

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 15, 2020 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Michael White; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Bill Nelson; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Fred Fleeman; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; County Clerk, Janice Currie; Finance, Kelli Jones; Collector, Susan McCormick; Assessor, Harley Bradley; Tamika Jenkins; Major, Rob Rounsavall; Harban Mangat; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; NEA Town Crier; Joseph Fondren.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Michael White. Justice White stated all Elected Officials are within budget. 42% of the year. Sheriff's department had purchased all the cars. Overtime in the jail was over budget. No charges for leachate hauling from the landfill. Justice Burge stated we may have not been billed yet. County General 40%, Roads 35%, Landfill 30%, Jail 37%. County General below \$1 million, \$965,679.88. CD still in place. Landfill is good shape, Economic Development well. Justice White asked why we were buying soap and towels from H & H. Finance, Kelli Jones stated that may be the only place we can find them. Extra cleaning has to be done and it is hard to find cleaning supplies. Justice Jackson asked about the amount of masks purchased. Mrs. Jones stated OEM, Wayne Reynolds had purchased the masks and have been passed out to different departments. We may be getting a grant to repay what has been purchased.

2. Tamika Jenkins asked the committee to recommend a Resolution to go to Quorum Court. Exhibit F is a Resolution establishing a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force. It will cover the County if people might be displaced. This grant is for the hospital and no one was being displaced. This is a formality to complete the grant. All other exhibits, applications and budget has been presented to the State. The grant is for \$750,000.00. \$500,000.00 to Blytheville hospital and \$250,000.00 to Osceola hospital. Justice White stated we would be setting County policy and has this been presented to the Sheriff's Department. It was not presented to the Sheriff's Department. The Arkansas Development Economic Commission is asking for this Resolution to be passed. This Resolution has been in place for a while. In two or three weeks funding should be in place. The money goes to the hospital systems to purchase safety equipment, cleaning supplies for the COVID-19. Justice Burge made a motion to forward the Resolution to the Quorum Court for approval. Second was made by Justice, Bill Nelson. Motion passed.

3. Courthouse Renovation. Justice Jackson stated design boards were show at the last Energy & Property Meeting. Construction was moving along. Motion was made to appropriate \$1.25 million to the Courthouse construction fund. Last months draw was \$302,000.00. Tower is scheduled to come down on June 20. The books are being removed. The appropriation will be taken out of the CD. Interest from the CD will be added to the construction fund. Justice Henton asked about the removal of the Blytheville Emergency Squad building. The copper gutters off the Blytheville Courthouse and the Osceola roof will be stored. The top of the Osceola Courthouse has been sent to St. Louis for a template to be made. Justice, Molly Jackson made a motion to appropriate \$1.25 million into the construction account. Second was made by Justice, Bill Nelson. Motion passed.

4. **Fire, Police & Safety.** Finance Director, Kelli Jones stated a motion was made to appropriate \$2,500.00 for CID to use for testing, supplies. Justice White stated the Sheriff's Department used some money for DNA testing that could not be done in the State. The sample was sent to California. There was no line item for special cases. Justice Ash was working on donation money to replace the money used from a line item in the Sheriff budget. Justice, Bill Nelson made a motion to appropriate \$2,500.00 for a line item for CID. Second was made by Justice, Neil Burge. Mrs. Jones asked where they wanted to put the appropriation. We have two places where the money could go. Other investigations or operating expenses. Justice White stated other investigations would be appropriate. Motion passed.

5. **Assessor, Harley Bradley** stated his office would be changing software. Treasurer, Finance, Collector, Assessor offices will have the same software. Inter-office communication will be good. Our office was able to handle everything during the COVID-19 shutdown. Walk up window is open but the office is closed to the public. All employees are back to work full time.

6. **Collector, Susan McCormick** stated tax collections were better than expected.

7. **Upcoming Election.** County Clerk, Janice Currie stated they were preparing for the upcoming elections. We are trying to implement a program that will help with the cost of added supplies to secure the voters. Grant will be applied for to get assistance. Additional polling locations may be added to respond to the social distancing. More than normal absentee ballots are expected.

8. **Quorum Court. June 23, 2020. Osceola Courthouse**

9. **Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes submitted by: **Cindy George**