

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
MARCH 14, 2019 1:30 ANNEX BLDG.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Bill Nelson; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Michael White; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Alvin Clay; Justice, Rick Ash; Finance, Kelli Jones; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Juvenile, Daryl Turner; Assessor, Harley Bradley; Collector, Susan McCormick; Economic Development, Clif Chitwood; John David Nelson, Public Affairs, Steven Savage; Angie Nelson; Tamika Jenkins; NEA Town Courier, Joseph Fondren; Judge, John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Justice Nelson. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood.
2. Mr. Chitwood stated he had 3 projects to bring before the Court.
3. The first project. Mr. Chitwood is asking \$400,000.00 for the apprenticeship program and \$25,000.00 for the College work program. \$12,000.00 @ 33 people. Successful graduates can then be sent to businesses with \$12,000.00 apprentice wage offset to their credit. 1. The \$12,000.00 would be sent from the County ED fund to the college for disbursement. 2. The \$12,000.00 would be per position, not person. If it takes two or three people rotating through for the company to find a suitable fit all would be operating out of the same \$12,000.00 grant. The County ED will not double pay for a position. 3. The apprentice pay is based on a pay scale of \$15.00 per hour with no benefits, the program pays 100% of the student/workers' wages for first month, 75% for the second month and 50% for the third and 25% for the fourth month. 4. This program essentially removes the financial risk of hiring workers new to the workplace from the employer as the County ED assumes this risk for its citizens. 5. The risk is acceptable because of the success rate currently achieved by the W.O.R.K program. This program will be closely monitored. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Justice Michael White to accept the project. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed and will be presented to the Quorum Court March 26, 2019.
4. The second project is the company Bronco. They currently have 26 Mississippi County employees (\$104,000.00) and 78 Dunklin & Pemiscot County employees (\$156,000.00). The total allowance for existing employees \$260,000.00. The 5 year, Triple Net Lease: \$3.50 per square foot x 30,000=\$105,000.00 per year. One half of which may be drawn from the \$260,000.00 incentive- one half in cash. After 5 years Bronco will have used the \$260,000.00 in incentive credits and paid the County \$265,000.00. The entirety of payments (\$525,000.00) will count toward the purchase price of the building (\$660,000.00). Any new hires from Mississippi County or new employees who move to Mississippi County will be incentivized at a rate of \$18,000.00 per person. New hires from Pemiscott or Dunklin counties will be incentivized at the rate of \$8,000.00 per person. This incentive will be capped at \$360,000.00 unless further action is taken by the Quorum Court. The incentive for new hires coming thru the WORK program will be paid as an apprentice wage over the first four

months of the employee's employment. The incentive for all qualified New Hire Positions, not part of the WORK program i.e. positions that have been extant for a period of two or more years can be used to complete the purchase price of the building or if in excess of that figure can be used to purchase equipment necessary for Bronco's business purchase equipment necessary for Bronco's business. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge. Second by Justice Michael White. Motion passed and will go to Quorum Court March 26, 2019.

5. The third project is Arkansas Mechanical. They have 29 existing Mississippi County Employees (\$116,000.00) and 19 Dunklin & Pemiscot Employees (\$38,000.00) for a total of \$154,000.00 for existing employees. Any new hires from Mississippi County or new employees who move to Mississippi County will be incentivized at a rate of \$18,000.00 per person. New hires from Dunklin or Pemiscott counties will be incentivized at a rate of \$8,000.00 per person. The incentive for new hires coming thru the WORK program will be paid as an apprentice wage over the first four months of the employee's employment. The incentive for all qualified New Hire Positions, not part of the WORK program i.e. positions that have been extant for a period of two or more years can be used to purchase equipment necessary for Arkansas Mechanical's business. Total set aside for existing employees \$154,000.00. Total set aside for new hires \$360,000.00. Total \$514,000.00. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Justice Michael White, second by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed and will be presented to Quorum Court March 26, 2019.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 18, 2019 1:30 P.M. ANNEX BLDG.**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Michael White; Justice, Bill Nelson; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Howard Norvell; Justice, Rick Ash; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; Justice, Alvin Clay; Justice, Betty Hepler; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Juvenile, Daryl Turner; Assessor, Harley Bradley; Finance Director, Kelli Jones; Collector, Susan McCormick; Circuit Clerk's Office, Ashley McGuirt; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; John David Nelson; Angie Nelson; NEA Town Courier, Joseph Fondren; Judge, John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Michael White.
2. Justice White stated the budget is tracking well. On the revenue side, some are up and some are down. Peggy Meatte stated the revenues are above what we projected in County General and County Roads. At the end of February we are 17% thru the year. County General, 10%, Landfill, 9%, County Roads, 10%, Sheriff's Department, 13%. All the Elected Officials are under budget. The balance in County General is a little under \$2 million and the CD is at \$2.8 million.
3. The County has acquired the Juno building from ANC and will be responsible for the security, upkeep, utilities. Economic Development has a use for the building.
4. Justice, Bill Nelson informed the Court on the Economic Development Projects that will go to Quorum Court March 26, 2019. \$25,000.00 ANC W.O.R.K Program, \$400,000.00 W.O.R.K Program Apprenticeship. \$360,000.00 BRONCO Commitment. \$514,000.00 Arkansas Mechanical Commitment. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Justice, Bill Nelson to accept the proposals. Second was made by Justice, Neil Burge. Motion passed and will be presented to the Quorum Court.
5. Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff asked for \$300,000.00 for security cameras in the jail. Sheriff Cook did not think the money had been budgeted for 2019. Justice Norvell reviewed the budget for 2019 and the money for updating security is in the Sheriff's budget. Justice Ash stated the Sheriff's Department is going to get the specs together and the Fire, Police & Safety Committee will be meeting the first of April. Recommendations will be taken to the Finance Committee in April. Transfers to County Jail. Some transfers have been made and are coming from the Sheriff Communications Fund. Act 1188. One transfer was made from County General. \$89,000.00 from Act 1188.
6. Justice Nelson stated several Counties have had a vote on a bond issue and none have passed. Mississippi County passed their bond issue with a 72% approval rating.

7. **Aaron Ruby will be meeting with Justice Ash this week. He will be the building inspector for the City of Blytheville. Mr. Ruby will be meeting with Judge Nelson to discuss the bid process for the Courthouse renovation and construction management. Mr. Ruby thinks the County will have the plans ready to start the renovation in November.**
8. **Justice Nelson introduced Ashley McGuirt from the Circuit Clerk's Office. Justice White had one question for Leslie Mason that was passed on to Mrs. McGuirt. This months expenditures in addition to the \$12,000.00 in furniture last month, is a \$5,400.00 expense for 7 new monitors. Justice White would like to know where the old monitors are. Kelli Jones stated if the monitors are less than \$1,500.00 they would not be on inventory.**
9. **Justice White and Judge Nelson went and looked at the County Health Unit. We need to set up maintenance programs for our County properties. We need to be able to take care of what we have. The Health Department has asked for additional money for maintenance. \$8,000.00. The Court gave an additional \$10,000.00. The Health Department will be applying for a 90/10 Grant. This would give the Health Department \$9,000.00 and the County would give an additional \$1,000.00. Judge Nelson stated there may other issues to address besides painting. Rule 32 in Workman's Comp. We may find we may be in a position to implement a safety program.**
10. **Landfill. Class 4 is beginning to mature. FTN stated the Class 1 cell may make it to December 31, 2019. Justice Burge stated to build a new class 4 cell would be around \$500,000.00. FTN is working on estimates for both cells. Once Class 4 is closed you have approximately 18 months to do final closure. We may have to deal with both cells this year.**
11. **2017 Legislative Audit. Justice, Michael White stated we had a very clean audit. Justice, Bill Nelson made a motion to take the audit report to the full committee for approval. Second was made by Justice, Neil Burge. Motion passed and will be presented to the Quorum Court Tuesday March 26, 2019.**
12. **Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George