-family rentals with analysis for each aspect of housing. Six weeks to complete the study. No action needed from the Court.

4. Retail Recruitment Plan and Proposal. Retail Strategies from Atlanta had put a recruitment plan together for Miss. Co. GREDA was supportive of the plan of hiring the firm. \$45,000.00 first year, \$40,000.00 second and third years. Three year commitment.

Proposal was sent for the first year and retailers were identified in the area. The study showed there was no reason Blytheville couldn't be like Dyersburg. Support was needed from the Court. Justice McClanahan thought these were the types of projects the voters wanted. No action at this time.

5. Clif Chitwood was talking to a gentleman about taking over grant work. Work Here/Live Here was taking a lot of time and Mallory wouldn't have time for the grants. Tamika never charged the administrative fee. Would be brought before the P & D and Quorum Court at the next meeting. Grow Miss. Co. Foundation Board met and due to concerns of the industries accountants ran figures on what it would take to make the grants or forgivable loans tax free to the employee and individuals. The Board voted to make them interest free and now have voted to make them tax free. 10% off price of house, 2 1/2% held in escrow and made available to the employee in the year the mortgage was forgiven. When a company made a donation to the foundation they were presented with a set of rules and procedures of what was going to be done with the donation.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Betty Hepler; OEM Wayne Reynolds; NEA Courier News Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Molly Jackson. Justice Jackson gave an update on ARP funds. July 28th balance in the bank was \$7,346,212.44. Expenditures were for Hyper-Reach software \$10,000.00, professional services \$10,000.00 for consultant, aid for the City of Joiner \$6,021.51, Town of Dell \$53,068.50. \$79,090.01 had been appropriated. Construction in progress for Health Units. \$50,000.00 had been appropriated. \$45,841.22 had been used. \$650,000.00 appropriated for Sheriff Department cars, \$406,637.00 spent, balance left \$243,163.00.00. \$100,000.00 under vehicles had not been used and Senior Citizens \$101,000.00 had not been used. Vehicles had been tabled earlier but were back on the table. Vehicles were not available at this time. \$1,048.42 for vaccines incentives. \$901,676.02 had been appropriated. \$279,262.19 had not been spent.

2. \$1.2 million for the Health Units had been verbally committed. \$250,000.00 grant would also go for the Health Units. Osceola Courthouse. Governor Hutchinson had given money for preservation and heritage. Grant money was available. Aaron Ruby was working on the grant. Asking for the heat & air. Match money may be available. Justice Ash thought hot water was needed before anything else. State law required hot water. Justice McClanahan was concerned there was no maintenance person for the new courthouse. Should be included in a job description. Justice Burge thought there was no one designated. J.T. Harris was under Roads & Bridges.

3. Discussion was held with the Humane Society to purchase land and building behind the Courthouse. A market analyst would be contacted. The building was about 3,000 square feet.

4. Repairing old books in the County Clerk's office. The Court thought they money could be budgeted over a few years.

5. Judge mentioned the north end clean up at the old air base. He had been working with the lobbying firm about something coming at the first of the year and moving in the right direction.

6. City of Dell, Joiner were given money. Burdette asked for money to help with a sewer issue. Burdette submitted an invoice for \$15,000.00. Mullinex Firm had helped several cities with their water and sewer projects. The request would go to Finance.

7. Delta Byway had approached the County. KATV from Little Rock was doing a series on day destinations. This region was given two spots. One was Mississippi County as a whole. Live remote would be done from Dyess at the Johnny Cash boyhood home. 6 segments

totaling five minutes. They asked to find different locations around the County to highlight. Price \$1,250.00.

8. Radios. Judge Nelson wanted to make sure the antennas and boxes were compatible with the new radios. Another source was found that could possibly give money to help pay for the radios. Justice Ash thought a commitment was needed from the court so radios could be ordered. Project possibly six to twelve months. Bid was renewed. Life of radios was five years. Radios were fifteen years old. Justice McClanahan asked if money could be put back each year for the radios. Justice Ash suggested \$100,000.00 a year to be set aside. Wayne Reynolds talked with Motorola and they would keep pricing for a little longer. 112 radios for Sheriff's Department. 50 for fire departments. Moved to Finance without a recommendation.

9. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2022 1:30**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Michael White; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Lipscomb Pitts Billie Heugel; County Clerk Janice Currie; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Cullom. Blue Cross wanted to wait until the end of the year to give quotes. Justice Cullom introduced Billie Ann Heugel from Lipscomb Pitts. Mrs. Heugel handed out information. Billie had been in the business for 23 years, 21 on the carrier or administration side. Moved back to Mississippi two years ago. Now worked as a broker consultant. Mississippi County was a client from 2009-2014 and again in 2020 with Qual Choice. Lipscomb Pitts was the largest independent agency in the country. A lot went into managing an employee benefit plan.

2. Day One Services- Financial Management. Evaluate & Monitor Rise, Manage Risk. Product evaluation: PEO, Fully Insured, Fully Insured w/HRA, Level Funding, Self-Funding (Captive), Self-Funding (ASO), Self-Funding (TPA), RBP. Day Two Services: Day to day team, wellness, compliance, communications, HR technology, HR service center, HR resource, more resources (medical director, voluntary benefits, executive benefits, retirement plan services, Globex International Group, integrated health concepts, HonestRX).

3. Claims for the County this year were upside down. Running over 100% loss ratio. Last year the County ran higher. Plans needed managing to be able to absorb costs. The County had a long history of losses but also had good years. Underwriting was not about what it was but what it was going to be. Arkansas Blue Cross's speciality pharmacy was out of control on fully insured and self-funded. Every year plans would be brought to the county showing the positives and negatives and recommendation. Wellness compliance was the number one thing for employers. Handled all employee communications.

4. The County was informed they could pay the Medicare payments for the Justices but found out they could not. Justice Ash wanted to know if Lipscomb Pitts offered a plan where it could be billed to the County. Quorum Court members were not able to be reimbursed when on Medicare for a supplement but could stay on the County insurance. Plans would be looked at but may not be feasible. Employers could not force an employee to take Medicare. Mrs. Heugel would look at the options.

5. Justice Cullom said the County was looking to be informed and make the right decision. Two other insurance companies had until next Friday to present a plan. Justice Cullom thanked Mrs. Heugel for her time.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2022 1:00 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Neil Burge; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Michael White; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Finance Kelli Jones; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Judge John Alan Nelson; NEA Town Courier Marcus McClain.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Neil Burge. Update on operations at the landfill. Revenue thru July was about \$400,000.00 more than last year. Expenses were up about \$250,000.00. Total revenue thru July \$2,430,048.82. Expenses thru July \$1,561,635.38. Operating margin \$868,413.44. Cash balance. \$1,151,801.32. CD. \$1,000,000.00. Justice Burge and Judge Nelson would like to move another \$500,000.00 over to the CD. Treasurer Peggy Meatte would move the money. No major expenditures expected for the remainder of the year. Tonnage was up. Fuel and lubricants at 110% of budget. Adjustments would be made for a tractor purchased that was leased and not budgeted. Side by side was also purchased. Three pieces of equipment leased that work in the pit. Miscellaneous showed 98.8%. Personal property taxes were to be paid on leased equipment. Over \$6,000.00.

2. FTN ran water samples etc. Payment to ADEQ were paid in July and paid quarterly. Around \$60,000.00. Justice White asked if the Ordinance had been found that stated trash picked up in Mississippi County had to be dumped in Mississippi County landfill. The Ordinance had been found.

3. Landfill accounts receivable. The Court updated an Ordinance that was on the books for collections. The updated Ordinance had positive effect on accounts receivable. Large payments had been received.

4. Scale house was deteriorating. Plans need to be made to replace the scale house to the south of the jail. The cell worked now was close to the jail and would be convenient to exit the landfill. When more information was received the committee would come back to the Court.

5. Landfill looked better than in the past. Supervisor James Rountree was doing a good job. ADEQ had been cooperative with the County since they know we tried to do a good job. Credit cards were now accepted for payments.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Fred Fleeman; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Tobbye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Betty Hepler; Finance Kelli Jones; Assessor Harley Bradley; Collector Susan Short; County Clerk Janice Currie; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Judge John Alan Nelson; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Marcus McClain.

- 1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Regular Quorum Court Meeting was Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Osceola Courthouse. All Elected Officials doing good. July 31st 58% of the year. Road Department had spent some money this year. Landfill 74% but that was with \$500,000.00 CD purchase. Economic Development at 33%. Jail had been appropriated \$1.9 million. Justice White asked Janice Currie about elections coming up. Mrs. Currie stated things were going well. Municipal filing was completed. Election Coordinator was working out well. Justice White asked about the coordinator wages. Showed mostly mileage and overtime. ½ year was budgeted for previous coordinator. Election coordinator was now in the County Clerk's budget. Voting machines were in good shape. New tablets were better than what they had now. Sheriff's Department over budget \$6,000.00 with five months left in the year. Reason overtime & call out pay. Transfer switch had gone out on the generator. Money was in the budget. Sheriff's Department brought requests last month. Committee thought they needed 7 PVT's, 2 spike strips on each shift, radar units to use a tool to slow traffic down, lap tops for patrol units. Bid for radios expired and Motorola extended the bid. \$1.5 million project. Radios were at the end of life. Justice Ash recommended putting \$100,000.00 a year back for future purchase of radios.**
- 2. JESAP had been received for salary comparison. County was in the best shape than ever. Three recommendations were received. 1. Utilize recommended salary range minimums, mid points and maximums as noted, spread sheets in exhibit 6. Pay averages based on a 9.34% with an upper salary range score adjustment. 2. Increase employees pay by a minimum of 5% to remain competitive with the local regional market. 3. Bring one employee pay within the current salary range or grade minimum if the employee's pay was based on a 40 or more hours per week. Kelli Jones got Justice White payroll totals. County payroll a little over \$12 million. 5% on \$12 million would be a \$600,000.00 increase in County payroll. One employee was under minimum. Some employees were still in the 2nd quartile.**
- 3. HRA appropriation. Appropriation would be made thru the end of the year. Kelli Jones would prepare the figures. Motion was made by Justice Reggie Cullom to appropriate the fund for the rest of the year. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.**
- 4. Frigortec. Incentive was \$12,500.00 for 30 jobs or \$375,000.00. Selling the building for \$500,000.00 and doing improvements of \$600,000.00. Justice White said Clif Chitwood was asking for \$375,000.00. Motion was made by Justice Mangat to appropriate \$375,000.00 for Frigortec. Second was made by Justice Burge. Motion passed.**

5. NextEra Energy Resources. Asked for a 65% tax abatement for a \$3 million dollar investment for 1,500 acres of solar fields. Located N. of Wal Mart along I-55 corridor. Motion was made by Justice Mangat to give NextEra the 65% tax abatement. Second was made by Justice Burge. Motion passed.

6. ARP Committee. KATV were doing a one day Arkansas destination promotion. Live remote from Dyess. One hour program with 6 spots that Delta Byways would like Miss. Co. to buy. Cost \$1,250.00. Motion was made by Justice Jackson to appropriate \$1,250.00 from the line item that Eddie Jones recommended for KATV promotion. Second was made by Justice Burge. Motion passed.

7. Burdette had an emergency with a broken water line and problems with their main well. Cost \$15,275.90. County agreed to help with the emergency. Motion was made by Justice Jackson to appropriate \$15,275.90 from ARP funds to the City of Burdette for the emergency. Second was made by Justice Fleeman. Motion passed.

8. No discussion or appropriation on radios at this time. More information needed. \$1.5 million. Grants may be available.

9. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING
AUGUST 16, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Rick Ash; Economic Development Clif Chitwood, Mallory Darby; ANC Dr. James Shemwell; Gene Bennett; Finance Kelli Jones; Angie Nelson; Judge John Alan Nelson; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michal White. Meeting turned over to Clif Chitwood. Gene Bennett gave an update on Chime Solutions. 294 recruited, 215 took the Chime assessment, 157 passed the assessment were interviewed, 102 had done the drug screen, 93 went thru the background check, 24 had completed 100% of the background check, Chime Solutions had selected 17 to work on a separate project with a company called Elite and would start training. Pre employment training had started. 50 plus 43 would go into Cigna training. A recruiter had been hired and two trainers. Background check process. Sterling was the company that did the background check. First part names were sent to Chime, Chime forwarded the names to Sterling, Sterling sent an email notification to the individual, resume had to be uploaded, high school transcript, diploma. When uploaded names were submitted. ANC provided training for 13 to 20 industries.
2. Frigortec contract was organized. The building was going to be sold for \$500,000.00. Money earned for every job and kept for two years earned a credit for 12,500.00. 30 jobs would be \$375,000.00.00 and left Frigortec owing \$125,000.00. \$125,000.00 would be earned by giving invoices and checks that proved the \$125,000.00 had been reinvested back into the building. Building would then be transferred to Frigortec. \$375,000.00 appropriated in Finance did not need to be done. Ordinance needed to be done to approve the contract. Motion was made by Justice McClanahan to approve the contract as written and presented by GREDA to the full Court. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed.
3. Remuriate. Cleaned the acid that cleaned the steel at BRS. Asked for a Sales and Tax Back Resolution. Motion was made by Justice McClanahan to approve the Sales and Tax Back Resolution. Second was made by Justice Burge. Motion passed.
4. Discussion. No action at this time. Tamika wrote the grants Economic Development. Was a time consuming effort. Work Here/ Live Here Program had started and Mr. Chitwood thought Mallory would not have time to respond to the requests. EAPD would be used but sometimes dropped the grant. Cody worked for the City of Osceola as a grant writer and had offered to work up to 1,000 hours per year for \$20.00 an hour. Maximum \$20,000.00. Most grants had an administrative fee and would be kept. GREDA may ask for \$20,000.00 at budget time.
5. Mallory spoke about Retail Solutions. Was presented at last meeting. During the meeting an e-mail was received that proposal was just for Blytheville and not the entire County. Numbers for the entire County. Originally \$45,000.00 for the first year, \$40,000.00 for years 2 and 3. New numbers \$65,000.00 first year, \$50,000.00 years 2 and 3. Would discount year

1 to \$55,000.00, year 2 and 3 to \$50,000.00. Could exit at any time. Took 18 months to get established. Board would revisit. Recruit retail to the County. Focused mainly on Osceola, Blytheville and Manila. Headquarters were in Birmingham. Justice McClanahan stated the voters wanted the Court to find ways to help the County with retail.

6. Mr. Chitwood said Economic Development were working other projects. Grow Mississippi County Foundation contributed \$230,000.00. Two projects were held by owners who expressed an interest to help advance Mississippi County. Primarily in educational. Took 2 ½% to 5% in the abatement and donated to a private foundation dedicated to raising test scores in Mississippi County. Justice White thought this could impact the County. Mr. Chitwood stated BRS and US Steel had participated in the Work Here/Live Here program.

7. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**FIRE, POLICE & SAFETY
AUGUST 18, 2022 1:00 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Rick Ash; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Cecil McDonald; Sheriff Dale Cook; Major Rob Rounsavall; Captain David Gladden; Superintendent Manila Schools Jason Evers; Finance Kelli Jones; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Rick Ash. Manila Schools had requested an SRO thru the Sheriff's Department. Normally the County did not give a SRO when there was a City Police Department. Sheriff Cook said Manila was extremely short of officers and had joined to supply the SRO. County supplied the uniforms and a car. Car was part of the package offered the deputies. SRO position was \$44,761.60, social security & Medicare \$3,424.26, retirement \$6,857.48, insurance \$10,570.00. Total \$65,613.34. School district would be billed. Vehicle was a pass down vehicle. Officer lived in Manila. Schools paid the entire salary and benefits. Superintendent Jason Evers said the school district understood they would pay the whole package. Justice McClanahan asked if Osceola and Blytheville could come and ask for an SRO. Motion was made by Justice Burge to approve the SRO for the Manila School District. Second was made by Justice Hepler. Motion passed and would go to Personnel Committee.

2. SRO at Armorel was put in a lieutenant slot but was not promoted at the time. Kept in as a Sargent. Would like to make the promotion effective Jan. 1, 2023.

3. Switch panel went out on the generator for the entire facility. \$8,000.00. Money was in the budget.

4. Vehicles. Dodge was going to stop making the Chargers and Challengers. One Charger was on order and the County may not receive it. A truck was on order and would not be delivered until December. 15 of the 18 vehicles had been received.

5. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**PERSONNEL MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Rick Ash; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Tobbye McClanahan; Finance Kelli Jones; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Rick Ash. Fire, Police & Safety Committee recommend a SRO Officer for the Manila School District. All expenses were paid by the school. A slot needed to be created and moved to Finance. Motion was made by Justice Betty Hepler to create a slot for a SRO Officer for the Manila School District. Second was made by Justice McDonald. Justice Burge thought we would be hearing more of these requests. Legislature appropriate \$50 million and wanted a SRO Officer in every school. Justice Ash said all schools had been covered except BIC. Had some classrooms in Leachville. Requests would be addressed at that time. Motion passed and would go to Finance.

2. Discussion on longevity package. The package separated the newest hire from others that had been with the County for a longer period. County did not do merit raises. Justice Ash recommended \$100.00 per year employed capped at 20 years. Maximum \$400,000.00. Justice Ash would like to see the request go to Finance and start in January 2023. Would not count in JESAP. Justice McClanahan said the committee had already discussed a 5% pay raise. Employees needed to receive a benefit summary. Years where there was no pay raise a bonus was given. Justice McDonald like the idea of the longevity package to encourage employees to stay longer. Motion was made by Justice Hepler to move to Finance. Second was made by Justice McDonald. Motion passed.

3. Meeting adjourned.
Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT
RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-_____**

*A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE COUNTY'S
ENDORSEMENT OF REMURIATE'S PARTICIPATION IN
TAX-BACK PROGRAM*

WHEREAS, in order to be considered for participation in the Tax Back Program, the local government must endorse a business to participate in the Tax Back Program; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Mississippi County, Arkansas (hereinafter "county") must authorize the refund of local sales and use taxes as provided in the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003; and

WHEREAS, said endorsement must be made on a specific form which is provided by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission; and

WHEREAS, Remuriate, a company that specializes in the sanitation and disposal of certain acids that are necessary for cleaning steel, has sought to participate in the program. The company plans to build a facility at Big River Steel and to create thirty jobs. This will be a \$135 million investment and construction is set to begin in October of this year.

WHEREAS, Remuriate has agreed to furnish the County all necessary information for compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT:

1. The County Government of Mississippi County, Arkansas hereby certifies its endorsement of Remuriate for benefits from the sales & use tax refunds as provided by § 15-4-2706(d) of the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003.
2. The Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to refund local sales and uses taxes to Remuriate.
3. This Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its passage.

DATE: _____

APPROVED:

JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK
& SECRETARY

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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT
RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-_____**

*A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FRIGORTEC
INCENTIVE AGREEMENT*

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court seeks to express its support of the incentive agreement between the County and FrigorTec; and

WHEREAS, FrigorTec shall create thirty jobs exclusive to Mississippi County residents with each job crediting FrigorTec \$12,500.00 for a maximum incentive of \$375,000.00; and

WHEREAS, FrigorTec will enter into a triple-net lease with the County for use of the Snider Building. Terms include FrigorTec paying the County \$10.00 per year for a total of five years, with an option to add two additional years; and

WHEREAS, FrigorTec commits to make improvements to the Snider building over the term of the lease. Dollar for dollar credit will be awarded FrigorTec for improvements valued up to \$125,000.00. At the end of the lease term, FrigorTec will be given the option to purchase the building for \$500,000.00 minus all credits earned based upon job creation and/or building improvements as outlined above; and

WHEREAS, the County shall not owe anything to FrigorTec beyond commercial tenant right. However, FrigorTec's improvements shall be beholden to certain contractual terms and the failure to meet said terms shall result in the County being duly compensated; and

WHEREAS, this contract shall be executed at a later date and presented to the Court upon completion.¹

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT:**

1. The Government of Mississippi County, Arkansas hereby certifies its endorsement of the FrigorTec incentive agreement.
2. This Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its passage.

DATE: _____

APPROVED:

JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK
& SECRETARY

¹ See generally Ark. Code Ann. §14-14-1102(b)(3).

ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AGREEMENT

THIS ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") is made and entered into as of the _____ day of _____, 20__, by and among MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, a political subdivision of the State of Arkansas (hereinafter referred to as the "County"), (the "Company"), and FrigorTec , a German manufacturing company.

WHEREAS, the Company has selected the Snyder Building owned by the County, for their manufacturing expansion (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, for the promotion of economic development, the creation of jobs, and to promote increased residency in Mississippi and as an inducement to the Company and to develop the Project, the County, the Company and are entering into this Agreement, pursuant to which the County agrees to:

1. Sell the Snyder Building, A County Property for the sum of \$500,000 under the following conditions.
 - A. Credit for payment for the building will be given in the following manner.
 - B. \$12,500 per full time position, as defined by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission – Created and maintained for a period of two years will be credited towards the price of the building. Job credits will be calculated based on total hours worked by Company workforce. The hiring and maintaining of 30 positions would earn a credit of \$375,000. \$375,000.00\
 - C. If earned job credits do not equal \$375,000.00 the company will have the option of paying off the building with cash in lieu of any job credits lacking.
 - D. Company will have five years with a two-year extension to earn job creation credits.
 - E. UP TO \$125,000 credit will be given for any material improvements made in the building.

Once credits described under B & C are earned the building will be transferred in fee simple to Frigortec or its assigns.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises of the parties hereto, and other good and valuable consideration, it is hereby agreed as follows

1. COMPANY COMMITMENTS.

The Company shall cause to be 30 net new direct and independent direct positions paying an average annual wage (excluding non-cash benefits) of at least _____
Within a period of 5 years with a two-year extension of required.

2. During the time governed by this contract FrigorTec shall lease the building from the County for a sum of \$10.00 per year triple net. Meaning the Company shall be responsible for all.
 - A. Property tax
 - B. Maintenance and repair.
 - C. Utilities.
 - D. Property Insurance

3. COUNTY COMMITMENT. The County shall sell the Snyder building for the terms described above.

4. NOTICES. All notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when delivered by hand; (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by facsimile or e-mail of a PDF document (with confirmation of transmission) if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next Business Day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. Such communications must be sent to the respective parties at the following addresses (or at such other address for a party as shall be specified in a notice given in accordance with this Section):

If to the Company: **FRIGORTEC**
 602 Sawyer Street, Suite 460
 Houston (TX) 77007
 Attention:
 Email:
 Fax:

If to the County: **Mississippi County,**
 Arkansas 200 West Walnut,
 Room 204
 Blytheville, Arkansas 72315
 Attention: County Judge
 Email: countyjudge@mississippicountyar.org
 Fax: 870-763-4342

AMENDMENTS/WAIVER. No amendment, modification, alteration, addition or change in the terms hereof shall be binding on the parties unless it is reduced to writing and duly executed by the parties in the same manner as the execution of this Agreement. No waiver by any party of any of the provisions hereof shall be effective unless explicitly set forth in writing and signed by the party so waiving. No waiver by any party shall operate or be construed as a waiver in respect of any failure, breach or default not expressly identified by such written waiver, whether of a similar or different character, and whether occurring before or after that waiver. No failure or delay by either party in exercising any right, power, or remedy with respect to any of its rights hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.

5. COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered by facsimile, e-mail or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Agreement.

6. SEVERABILITY. Whenever possible, each provision and term of this Agreement will be interpreted in a manner to be effective and valid, but if any provision or term of this Agreement is held to be prohibited or invalid, then such provision or term will be ineffective only

to the extent of such prohibition or invalidity, without invalidating or affecting in any manner whatsoever the remainder of such provision or term or the remaining provisions or terms of this Agreement. Upon such determination that any term or other provision is invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the parties hereto shall negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement so as to affect the original intent of the parties as closely as possible in a mutually acceptable manner in order that the transactions contemplated hereby be consummated as originally contemplated to the greatest extent possible.

7. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in all respects in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Arkansas, without reference to its conflict of law provisions

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

COUNTY:

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS

John Alan Nelson, County Judge

ATTEST:

Janice Currie, County Clerk

COMPANY:

FRIGORTEC

BY: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

5 III.

7 This Ordinance, being an appropriation ordinance, shall be in full force and effect
8 immediately from and after its passage and approval by the County Judge.

11 DATE: _____

APPROVED:

15

16 JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

19 ATTEST:

22

24 JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK
25 & SECRETARY

EXHIBIT "A"

September - December 2022 HRA Payment Totals			
Numbers for Appropriation Ordinance:			
1000.0100.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 1,524.00
1000.0100.1006	Social Security		\$ 116.60
1000.0100.1007	Retirement		\$ 233.48
1000.0419.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 1,736.00
1000.0419.1006	Social Security		\$ 132.80
2000.0200.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 3,816.00
2000.0200.1006	Social Security		\$ 291.92
2000.0200.1007	Retirement		\$ 584.60
3009.0700.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 1,472.00
3009.0700.1006	Social Security		\$ 112.60
3009.0700.1007	Retirement		\$ 225.52
3401.0804.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 1,444.00
3401.0804.1006	Social Security		\$ 110.48
3401.0804.1007	Retirement		\$ 221.24
3020.0501.1001	Salaries, Full-Time		\$ 3,016.00
3020.0501.1006	Social Security		\$ 230.72
3020.0501.1007	Retirement		\$ 462.04
			\$ 15,730.00

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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT
APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-**

*AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS IN ORDER TO REPAIR A DAMAGED
WATER LINE IN BURDETTE, ARKANSAS*

WHEREAS, certain functions of the county government are in need of funding; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Burdette had a water line emergency and incurred repair costs for which the County intends to pay; and

WHEREAS, the County shall pay \$15,275.90 for these repairs; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance has been approved and forwarded by both the ARP Committee and the Finance Committee to the Quorum Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT:

I.

The following appropriations/modifications are hereby made for the FY 2022 budget.

SLOT/ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1006.0111.3105	Grants-in-Aid/Town of Burdette	\$15,275.90

II.

All appropriations previously authorized, approved, and made as to all other offices, departments, and agencies of county government, and all other funds not hereinabove changed, are to remain as previously appropriated. Detailed provisions of said appropriations are reflected in the schedule of specific items listed by account numbers within the category for each office and filed in the Office of the County Court Clerk.

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III.

This Ordinance, being an appropriation ordinance, shall be in full force and effect immediately from and after its passage and approval by the County Judge.

DATE: _____

APPROVED:

JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK
& SECRETARY

1 **MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT**

2
3 **APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-**

4
5 *AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS IN ORDER TO FUND THE "ONE DAY*
6 *DESTINATIONS" SEGMENT BY KATV FOR DYESS, ARKANSAS*

7
8 **WHEREAS**, certain functions of the county government are in need of funding; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, KATV plans to record a five-minute segment featuring the City of Dyess,
11 Mississippi County, Arkansas as part of its "One Day Destinations" morning program; and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the County shall pay \$1,250.00 to KATV for the production of this
14 segment. In exchange, KATV shall feature Dyess and a few county-selected locations within
15 Mississippi County on its program with the intention of promoting tourism; and

16
17 **WHEREAS**, the County shall retain the right to use the segment in future
18 promotions/advertisements; and

19
20 **WHEREAS**, this ordinance has been approved by the ARP Committee and the Finance
21 Committee and forwarded to the Quorum Court.

22
23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF**
24 **MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT:**

25
26 I.

27
28 The following appropriations/modifications are hereby made for the FY 2022 budget.

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SLOT/ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1006.0111.3040	Advertising and Publications	\$1,250.00

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33 II.

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35 All appropriations previously authorized, approved, and made as to all other offices,
36 departments, and agencies of county government, and all other funds not hereinabove changed,
37 are to remain as previously appropriated. Detailed provisions of said appropriations are reflected
38 in the schedule of specific items listed by account numbers within the category for each office
39 and filed in the Office of the County Court Clerk.

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6 III.

8 This Ordinance, being an appropriation ordinance, shall be in full force and effect
9 immediately from and after its passage and approval by the County Judge.

12 DATE: _____

APPROVED:

15 _____

17 JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

20 ATTEST:

23 _____

25 JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK
26 & SECRETARY