

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT

August 27, 2019

The Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Circuit Courtroom of the Blytheville Courthouse with County Judge John Alan Nelson presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by State Representative Johnny Rye and Holly Jo Engle from First Christian Church in Blytheville, AR gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Burge	Justice Jackson
Justice Clay	Justice Nelson
Justice Fleeman	Justice Norvell
Justice Henton	Justice White
Justice Hepler	

Absent: Justices Belcher, and Ash. Also in attendance: County Attorney Jeremy Thomas.

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

In the treasurer's report, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte reported the current interest rate at Farmers Bank is currently 2.40% on \$100,000.00 for one year and the sales tax revenue received for last month was down but expected it to be up again for August. She also stated all the fund balances were in very good shape.

Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: Justice Nelson reported the committee met on July 25, 2019 to discuss two issues:

1. Judge Nelson asked the committee to create and fund a new slot at the Road Department for J.T. Harris as a strategic planner.
2. Judge Nelson also asked the committee for creation and funding of another slot for custodial services at the Blytheville Courthouse

Both issues were passed on to the Finance Committee.

Planning & Development Committee: Justice Nelson reported the committee met on August 14, 2019 with Mr. Cliff Chitwood to discuss amending the original grant for Arkansas Steel Processing from \$410,000.00 to \$300,000.00. A motion was made and passed to amend O-2017-10 for Arkansas Steel Processing from \$410,000.00 to \$300,000.00 and to use the remaining \$110,000.00 for workforce training. Mr. Chitwood also gave the committee an update on the TADZO Study. Another topic of discussion was several letters received from TBS Capital Funding stating they were owed monies by A&J Construction (company doing work at the Manila Airport) and wanted the County to send them the money for payment. After speaking with the county attorney, the committee decided no action was called for by the county.

Finance Committee: Justice White reported the committee met on August 19, 2019 and topics of discussion were:

- Mental Health Grant (pass through grant) for the sheriff's department
- Nucor Steel Hickman Economic Development Incentive: the committee voted to re-instate the original amount agreed upon in O-2016-15 and to appropriate the remaining \$517,000.00 for this incentive agreement.

- Sheriff Cook changed three of his employees' annual working hours from 2,184 to 2,080. This change did not affect their salary but they would see a difference in their hourly rate of pay.
- The Road Department received two new graders after turning in the two which had expired leases. The lease payments increased with the new leases and there was a need to appropriate \$3,672.00 to pay the additional cost for the remainder of the year.
- The county will begin the budgeting process on September 9, 2019.
- Circuit Clerk's storage rent
- Judge Nelson's desire to move money around in the Road Department budget
- Salary split for the shared employee of the Assessor/Collector Offices. The split will now be: Assessor-86.01% and Collector-13.99%.
- Appropriation of funds for rental space for the Cooperative Extension office.
- Amending O-2017-10 for Arkansas Steel Processing
- Creating and funding slots for a strategic planner and a janitor.
- Tax Back resolutions for Arkansas Steel Processing, Frigortec, Atlas Tube and Calstrip.

NEW BUSINESS:

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TAX BACK PROGRAM (AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 15-4-2706 (d) OF THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003). Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice White seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. R-2019-08 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TAX BACK PROGRAM (AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 15-4-2706 (d) OF THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003). Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. R-2019-09 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TAX BACK PROGRAM (AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 15-4-2706 (d) OF THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003). Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. R-2019-10 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS CERTIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TAX BACK PROGRAM (AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 15-4-2706 (d) OF THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003). Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Jackson seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. R-2019-11 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING CHANGES IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT FOR THE CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR OF 2019, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was:

Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-21 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-22 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE FUNDING OF THE LEASE OF ROAD GRADERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-23 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A FEDERAL PASS THROUGH GRANT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-24 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF RENTAL EXPENSE FOR THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK’S OFFICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-25 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF SALARIES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY ASSESSOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTY COLLECTOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-26 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE LEASE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-27 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING FOR THE ARKANSAS STEEL PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-28 was adopted by the court.

The clerk read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE JUDGE “SHUG” BANKS MEMORIAL FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White informed the court this ordinance required three readings and moved to suspend the rules and to proceed to the

second reading by title only, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. Following the second reading by title only, Justice White moved to suspend the rules once again and advance to the third reading by title only and the vote was Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. Following the third reading by title only Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-29 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING FUNDING TO ACQUIRE SMALL EQUIPMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye—Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay—None; Absent—Ash and Belcher. O-2019-30 was adopted by the court.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice White moved to adjourn, Justice Hepler seconded and the voice vote was unanimous. The August 2019 session of the Mississippi County Quorum Court adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Currie
Mississippi County Clerk