

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Michael White; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Bill Nelson; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Rick Ash; Justice, Betty Hepler; Assessor, Harley Bradley; Collector, Susan McCormick; OEM, Wayne Reynolds; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; County Clerk, Janice Currie; Senior Citizens Center, Amanda Adams, Barbara Mitchell; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; NES Town Courier, Revis Blaylock; Judge, John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Michael White.

2. Justice White handed out information for employee comparison in the Second Judicial District Counties and a summary report for the 2nd Circuit division. Mississippi County is a class 4 county with 30 to 50 thousand people. The census has us at 41 thousand for 2018. We were looking how we compare with other counties on salaries, employees and size. There are 8 class 4 Counties in Arkansas. The other Counties are Baxter, Boone, Hot Springs, Independence, Miller and Union. There are 6 Counties in the 2nd Judicial District. We share Judges, case filings. We have 11 Circuit Judges that rotate in the Judicial District between 9 Courthouses. The third handout shows all the case fillings in the Judicial District for 2018. This is information for comparison.

3. Fire Police & Safety Meeting has been cancelled for Oct. 3rd.

4. Senior Citizens Center. Meeting was turned over to Amanda Adams. A menu was handed out to show what type of meals are served thru Meals on Wheels. These meals are provided thru out the County. All 13 cities in Mississippi County are covered. Justice Jackson asked how many meals are served a day. The average is 270. The Senior Citizens Center did not get \$30,000.00 from the State. Justice White asked if there was an upside to their budget. There are more people coming to the Center and we have fund raisers. Average number of people attending the 3 Senior Citizens Center was 319. Amanda Adams stated she tried to work on a budget where she does not have to ask the County for any money. Monthly support from County General. 2020 request \$238,202.00. Sr. Citizen Transportation Fund. 2020 Request \$30,000.00. Total 2020 requests \$560,421.00. Mayor Wagner from Manila has asked for \$6,000.00 to help with utilities. This amount was included in the budget.

5. Assessor. Assessor, Harley Bradley passed out the final Assessor's Abstract for the year. Overall totals \$722,476,686.00. 10% goes to the County and 10% to the Cities. This does not count the Pilot programs. Justice White asked where the County mapper was located. The mapping office is in the same location. Justice Jackson asked about capital outlays for equipment for \$16,200.00. Assessor Bradley stated this item should be \$2,000.00. Justice Jackson asked if the Assessor's Office would be going on line. Mr. Bradley was not sure if the people would use it. Assessor Bradley and Collector McCormick would split the salary for the clerk in Leachville. 2020 requests \$668,385.00, with raises \$691,426.00.

6. OEM. Wayne Reynolds stated his budget has increased \$6,000.00 for Motorola radios and \$2,000.00 for small equipment. Mr. Reynolds stated the radios the County has now are

obsolete. The new radios will be able to be used across the State in case of an emergency. They operate off microwaves. Justice Ash stated all police departments have the radios and the fire department will be getting them. OEM will be getting a hand held and a portable radio for his vehicle. Mr. Reynolds stated it was time to upgrade the computers in his office. Justice White asked why 10% of David Lendennie's salary comes out of OEM. Mr. Reynolds stated Mr. Lendennie acts as his deputy when he is out of town. 2020 request \$48,259.00. With raises \$48,997.00.

8. Justice White stated in July County General had a balance of \$1.408 million, August \$1.487 million, September 16, \$1.107 million, September 24, less than \$900,000.00. Treasurer, Peggy Meatte stated in September there has been several transfers to the jail. \$150,000.00.

9. Insurance Meeting will be tomorrow at 10:00 at the Annex Building.

10. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George