

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
DECEMBER 14, 2020 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman, Justice Michael White; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Fred Fleeman; Justice, Betty Hepler; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Finance, Kelli Jones; Collector, Susan Short; Assessor, Harley Bradley; Tobye McClanahan; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; NEA Town Crier, Mark Brasfield.

**1. Meeting was called to order by Justice White. New budget needed to be passed before the first of the year. Justice White passed out a spread sheet for the 2021 budget. All requests were met that could be. New software does not allow for salary splits. Kelli Jones stated changes and requests were entered into the budget. \$1,200.00 for employee raise, \$2,000.00 Elected Officials and final insurance were entered. \$35,000.00 for Prosecuting Attorney's office in Osceola added. \$50,000.00 payment for the landfill has not been paid. Grand total all funds \$32,244,562.41. Projected revenues \$23,683,850.45 plus fund balances \$27,582,270.96. Grand total \$51,266,121.41. County General CD fund. 43,425,544.29. Checking over \$2 million. Tax settlement by the end of the year. Collections \$3 million more than last year. Justice Jackson made a motion to move the 2021 budget to the Quorum Court.**

**2. Blytheville Courthouse construction. \$1.5 million request from the Energy & Property committee for 2021. Copper was on the Osceola Courthouse. Funds committed for the Osceola project. \$700,000.00 in Blytheville was not allocated. Around \$1 million in contingency.**

**3. Ordinance to zero 5 Economic Development projects. P & D and GREADA recommended to close the projects to free up money.**

**4. Energy & Property. 2020 appropriation for \$1 million courthouse fund.**

**5. P & D committee asking to appropriate \$74,956.99 to A & J Aviation. Justice Jackson made a recommendation to appropriate and additional \$74,956.99 to A & J Aviation to the Quorum Court.**

**6. CARES ACT. \$600,000.00 due to the County. Ordinance for line item to set up fund.**

**7. Insurance Committee. Possibility of escrowing money for employee bills. Justice Fleeman thought it would take away from the arbitration. Jeremy Thomas asked to be the county's representative. Justice Jackson recommended to move to Quorum Court for Jeremy Thomas to be the mediator for the county.**

**8. Prosecuting Attorney in Osceola asked for an additional \$35,000.00. Judge Ralph Wilson and Judge Dan Ritchey asked if the new employee could be a county employee. Benefits and retirement would be an additional cost.**

**9. Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes submitted by: Cindy George**