

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
September 27, 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, Justice Neil Burge gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Ash  
Justice Burge  
Justice Cullom  
Justice Fleeman  
Justice Hepler

Justice Lewis  
Justice Mangat  
Justice McClanahan  
Justice White

Absent: Justices Jackson and McDonald. 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 Ash seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

In the treasurer's report, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte reported the interest rate at 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of Eastern AR in Osceola was 2.15% on \$100,000.00 for one year. Interest rate at Bancorp South was quite a bit higher. Sales tax continues to rise and she expects this month to continue to rise. She also stated county general funds were in good shape.

**Committee Reports:**

*Insurance Committee:* Justice Cullom reported the committee met on several occasions with four different groups for the purpose of hiring an insurance broker. He informed the court the committee had decided on Billie Ann Heugel from Lipscomb Pitts. Questions arose concerning the need for RFQ's before hiring a broker. Following discussion the decision was made to revisit the groups and require RFQ's.

*Finance Committee:* Justice White reported the committee met on September 12, 2022 and discussed:

- Budget meetings had begun.
- Possible purchase of a building for storage.
- Harley Bradley, County Assessor reported the projected 2023 revenue was \$10,651,289.00 and \$9,586.00 would be available to budget.
- Revenues were better than last year.
- Senior Citizens equipment issues.
- School resource officers for Armorel and Manila

*Finance Committee:* Justice Burge reported the committee met on September 19, 2022. Topics of discussion were:

- All elected officials were within their budget.
- Landfill transferred \$500,000.00 to county general.
- Mallory Darby gave an update on Retail Strategies.
  1. Grant writer had been located. Pay will be \$20.00 per hour with a maximum of 1,000 hours per year.
  2. Atlas Tube considering a third expansion which would result in 80 jobs.
  3. Motion made to appropriate \$100,000.00 for Retail Strategies.
  4. Motion made to appropriate \$40,000.00 for Revival Architecture.
  5. SRO's for Manila and Armorel.
  6. Senior Citizens grant for equipment purchases.
  7. AR-Dot Fund (\$8,225.00)
  8. Travel Funds for county judge's and Tom Henry's travel expenses to Washington, D.C.
  9. Blytheville Courthouse's Elevator Maintenance Agreement.
  10. Filing system for County Clerk's office.
  11. Working on expenditure budgets.

**New Business:**

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION TO HIRE BILLIE ANN HEUGEL WITH LIPSCOMB PITTS INSURANCE AS THE INSURANCE BROKER FOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS. Following the reading and some discussion, Justice Hepler made a motion to adopt. Failing to get a second, R-2022-15 died on the floor..

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS TO COVER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ONGOING RENOVATIONS TO THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT UNITS. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-51 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FUND 2800 WHICH SHALL BE TITLED **AR DOT HOLDING FUND**. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-52 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE PAY RATE FOR THE ARMOREL SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-53 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE CREATING SLOT 47 WHICH SHALL PROVIDE A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER TO THE MANILA SCHOOL DISTRICT. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-54 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THR PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTERS WITHIN THE COUNTY. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-55 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS IN ORDER TO FUND YEAR TWO AND YEAR THREE OF GREDF''S RETAIL STRATEGIES INITIATIVE PROJECT. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-56 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY COURTHOUSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-57 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS IN ORDER TO FUND THE "ONE DAY DESTINATIONS" SEGMENT BY KATV FOR DYESS, ARKANSAS. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Fleeman, Hepler, Lewis, Mangat, McClanahan, and White; Nay --- None; Absent ---Cullom, Jackson and McDonald. O-2022-58 was adopted by the court.

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

Respectfully submitted:



Janice Currie  
County Clerk/Secretary

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**QUORUM COURT  
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
Tuesday, October 25, 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
  - Finance Committee (9/26) – Chairman Justice Michael White
  - ARP Committee (9/29) – Chairman Justice Molly Jackson
  - Finance Committee (10/3) – Chairman Justice Michael White
  - Finance Committee (10/10) – Chairman Justice Michael White
  - Planning & Development Committee (10/13) – Chairman Michael White
  - Finance Committee (10/17) – Chairman Justice Michael White
  - ARP Committee (10/17) – Chairman Justice Molly Jackson
8. Guest Speaker – Mr. Nicholas Bertucci, District 5 Veteran Service Officer
9. Resolutions:
10. Ordinances:
  - Ordinance – LATC Fund
  - Ordinance – Kevin Cooper
  - Ordinance – Mailboxes & Beyond
  - Appropriation Ordinance – County Book Restoration Projects
  - Appropriation Ordinance – Capital Offsets (Razorback, 5-Star & Ellis Transport)
11. New Business
12. Old Business
13. Announcements
14. Adjourn

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Fred Fleeman; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Betty Hepler; Finance Kelli Jones; Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason; Assessor Harley Bradley; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Collector Susan Short; County Clerk Janice Currie; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. The committee would be reviewing the projected revenues. Some would be reviewed again and some changes would be made as needed in the smaller special funds. Almost every revenue was 6% to 7% better. Final amounts were 10% less than the total projected amounts.

2. Projected revenues reviewed. Treasurer automation fund \$58,500.00, collector automation fund \$124,200.00, circuit court automation fund \$9,702.00, assessor amendment 79 fund \$11,250.00, county clerk automation found \$5,556.60, circuit clerk recorder Blytheville \$42,336.00, County library \$882,000.00, reappraisal cost fund \$195,818.00, circuit clerk child support fees \$216.09, sheriff communication fund \$62,784.00, drug control fund \$8,820.00, Misco detention center Act 1188 \$70,956.90, boating safety \$1,852.20, E-911 fund \$636,804.00, public defender user fee fund \$12,150.00, adult drug control fund \$220.50, circuit court juvenile division fund \$12,348.00, circuit clerk commissioner's fee fund \$229.32, assessor's late assessment fee fund \$617.40, hospital tax account \$3,545,784.00, circuit clerk recorder Osceola 25% \$19,649.20, circuit clerk recorder 75% \$189,630.00.

3. Hospital and library funds were collected thru the county and turned back. Auditors required the accounts to be included in the budget.

4. October would start expenditure budgets. Justice White encouraged the departments to get their information turned in as soon as possible. Next finance meeting was going to be October 3. 1:30. Annex building.

5. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Michael White; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Joe Lewis; Mullienix & Associates Tucker Brackins; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Ray Fulmer; Cody Shreve; Judge John Alan Nelson; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Jackson and turned over to Tucker Brackins.
2. Mr. Brackins handed out information from the Mullenix firm. The firm was a full service, government lobbying firm from Little Rock. Had been working with Mississippi County for a year. In 2021 when the State received the first American rescue funds the Governor formed a steering committee that would be responsible for deciding which projects were funded. Sub committee was formed. Water, waste water, infrastructure. \$5.2 billion worth of needs across the State. Water was a pressing issue over the State. Natural Resource Commission under the Department of Agriculture proposed a grant program to the steering committee. Proposal in the folder Mr. Brackins handed out. \$5 million cap, projects, cost share requirement. Scoring criteria on second page. All applications would be collected, scored, then awarded. Steering committee approved the program. State Legislature also approved. Applications were due November 4, 2022.
3. Luxora, Keiser, Burdette, Manila were being worked with. Two would be subject to the cost share requirement. Medium household income of \$50,000.00. 50% cost share requirement. County could use the ARP funds for the match. Cities Manila and Burdette cost share requirement \$1.2 million. \$1.5 million was requested. Engineering reports were submitted in 2021. Cost estimates may have gone up. Keiser and Luxora would not have a matching requirement if application scored high enough. Keiser \$4.6 million. Luxora \$4.1 million. Burdette \$1.4 million. Manila \$960,000.00. Mayors had been contacted about the numbers. Mullenix was also working on two more grants. Manila needed a new well, Luxora for distribution, Burdette and Keiser for wastewater. Indication on applications needed to show they had the matching funds available. Manila had CARES ACT money that might be able to be used.
4. Justice Burge asked if all water systems in the county had been contacted. Judge Nelson spoke with the cities and these were the four that responded. Justice Burge asked how much of the funds had already been committed. Justice Jackson said close to \$800,000.00 had been spent. Close to \$8 million was received. \$1.2 million was committed to the Health Unit. Osceola Courthouse was talked about for improvements needed. Osceola Courthouse was eligible for a grant that Aaron Ruby was applying for. Would be for heat and air. No money had been appropriated for that project. Justice Burge wanted to make sure there was money for Osceola repairs. \$1.5 million.

5. i Parametrics had been working with the county on the guidelines for the ARP money. They suggested the county come up with an application and scoring process. The company would take the applications, score them and recommendations would be made. Presentation would be made to the committee.

6. Mayor Wilson asked to be on the agenda and was unable to attend. Justice Jackson turned the meeting over to Ray Fulmer with the City of Osceola. Mr. Fulmer said Osceola had projects that needed a request for ARP funds and didn't want to miss out. Justice Jackson said as soon as the process was know they would let them know.

7. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 3, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Betty Hepler; Assessor Harley Bradley; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Finance Kelli Jones; Payroll Beverly Beale; County Clerk Janice Currie.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Expenditure budgets began today. Revenue portion wrapped up last week. Treasurer, Financial Management, Assessor, County Clerk were looked at today. Treasurer. County General office supplies were increased \$150.00. Other services. Increased \$400.00. Metro Internet. \$4,200.00. Automation. Office supplies increased \$150.00. Small equipment \$350.00. Transfer to County General. \$83,430.28. 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of personal services. 5% raise was built in, 10% increase in insurance.

2. Financial Management. 5% raise built in with 10% increase for insurance. Overtime and comp time remained the same. Small equipment for computers had been budgeted for the past two years. None had been purchased. 2023 would get new computers. Computer services decreased because only one server was being used. Postage had gone up. Metro same. Travel may go down. 2023 request dropped.

3. County Clerk. County General. Election overtime \$3,400.00. Election supplies and equipment \$50,000.00 to purchase 21 new voting tablets. Janice Currie asked about money to repair books this year. \$250,000.00 for County Clerk, \$250,000.00 for Circuit Clerk. From ARP funds this year. \$250,000.00 each from County General for 2023 budget. Poll workers \$25,000.00. Coordinator wages \$2,500.00. County Clerk would move to the new courthouse October 12. Janice Currie would like to be able to accept credit/debit cards in the office. Kelli Jones said the cost was around \$450.00. Fees passed to the customer. \$1,000.00.

4. Assessor. New Assessor would be going to several meetings next year. Software expense \$50,000.00. Mr. Bradley said the software was expensive. Everything could be done online. Mapping was state of the art. Mr. Bradley wanted to add the fax line to the computers. Bids were being sent out for a new re appraiser. May be every three years instead of five.

5. Justice White said the way it was explained to two other JPs in the insurance process the county was not required to do a RFQ or bid it out. If the county did not want to change brokers nothing had to be done. The committee needed to let the County Judge know who they had selected for a broker. A broker of record form needed to be filled out and signed by Judge Nelson. Judge Nelson had no picks in selecting a new broker. Judge Nelson felt more comfortable in doing a RFQ and not backing up and moving forward with the process. Justice White asked Judge Nelson if he had the broker of record form and would he sign it. Judge Nelson said yes. Kelli gave the form to Cindy and Cindy gave the form to Judge Nelson. When the form was signed the broker could start getting bids to bring to the insurance committee. Tom Henry said the Judge had not signed the form yet and the RFQ

would be published in the Blytheville paper Wednesday. The RFQ would run one time and all four agents would be sent the RFQ. Deadline on the advertisement was October 11. Kelli said until the form was signed Stephens was the only broker that had access to the county claims. Stephens would be added to the list to receive the RFQ.

6. Next Finance meeting. Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Annex building.

7. Justice Jackson received a call from Mr. Brackins. He apologized. He had miss spoken about the USDA grant. The grant applied to Luxora not Burdette. There was no grant for marching funds for Burdette. ARP meeting would be scheduled.

8. Money appropriated from the ARP money for the Sheriff. \$650,000.00. Vehicles and equipment. Money had been spent and the Sheriff needed one more vehicle and some equipment. Justice Ash said \$545,000.00 was spent for cars. Expenditures for equipment put thru ARP would be moved to County General. \$94,000.00 open plus \$24,000.00. \$118,000.00. Equipment line in County General would be over budget. Budget would be amended.

9. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 10, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Fred Fleeman; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Collector Susan Short; County Clerk Janice Currie;; Senior Citizens Center Barbara Mitchell, Amanda Adams; Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Collector Susan Short; County Clerk Janice Currie.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice White.
2. Project the Court was working on was made formal. Raises were given when able on a percentage basis. JESAP plan was referred to. Employees were getting closer to mid-point. County Sheriff and County Judge had a higher degree of salaries than other Elected Officials. Collector, Circuit Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, County Clerk made the same. Elected Officials salary was \$67,000.00. County Judge and Sheriff \$75,000.00. Mid-point for Sheriff and Judge was \$82,250.00. Elected Officials \$77,000.00. The Quorum Court agreed to raise the salaries of the Elected Officials to \$78,000.00. Judge and Sheriff to \$82,250.00. Employees would still receive a 5% raise.
3. Budgets today. Senior Citizens, Collector, Circuit Judge Dan Ritchey, Circuit Court Automation, Cooperative Extension Office, Quorum Court, Blytheville and Osceola construction funds.
4. Senior Citizens. Extra money from ARP was expected. Food and fuel costs were raised. Projected Revenues for 2023 \$664,992.18. Expense budget was similar to 2022. Some employees were going from full time to part time. \$44,000.00 savings. 5% raise included, 10% for insurance. Food & Supplies up from \$90,000.00 to \$110,000.00. ARP funds had been appropriated for new vehicles. Repair costs could be lowered if new vehicles were received. Small equipment \$4,000.00 for new computers.
5. Collector. Small equipment lowered from \$12,000.00 to \$3,000.00 Public records and software increased to \$25,000.00. County General carried across.
6. Circuit Judge Dan Ritchey. No change carried across from 2022. Judge Ritchey was reimbursed for his office expenses. 2023 request \$11,450.00.
7. Circuit Court Automation. Carried across. 2023 request \$11,100.00
8. Cooperative Extension. The office was relocated to Osceola. University of Arkansas operated on a compensation basis. Partnered with the county. \$30,000 per agent. (4) \$120,000.00. 2023 request \$128,550.00.
9. Quorum Court. 2023 request \$21,524.36.

10. Blytheville and Osceola construction fund. Some money left that had not been appropriated. Remainder of money should be used in 2023. Osceola construction 2023 request \$15,000.00. Blytheville construction 2023 request \$233,465.58.

11. Justice Jackson brought up insurance quotes. Deductible on insurance was \$1,000.00. Higher premium was paid for the amount. The raise for employees at 5% was an additional \$600,000.00. Overall insurance was over \$2 million. 30% of employees met the deductible. The committee could raise the deductible to \$2,000.00. The savings would be given to the employees as another 5% raise. Total 10%. RFQ was published last week for a new insurance broker. The RFQ was due on October 11. Letter would be signed on Wednesday.

12. The county had until 2026 to spend the ARP money. Committed by 2024. Justice Burge asked about the county farmland. Bids were due on the 14<sup>th</sup> by 4:00 p.m. Bids would be opened Monday, October 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Judge Ritchey pointed out the jury box wasn't large enough to hold all jurors. Enlarging the jury box shifted the bench off center.

13. Regular Finance Meeting would be October 17, 2022. 1:30 annex building. Aaron Ruby was working on the furniture issues in the new courthouse. Leslie Mason asked for all the employee to have a key fob to open the employee gate to be able to access the staff entrance. Judge Nelson was working on getting additional keys.

14. Janice Currie brought the quote for the voter tablets. Two or three months might be needed for book repair. Letter of commitment was needed from the Judge and Quorum Court.

15. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING  
OCTOBER 13, 2022**

**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; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Finance Kelli Jones; Randy Scott; Judge John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice White. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood. Mr. Chitwood had three agreements to be brought forward. Mr. Chitwood stated the work here/live here program was totally funded by industries on a voluntary basis in order they can make an offer in line with the foundations program of offering 10% off the price of a new home or 5% of an existing home.
  2. GREDA board recommended \$100,000.00 for Razorback Concrete and 5-Star Hydraulics a piece. The county would help offset capital expenses. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to approve appropriate \$100,000.00 each for Razorback Concrete and 5-Star Hydraulics for capital improvements. Second was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan. Motion passed.
  3. Ellis Transport Company was planning a new port facility located in Osceola. They had a location in Blytheville and Memphis. Requesting \$175,000.00 toward equipment purchases. 15 jobs would be provided. Subject to a contract with Plum Point Energy. Loan, equipment and contract needed to be in place before money was given. Motion was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan to appropriate the \$175,000.00 to Ellis Transport Company. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.
  4. Contract with Cody Shreve from Osceola to write grants for the county had already been approved.
  5. Discussion at GREDA Board meeting on the idea of developing a matrix for incentives. Clarification was needed on what was important. Low paying jobs were heavily Mississippi County. Higher paying jobs were harder to get people to live in Mississippi County. The Quorum Court was invited to attend the next GREDA Board Meeting. Great River would be structuring the matrix. Suggestions were to be made at the meeting. Justice White stated the four points. 1. Number of jobs. 2. Pay range. 3. Commitment to work here/live here. 4. Mississippi County residents and maybe the bootheel. A position might be needed to contact HR personnel. One employee of GREDA that would handle more of the internal things that needed to be done. Mr. Chitwood asked if the Court would consider expanding the scope of work from industrial recruiting to worker recruiting. Mr. Scott said Big River Steel committed \$500,000.00 for new homes. Mississippi County Industrial Association would be formed. Mr. Chitwood would return with more information after the GREDA meeting.
  6. Meeting adjourned.
- Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 1:00 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Michael White; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Joe Lewis; Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason; Finance Kelli Jones; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; OEM Wayne Reynolds; Sheriff Dale Cook; Captain David Gladden; Captain Morgan George; Public Affairs Tom Henry; Judge John Alan; NEA Town Courier Marcus McClain.

- 1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Jackson. Justice Jackson and Peggy Meatte had a zoom call with I Parametrix. Eddie Jones said Arkansas had strict regulations on how money was spent. The county could help the cities with infrastructure, Economic Development projects, tourism. Justice Jackson received a sample on ways they would help with the projects. Under \$5,000.00. One bill had been received. \$410.00. They would do the application process. Judge Nelson spoke with a representative from Dogwood water and needed an expansion on water system.**
  - 2. Burdette had no match money for their water project. Manila had \$400,000.00 of CARES ACT money they may be able to use. Tucker Brackin said the projects could move forward. \$1.5 million was needed to make the project happen. No match money for Burdette or Manila. Luxora, Burdette, Manila and Keiser applied for grant money. Keiser and Luxora didn't need match money. Justice Burge said there were other cities interested getting assistance.**
  - 3. Health Units. Judge Nelson was working with the hospital system to relocate the Osceola unit when renovation starts. List of room requirements, furniture needs was available. Bid process was next week. Capped at \$1.2 million and a \$250,000.00 grant was available.**
  - 4. Positive imaging campaign for the county to discuss the things that were being done. Attract people from outside location to see positive things in the county.**
  - 5. Sheriffs Department had around \$115,000.00 left to purchase vehicles. Senior Citizens vehicles weren't available until next year. Money already appropriated.**
  - 6. Meeting adjourned.**
- Minutes submitted by: Cindy George**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Rick ash; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Betty Hepler; Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason; Finance Kelli Jones; OEM Wayne Reynolds; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Sheriff Dale Cook; Captain David Gladden; Captain Morgan George; Judge John Alan Nelson; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Marcus McClain.

- 1. Meeting was called to order by Justice White. Regular Finance meeting for Quorum Court business. Budget meeting. Zoom meeting with Federal lobbyist. Tiber Creek. Meeting was turned over to Mat & Emily from Tiber Creek.**
- 2. Mat handled the House and Emily the Senate. Clean up of the north end was top priority. Submitted appropriation request for \$12.5 million. Military construction was chosen. Extent of contamination was not know until after the transfer of land. Another toxic chemical had been discovered on site. Request was submitted on both sides. Senator Boozman was the top Republican on the Veteran sub -committee. Mississippi County was respected in D.C. New fire truck for the air base was needed. Surplus military equipment was available. Mississippi County had good relations with the congressional staffers. Funding deadline was Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>.**
- 3. The county was 75% thru the year. All Elected Officials were under budget. \$1 million was transferred to a CD for the landfill. Fuel prices higher. Election commission was done thru the County Clerk. Boot vouchers were \$120.00 and needed to be raised to \$130.00.**
- 4. Planning & Development. Appropriation request for Razorback Concrete, 5-Star Hydraulics, Ellis Transport. Motion was made by Justice Molly Jackson to appropriate \$100,000.00 for Razorback Concrete, 5-Star Hydraulics each for capital expense no jobs, \$175,000.00 for Ellis Transport Osceola for capital expense and 15 job. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.**
- 5. New fund needed to be established for local assistance for tribal consistency fund. \$50,000.00 would be received this year and \$50,000.00 next year. Used for anything but lobbying. Motion was made by Justice Harbans Mangat to establish the new fund in County General. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed.**
- 6. \$500,000.00 was promised from ARP funds for restoration of books in the Circuit Clerk and County Clerk offices. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to appropriate \$250,000.00 to the Circuit Clerk office and \$250,000.00 to the County Clerk office for the restoration of books from the ARP money. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.**
- 7. HRA payments for next year. Change of broker form had been signed and quotes would be coming. Justice White said it could be built into the budget. Last year a cap was put on**

insurance. \$800.00 for medical with a 50/50 split on anything over on the employees. Justice Mangat and Justice White wanted to see what the amount would be next year.

8. Sheriff budget. Small equipment adjusted to \$590,000.00 for radios. Discussion in the past asked for \$1.5 million for radios \$150,000.00 for fire departments. \$900,000.00 would be asked for 911 budget. Replace the radios for the radio room, consoles for what 911 used. \$105,000.00 for equipment that was recommended. Radar, PBT, spike strips, car computers, shot guns. Radios were obsolete and needed to be replaced. Justice Jackson asked if radios would be replaced every 10 years. Anticipated \$1 million cost. Money could be put aside \$150,000.00 every year for the cost. Fuel cost up to \$352,000.00. Computer services up to \$88,000.00 for network upgrade. Equipment purchase up to \$75,000.00 for equipment for cars. Jail. Turn Key Health was still doing medical. Full body scanner was needed for the jail. \$20,000.00 for 5 years. Lease/Purchase.

9. Circuit Clerk budget. Public records up \$250,000.00 for restoring books. Seven different service contracts were needed for the office. County Clerk and Circuit Clerk would split rent. Janice Currie needed more additional shelves. No major changes.

10. OEM. Small increase in fuel. 911 fund. There was a quarterly revenue payment. Small equipment increase for GPS unit to get locations increased to \$14,000.00. Capital outlay equipment \$900,000.00 to update 911 system. Signs \$8,000.00. Costs increased.

11. Prosecuting Attorney. Carry over. Secretary salary reimbursement increased.

12. Circuit Court County General. Carry over. Pro-rated shared expenses.

13. Coroner and Solid Waste reviewed next week.

14. Farm land was leveled. Bids were opened today. Bids were higher than in the past. Mike & Ryan Sullivan, Sullivan Family Ag, Scott & Gavin Sullivan, Colby Sexton, Langston Enterprises submitted bids. 4 year contract.

15. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

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

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS IN ORDER  
TO FUND THE BOOK RESTORATION PROJECT FOR  
THE COUNTY AND CIRCUIT CLERK

WHEREAS, certain functions of the government of Mississippi County, Arkansas are in need of funding, including the funding of the “book restoration project” for the County and the Circuit Clerk; and

WHEREAS, with this project, the County intends to have all of the books presently held in the Mississippi County Courthouse under the custody of the County and Circuit Clerk to be restored to a condition that will permit their day-to-day use without the apprehension of causing permanent damage; and

WHEREAS, this project is estimated to take two to three years but shall continue until the company tasked with performing the restoration returns the books in a condition that meets the standard of all elected officials and the Court; and

WHEREAS, the project is estimated to cost \$1.5 million; and

WHEREAS, the first year of the project shall be paid for through ARP Funds in the amount of five-hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) – all years after this shall be funded through the respective budgets of each department; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has approved these appropriations and now submit them to the full 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 2022 budget:

<b>SLOT/ACCOUNT #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1006.0101.3080	Public Records/Photos	\$250,000.00
1006.0102.3080	Public Records/Photos	\$250,000.00

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.

5 III.  
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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.  
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13 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
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APPROVED:

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18 JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
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21 ATTEST:  
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26 JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK  
27 & SECRETARY

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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT**

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE CAPITAL EXPENSE  
OFFSETS FOR THREE PROJECTS WITHIN THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County wishes to provide capital expense offsets to three local projects:  
(1) Razorback; (2) 5-Star Hydraulic; and (3) Ellis Transport's Osceola site; and

WHEREAS, the first two projects shall receive one-hundred thousand each while Ellis  
Transport shall receive one-hundred and seventy-five thousand in capital expense offsets; and

WHEREAS, the Ellis Transport project is expected to produce fifteen jobs for  
Mississippi County residents; and

WHEREAS, these appropriations have been reviewed and then approved by the Planning  
and Development Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has approved these appropriations and now send  
them 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:

<b>SLOT/ACCOUNT #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
3414.0178.3999	Razorback Commitment	\$100,000.00
3414.0179.3999	5-Star Hydraulic Commitment	\$100,000.00
3414.0180.3999	Ellis Transport-Osceola Site	\$175,000.00

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.

5 III.  
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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.  
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APPROVED:  
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19 JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

*AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY GENERAL SUB-FUND TO BE CALLED THE LOCAL ASSISTANCE TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND (LATC); AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.*

**Article 1. Affirmation.** It comes before this Court that there is a need to establish a County General sub-fund on the books of the county to track Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund revenues made available to "eligible revenue sharing counties" under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This Court recognizes and affirms the need for such a fund to properly account for and control all such revenues allowed and expenditures made.

**Article 2. Establishment of Fund.** There is hereby created on the books of the County Treasurer and the books of the Mississippi County Clerk or Comptroller a County General sub-fund to be known as the Local Assistance Tribal Consistency Fund or more commonly referred to as the LATC Fund. The fund number is 1007 and the revenue code is 7112 as assigned by Arkansas Legislative Audit. Any transfer codes; office/department codes; and expenditure codes are to be assigned locally using the County Financial Management System per the direction of Arkansas Legislative Audit.

**Article 3. Operation of Fund.** The LATC Fund is subject to all the normal county budgeting, appropriation and expenditure regulations of Title 14 of Arkansas Code Annotated and the County Financial Management System. In accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act the LATC funds are available for any governmental purpose other than a lobbying activity. LATC funds can be treated like general revenue funds or PILT payments. Proper records and documentation must be maintained on the use of these funds for the annual Obligation and Expenditure Report until all funds are expended and for federal audit purposes.

**Article 4. Emergency Clause.** It is found by this Court that the receipt of LATC funding is imminent making it necessary to establish the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund in order to properly track the revenue and appropriated expenditures. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from the date of passage and approval.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK & SECRETARY

**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MISSISSIPPI COUNTY TO ACCEPT BIDS FROM AND DO BUSINESS WITH KEVIN COOPER D/B/A EAGLE LASER ENGRAVING & GRAPHICS, LOCATED IN LEACHVILLE, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Mississippi County desires to accept bids from and to conduct business generally with Eagle Laser Engraving & Graphics, located in Leachville, Arkansas, for projects which may arise in the future;

WHEREAS, in the event that a bid of Eagle Laser Engraving & Graphics is accepted for any project, Mississippi County desires to do business with services provided by Eagle Laser Engraving & Graphics;

WHEREAS, Kevin Cooper, who is currently employed as a Deputy Sheriff of Mississippi County, is the owner and operator of Eagle Laser Engraving & Graphics; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated 14-14-1202 permits the county to purchase goods, services, commodities, or real property directly or indirectly from a quorum court member, a county officer, or a county employee due to unusual circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the unusual circumstances present in this specific instance are that there are no other providers of this service within a feasible distance; and

WHEREAS, the grant of this authority shall remain in place as long as this condition exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas:

THAT CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST TO JUSTIFY MISSISSIPPI COUNTY ACCEPTING BIDS FROM AND DOING BUSINESS WITH KEVIN COOPER D/B/A EAGLE LASER ENGRAVING & GRAPHICS.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED:

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JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK &  
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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
ORDINANCE NO. O-2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MISSISSIPPI COUNTY TO ACCEPT BIDS FROM AND DO BUSINESS WITH MAILBOXES & BEYOND

WHEREAS, Mississippi County desires to conduct business with Mailboxes & Beyond, a business located in Blytheville, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Mailboxes and Beyond offer printing, shipping, and packaging services that are absolutely necessary to the operation of the Mississippi County Government; and

WHEREAS, Justice Tobye McClanahan, who is a Justice of the Peace for the Mississippi County Quorum Court, is the owner and operator of Mailboxes and Beyond; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated 14-14-1202 permits the county to purchase goods, services, commodities, or real property directly or indirectly from a quorum court member, a county officer, or a county employee due to unusual circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the unusual circumstances present in this specific instance are that there are no other providers of this service within a feasible distance and that these services are absolutely necessary for regular operation; and

WHEREAS, Justice McClanahan may not cast a vote on this measure; and

WHEREAS, the grant of this authority shall remain in place as long as this condition exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas:

THAT CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST TO JUSTIFY MISSISSIPPI COUNTY ACCEPTING BIDS FROM AND DOING BUSINESS WITH MAILBOXES & BEYOND.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED:

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JOHN ALAN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK &  
SECRETARY