

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT
June 25, 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. Due to the absence of County Judge John Alan Nelson, Justice Neil Burge made a motion to allow Justice Michael White to preside over the meeting, Justice Molly Jackson seconded and the voice vote was unanimous. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and Justice Neil Burge gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Ash
Justice Burge
Justice Clay
Justice Fleeman
Justice Henton

Justice Hepler
Justice Jackson
Justice Norvell
Justice White

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

Committee Reports:

Sanitation and Solid Waste Committee: Justice Burge reported the purpose of the meeting was to discuss:

- The committee had reviewed the cost of leasing a tractor versus purchasing. After some discussion the committee decided to lease a John Deere tractor at the rate of \$3,436.83 per month for 3 years.
- The upcoming construction of Class 1 and Class 4 cells
- The purchase of a bush hog.
- The completion of the CAO Correction Project.

Personnel Committee: Justice Ash reported the committee met on June 12, 2019 to discuss the creation of a slot for maintenance in the Osceola Courthouse, funding the slot and the hiring of James Rice to fill the slot. The committee voted to approve and send to the Finance Committee.

Fire, Police & Safety Committee: Justice Ash reported the committee met on June 12, 2019. The city of Blytheville had presented an agreement on jail fees for the committee to consider. The agreement would lock the county in at receiving \$55.00 per day for one year. The decision was made to send it to the county attorney for consideration.

Planning & Development Committee: Justice Burge reported the committee met on June 12, 2019 to discuss two projects presented to the committee.

- NuArk expanding by 10 jobs and asking for \$100,000.00.
- White Gold Mills will employ 55 people and is asking for \$660,000.00.

Both projects were approved by the committee and passed on to the full court.

Finance Committee: Justice White reported the committee met on June 17, 2019. Topics of discussion were:

- Equipment purchase at the landfill
- Funding two Economic developments projects
- Beautification project on I55
- Upgrade to security system at the Osceola courthouse
- Hiring a handyman for the Osceola Courthouse
- Promise to look at & evaluate salaries

Treasurer's report: County Treasurer, Peggy Meatte reported the interest rate is currently 2.76% on \$100,000.00 for 1 year at Farmers Bank. She also stated sales tax revenue is up from previous month.

Justice Ash moved to dispense with reading of the minutes as everyone had been provided with copies, Justice Fleeman seconded and the voice vote was unanimous.

Next order of business; Justice White introduced Mr. Ray Benson from the Mississippi County Cooperative Extension Office and yielded the floor to him. Mr. Benson gave the court a report of the four programs being conducted by the extension office

New Business:

The clerk was asked to read a resolution: A RESOLUTION HONORING CORTEZ KENNEDY BY RENAMING A BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 14 close to Rivercrest School "THE CORTEZ KENNEDY BRIDGE". Following the reading, Justice Norvell moved for adoption, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. R-2019-07 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 AN APPROPRIATION TO ACQUIRE SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE OSCEOLA COURTHOUSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice Ash moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. O-2019-15 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 AN APPROPRIATION TO LEASE A TRACTOR FOR USE AT THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY LANDFILL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice Burge moved for adoption, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson,

Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. O-2019-16 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 Ash moved for adoption, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. O-2019-17 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 AN APPROPRIATION TO ACQUIRE SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE OSCEOLA COURTHOUSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice Ash moved for adoption, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. O-2019-18 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 Burge moved for adoption, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Nelson. O-2019-19 was adopted by the court.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice Ash moved for adjournment, Justice Norvell seconded and the voice vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Currie
Mississippi County Clerk/Secretary