

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT

May 28, 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. Kyleigh and Taylor Routledge led the Pledge of Allegiance and Justice Neil Burge gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

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

Absent: Justice Belcher. 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 Nelson 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 2.52 % for one year on \$100,000.00 and the sales tax revenue received for last month was up.

**Committee Reports:**

*Finance Committee:* Justice White reported the committee met on April 26 and topics of discussion were:

- County general is doing well and is on track as far as expenditures.
- Bond issue funds received and placed in appropriate accounts.
- New cell construction at the landfill which will cost approximately \$320,000.00.
- Circuit Clerk's request for additional storage space across the street.

*Energy and Property Committee:* Justice Jackson reported the committee met on May 1, 2019 to discuss the Circuit Clerk's need for additional storage space. Justice Jackson stated she and other members of the committee had gone to look at the space the Circuit Clerk wanted to lease. The committee voted to allow her to rent the space across the street and pay the \$325.00 per month's rent from her records fund. The next topic of discussion pertained to the demolition (deconstruction) of the communications tower next to the courthouse. Bids for this project were: \$14,000.00 and \$40,000.00. Following discussion, the committee voted to allow the county judge to accept the bid he felt most comfortable with.

*Planning & Development:* Justice Nelson reported the committee met on May 8, 2019 and May 16, 2019. Topics of discussion were:

- Mr. Dennis Prude met with the committee, Clif Chitwood and Dr. Jim Shemwell to express his concerns regarding how Economic Development Funds are used.
- Clif Chitwood asked the county to allocate:
  1. To amend O-2018-22 and to appropriate an additional \$45,000.00 for A&J Aviation LLC
  2. To appropriate \$100,000.00 for Frigortec
  3. To appropriate \$96,500.00 for an Economic Tactical Study

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 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE COUNTY COURTHOUSES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. Ordinance O-2019-13 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MISSISSIPPI COUNTY TO DO BUSINESS WITH FLEEMAN AUCTIONS & REALTY LOCATED IN MANILA, ARKANSAS. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice Ash moved to suspend the rules and proceed to the second reading by title only and Justice White seconded. Following the second reading by title only, Justice Ash moved to suspend the rules and proceed to the third reading by title only and Justice White seconded. Following the third reading by title only Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Following the reading, Justice White moved to adopt, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. Ordinance O-2019-08 was adopted by the court.

Judge Nelson asked that the court allow him to deviate from the agenda and open the floor to Wayne Reynolds, OEM officer. Mr. Reynolds informed the court Mississippi County had been awarded a \$15,000.00 Courthouse Security Grant and went on to explain all the new features which will come with the upgrade he plans to purchase with the grant.

Judge Nelson then proceeded to introduce the new landfill director, Mr. James Roundtree and presented him with a certificate.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice White moved to adjourn, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was unanimous. The court adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Currie  
County Clerk/Secretary