

**FIRE, POLICE & SAFETY
JUNE 2, 2020 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Rick Ash; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Howard Norvell; Justice, Bill Nelson; Justice, Alvin Clay; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; Justice, Molly Jackson; Finance, Kelli Jones; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Collector, Susan McCormick; Sheriff, Dale Cook; Major, Rob Rounsavall; Captain, David Gladden; Harban Mangat; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; NEA Town Crier, Joseph Fondren.

- 1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Rick Ash. OEM, Wayne Reynolds was called to a fire in Marie. The emergency plan was e- mailed to everyone. If a copy was not received I will send another. The committee needs to approve the plan for use in the County for emergencies.**

- 2. Justice Ash stated there was supposed to be a protest in Blytheville. Blytheville Police Department has contacted the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff has looked at equipment and there is concern with the way things were going in other cities. Curfew in Memphis and State Police in Little Rock. The Sheriff's department has asked for some special equipment. The money is available in the budget. Meeting was turned over to Sheriff, Dale Cook. Sheriff Cook stated they had placed an order today for riot gear. The department needs to obtain this equipment. 14 riot helmets, 14 gas masks, 28 shin guards. These will be stored in the armory when not in use. Little Rock is being destroyed now. State Police are being taxed to their limit along with the National Guard. Peaceful protest are great but we do not need the destruction coming to our community. Cost around \$11,000.00 to \$12,000.00.**

- 3. Justice Ash stated his wife was into animal rescue. There was a situation in Joiner. An animal was killed in a very inhuman way. The Sheriff's Department has been investigating. Justice Ash asked for a request for an appropriation of \$2,500.00 for CID for investigative purposes, equipment. Justice Ash turned the meeting over to Major, Rob Rounsavall. Major Rounsavall stated our crime lab in Little Rock cannot do DNA testing on the dog. The sample was sent to the University of California. The analysis came back with a match. Cost \$1,300.00. If Little Rock could have done the analysis it would have been free. We do not have a line item for this testing. Reward money will go to the Sheriff's Department. Justice Ash stated CID does not have a budget to buy paper bags for evidence collection, DNA testing outside the State Lab, finger print brushes and powder, boxes to ship guns. An additional line item would be specifically for CID investigation. Justice Norvell asked if \$2,500.00 was sufficient. Justice Jackson asked if the Sheriff was able to move from line item to line item like the Judge with the road department. Justice Norvell supports this appropriation.**

- 4. Motion was made by Justice, Howard Norvell to send the request to Finance to create a line item in the amount of \$2,500.00. Second was made by Justice, Betty Hepler. Justice Ash asked for discussion or questions. Motion passed and will go to Finance.**

- 5. Justice Jackson gave an update on Energy & Property. An e-mail has been sent to Morgan to discuss the security equipment needed for the new courthouse. The x-ray unit for the door will enhance the security. There was a request order turned in for the sally port doors but**

have not heard anything. Justice, Jo Ann Henton stated she appreciated the e-mail sent to the committee. I think in the past things have gone over the Justice's head that we did not know about and should have. Justice Jackson thought she had a picture of the chandelier but it was another one. Pictures of the 3 other light fixtures being restored were sent. Justice Norvell stated there was the chandelier and 4 other lights to be placed in the Courtroom. The chandelier did not provide sufficient lighting. Justice Ash stated they are pouring the footing for the new section of the building. Plumbers had me checking the water lines for the existing building. Justice Jackson stated last week we talked about not having enough money appropriated for the bills. We should be fine until our next meeting.

Entergy was in the process of moving the lines. The wire has been taken down but will not string it until after the tower is dropped. Waiting on Ritter to remove their cable. The tower will not be removed until the cables are removed.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George