

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
FEBRUARY 16, 2023 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Drake Brown; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Tobbye McClanahan; Sally Wilson; Economic Development Clif Chitwood; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Finance Kelli Jones; Dennis Prude; Randy Scott; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood. Kelli Jones sent Mr. Chitwood the revised training funds. Down to \$49,000.00. Mr. Chitwood asked the committee to consider appropriating \$100,000.00. Motion was made by Justice Rick Ash to appropriate \$100,000.00 from Economic Development money to workforce training. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed.

2. D & L Refrigeration was expanding. Investing \$125,000.00 in a new machine that would provide more service for their customers. GREDF Board asked for \$75,000.00 to purchase the machine. Motion was made by Justice Rick Ash to appropriate \$75,000.00 for D & L Refrigeration. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.

3. Presentation was given to the Little Rock Rotary Club on the steel industry in Mississippi County. Justice Cecil McDonald had been appointed to the Outdoor Advisory Council.

4. Former Mayor Sally Wilson presented a project. A grant for \$160,000.00 was offered to the county. To get the money for construction there had to be a road safety action plan in place. Committee needed to accept the grant, with a match cost of \$40,000.00. Could be split. Justice Ash thought the request should go to Road & Bridge meeting.

5. Dennis Prude stated he was with an investment firm. Project was started with 150 houses behind Wal Mart. Mr. Prude spoke with Justice McDonald, Justice Ash and Judge Nelson. Gravel road that was named James W. Sanders Boulevard needed to be paved. Mr. Prude stated we didn't need negativity. Justice White stated the county tried to treat everybody the same. Justice McDonald said he would always help to support any project. Justice Jackson responded from an e-mail from Jake Holmes about inquiring funds for private

entities for neighborhoods. The court was doing everything to promote growth across the county. A grant had been funded for \$2 million dollars for cities. Mr. Prude could contact the Mayor of Blytheville for the application. Justice McClanahan thought there was a conflict with Jacob Holmes who represented Mr. Prude.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George