

**ENERGY & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 4, 2021 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Molly Jackson; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; Justice, Rick Ash; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Aaron Fleeman; (Phone) Justice, Tobbye McClanahan; Justice, Michael White; Justice, Cecil McDonald; Finance, Kelli Jones; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; Judge, John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Molly Jackson. Blytheville Police Department was moving to the new Justice Complex. Meeting was turned over to Judge, John Alan Nelson.

2. Discussion. Acquiring the Blytheville Police building. Judge Nelson discussed the future for the Courthouse and the County. Twice a month updated on concerns for the Blytheville renovation. Completion date moved from September to October. Discussion with Blytheville Mayor about acquiring the Blytheville Police building. The Committee was asked to discuss and if there was a desire to acquire the building. Storage was needed for records. Renovated Courthouse was larger but mainly for Courtrooms. Justice White stated storage issue was addressed with first concept for a new Courthouse. 56,000 square feet. New addition 34,000. Renovated Courthouse dropped from 4 to 3 courtrooms. Condition of police building was not known. Justice Ash stated the back of the building was closed because of black mold. Mold may in front also. Cost to clean expensive. Wiring was good 10 years ago. Dispatch moved to front offices. Built around 1918. 7000 square feet. 12 to 20 thousand square feet needed for future storage. Justice McClanahan thought the health of downtown was a factor for future Economic Development. Justice White asked if the building could be torn down and a new one built. Peggy Meatte asked what happened to Leslie Mason's building. Leslie Mason's office would move to renovated Courthouse and some saved for storage. Justice Jackson asked where storage was now. Burdette Courthouse. Needed to think about future storage and what happened to building when vacated. Easiest and simplest plan would to build new storage building. Asbestos abatement expensive. HVAC was needed. Uses identified. 1. Does County have use for the building. 2. Have amount of mold checked. 3. Cost annually. 4. Check for Historic Grants. Energy & Property meeting May 11. Updates would be discussed.

3. Insurance update. Justice Fleeman had no new updates. Jeremy Thomas hasn't returned call about Performance Health helping to make phone calls. Finance Department proceeded with calls to providers when time permitted. Judge Nelson asked if the County was moving forward with paying the debts. Negotiated amounts accepted Justice White thought the County should move on it. Mr. Thomas recommended not to pay if providers would not accept negotiated price.

4. Red Cross Building. State of Arkansas and American Red Cross were closing several offices. Red Cross office in Blytheville was closing. Director had asked to continue to use the office space. Would be used in a Red Cross capacity. Motion was made by Justice, Rick Ash to allow the Red Cross director to use the office in an official capacity. Second was made by Justice, Betty Hepler. Motion passed. Go to Quorum Court.

5. New landfill cell. Water under the liner. Representatives from FTN came Monday, May 3rd. First estimate to correct \$5,000.00. FTN cut a hole in the liner to drain. \$1,500.00. Vendor that supplied the liner would be called to patch. When cell was filled the refuge would keep from happening again. Dirt removed from an area caused problems holding water. 4 pumps running to drain water.

6. Issue in Finance wing. Species of wildlife had died in the attic. Pest control came and could not do anything. Judge Nelson stated former Judge McGuire had passed away. Served 16 years as Judge. Judge Nelson notified Arkansas Association of Counties.

7. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George