

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT

May 26, 2020

The Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Circuit Courtroom of the Osceola Courthouse with County Judge John Alan Nelson presiding. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Justice Neal Burge gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

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

Absent: Justices Belcher and Fleeman 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 Ash seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

In the absence of County Treasurer Peggy Meatte, Justice Michael White gave the treasurer's report. He reported the current interest rate on the CD's is 0.05%. He also gave a brief overview of funds in County General and County CD's.

Committee Reports:

Insurance Committee: Justice Nelson reported the committee met on May 11, 2020 to discuss unpaid insurance claims by Gerber. County Attorney Jeremy Thomas informed the committee they were still trying to get Gerber to pay the 80% in unpaid claims owed by them. Justice Nelson stated at this point the only option was to continue with arbitration and join the lawsuit filed by other counties against Gerber.

Finance Committee: Justice White reported the committee met on May 18, 2020. Topics of discussion were:

- The estimated cost to move the Blytheville Emergency Squad building to another location or to build a new one was \$200,000.00. The motion was made and passed to buy the building from them at a cost of \$200,000.00.
- Budget expenditures continue to be down below budget.
- Unpaid insurance claims are being turned in to Financial Management.
- Clif Chitwood asked that funding in a line item be moved to another line item.
- Restore \$783,000.00 to the Nucor incentive package.

Planning and Development Committee: Justice Nelson reported the committee met on May 21, 2020. Topics addressed were:

- Correct appropriation error for the Nucor Incentive package and move \$783,000.00 back into the Nucor Incentive package.
- Appropriate \$1.8 million for 100 jobs
- Appropriate \$25,000.00 for internship coordinator at ANC

Finance Committee:

- COVID impact on revenues

- Reviewing letter from Taylor Marshall of Friday Law Firm
- Appraisal for the Blytheville Emergency Squad building
- Sheriff's lawsuit settled for \$38,021.5
- Energy and Property committee would meet, review and approve all expenditures before the money is spent on the courthouse renovations.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO EXECUTE AN ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT WITH THE GREAT RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AEDC BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: MISSISSIPPI COUNTY HOSPITAL SYSTEM COVID-19 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. R-2020-05 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR ACEDP GRANT FUNDS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. R-2020-06 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AND EQUIPMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. R-2020-07 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH PROVISIONS FOR THE OVERSIGHT OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY COURTHOUSES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Jackson moved for adoption, Justice Norvell seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. R-2020-08 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MISSISSIPPI COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. O-94-12, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. At this time, Justice Burge recused himself from the vote on this ordinance due to him serving as a MCEC Board Member. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Jackson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. Justice White informed the court this ordinance required three readings and made a motion to suspend the rules and advance to the second reading by title only, Justice Ash seconded and the voice vote was: Aye --- Ash, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. Following the second reading by title only, Justice Ash moved to suspend the rules and proceed to the third reading by title only, Justice White seconded and the voice vote was: Aye --- Ash, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. Following the third reading by title only, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the voice vote was: Aye --- Ash, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-18 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE BI-WEEKLY PAY PERIOD FOR MISSISSIPPI COUNTY EMPLOYEES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Ash moved for adoption, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-19 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AND EQUIPMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-20 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF A CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-21 was adopted by the court.

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 A NUCOR STEEL ARKANSAS INCENTIVE AWARD, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-22 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF A CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Nelson moved for adoption, Justice White seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-23 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EMPLOYEE EXPENSES FOR ARKANSAS NORTHEASTERN COLLEGE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Jackson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-24 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATION OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING REMOVAL OF CERTAIN FUNDS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY COURTHOUSES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-25 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATION OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PAYMENT OF COURT-ORDERED ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Norvell

seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman. O-2020-26 was adopted by the court.

County Attorney Jeremy Thomas informed the court a motion needed to be passed allowing the county judge and the county attorney to review and approve the contract which would enter Mississippi County into the class-action lawsuit against the county's former insurance company. Justice White made the motion, Justice Ash seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher and Fleeman.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice White moved to adjourn, Justice Burge seconded and the vote was unanimous. Court adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Currie
County Clerk/Secretary