

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
September 28, 2021

The Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Mississippi County Courthouse in Burdette, Arkansas with County Judge John Alan Nelson presiding.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Ash  
Justice Burge  
Justice Cullom  
Justice Fleeman

Justice Hepler  
Justice Mangat  
Justice McClanahan  
Justice McDonald

Absent: Justices Jackson and White. Also in attendance: County Attorney Jacob Holmes.

Justice Ash moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as copies had been provided to the members and to accept said minutes. Justice Burge seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

In the Treasurer's Report, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte reported the interest rate is currently .55% on \$100,000.00 for one year at Farmers Bank in Blytheville. She stated the sales tax revenue was down from previous month but still better for this month in previous years. She also stated the county general fund was in good shape. She also reported that the county had received some PILOT money.

The following committee reports were given:

*Fire, Police & Safety:* Justice Ash reported the committee met on September 13, 2021 and the main topic of discussion was the possible closing of the Juvenile Facility. Justice Ash stated he and the sheriff had discussed the benefits of the closing the facility. If closed, it would reduce personnel and save the county up to \$400,000.00 in salaries alone. Funds saved could also be used to give across the board raises to jailors. This would possibly solve the sheriff's problem of retaining staff because of salaries.

*Finance Committee:* Justice Burge reported the committee met on September 1, 2021. Order of business was to get an overview of projected revenues in 2022 to get an overall idea of what the county general funds would be when we began the budgeting process. The committee looked at four major departments of the county budget: County General, Roads, Jail and the Landfill. Justice Burge reminded the court they could only budget 90% of the projected revenues.

*Energy & Property Committee:* Justice Ash reported the committee met with Architect Aaron Ruby on September 14, 2021, who gave an update on the courthouse projects such as:

- The cost reduction of \$10,000.00 for the X-ray machine.
- Finances looking good. Less than they were on bid day
- Estimated date of completion still the end of October.
- Half of the elevators have been installed.
- Asphalt parking lot completed.
- Appropriation of \$2,000,000.00 for courthouse construction.
- Landscaping

Also discussed was the possibility of building new or repairing of the Osceola and Blytheville Health Departments.

*Fire, Police & Safety Committee:* Justice Ash stated the committee met on September 20, 2021 and discussed closing the Juvenile Jail. Justice Ash informed the court it would cost the county \$65.00 to send the prisoners elsewhere and \$100.00 per day for the county to house them. The sheriff also asked to be allowed to make personnel changes and use the funds to give his employees a raise.

*Personnel Committee:* Justice Ash reported the committee met on September 20, 2021 and topics of discussion were the changes in the Juvenile Jail and the personnel change in the Sheriff's Department. Both were passed on to the Finance Committee.

*Finance Committee:* Justice Burge reported the committee met on September 20, 2021 and topics of discussion were:

- Proposed closing of Juvenile Jail
- \$2,000,000.00 appropriation for courthouse renovation
- Beginning of the 2022 budgeting process.

*Planning & Development Committee:* Justice Burge reported the committee met on September 21, 2021. Topics discussed were:

- Incentive package for Majestic Steel for 225 jobs.
- A \$500,000.00 appropriation for the Cold War Museum.
- The county beginning to see a return on Economic Development investment.

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 THE FUNDING OF THE MAJESTIC STEEL COMMITMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Burge moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Fleeman, Hepler, Mangat, McClanahan, and McDonald; Nay --- None: Absent---Jackson and White. O-2021-33 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 THE FUNDING OF A ROOF PROJECT FOR THE COLD WAR MUSEUM AT THE BGRRAA.



Following the reading, Justice Fleeman moved to adopt, Justice McClanahan seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Fleeman, Hepler, Mangat, McClanahan, and McDonald; Nay --- None: Absent---Jackson and White. O-2021-34 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 THE APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY COURTHOUSES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice Ash moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Fleeman, Hepler, Mangat, McClanahan, and McDonald; Nay --- None: Absent---Jackson and White. O-2021-35 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE TO MODIFY THE BUDGET OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO REFLECT THE CHANGES MADE TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND COUNTY JAIL. Following the reading, Justice Ash moved to adopt, Justice Hepler seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Cullom, Fleeman, Hepler, Mangat, McClanahan, and McDonald; Nay --- None: Absent---Jackson and White. O-2021-36 was adopted by the court.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice Ash moved for adjournment, Justice Hepler seconded and the voice vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Janice Currie  
County Clerk/Secretary

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**QUORUM COURT  
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
Tuesday, October 26, 2021  
Burdette, Arkansas**

**7:00 p.m. REGULAR SESSION OF QUORUM COURT IN THE CIRCUIT COURTROOM OF THE  
BURDETTE COURTHOUSE**

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

**3. Reading/Approval of Minutes**

**4. Treasurer's Report**

**5. Committee Reports**

- Finance Committee Meeting 10/04/2021 Chairman Justice Michael White
- Efficiency Committee Meeting 10/04/2021 Chairman Justice Cecil McDonald
- Energy & Property Committee Meeting 10/11/2021 Chairman Justice Molly Jackson
- Finance Committee Meeting 10/18/2021 Chairman Justice Michael White
- Finance Committee Meeting 10/25/2021 Justice Michael White

**6. New Business**

**-ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

**-RESOLUTIONS**

- "ARPA Revenue Replacement Fund"

**-ORDINANCES**

- Appropriation Ordinance for County Website

**7. Old Business**

**8. Announcements**

**9. Adjourn**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2021, 1:30 P.M.  
ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White, Justice Harbans Mangat, Justice Cecil McDonald, Justice Aaron Fleeman, Justice Neil Burge, Justice Molly Jackson, Judge John Alan Nelson, Sheriff Dale Cook, Major Robb Rounsavall, Captain Bo McCollum, County Clerk Janice Currie, Treasurer Peggy Meatte, Finance Director Kelli Jones, Mark Brasfield (NEA Town Courier), Public Affairs Director Tom Henry and Jeremy Bennett

1. Justice White called the meeting to order and continued the annual budgetary process. The committee discussed four expenditure budgets including the Road Department, Coroner, Judge Dan Ritchey and Sheriff/Jail budgets. The committee also examined projected revenue budgets from the Senior Citizen's Center, the Circuit Clerk Osceola Recorder 25%, Circuit Clerk Recorder 75%, Economic Development CD Fund, Sheriff Helicopter Fund, Sheriff Emergency Operations Fund, Economic Development, GIA Juvenile Grant Fund, JAG Grant Fund, LLEBG Grant Fund, Mental Health Grant Fund, and Courthouse Construction Fund.

2. Finance Director Kelli Jones told the committee the Senior Citizens Center would meet again next week to go over revenues because expenditures were considerably higher than revenues at this time. She added the Senior Citizens Center received quite a bit of CARES Act money this year, but it is unclear whether they will receive any more in 2022. Justice Michael White explained that the Senior Citizen Center is one of the county's larger supplements and that their portion of the county budget has varied from \$40,000 at one time to \$343,000 in 2020.

3. Road Department Superintendent Tony Stone presented his proposed budget essentially with no change from last year. Likewise, the Coroner and Judge Ritchey's budgets maintained essentially the same totals, with the exception of Judge Ritchey requesting a reduction in two-line items in order to purchase a laptop.

4. Within the Sheriff's Department budget, discussion was had whether the county should increase from six new vehicles to eight each year. When asked by Justice Jackson, Sheriff Cook said the department had 44-45 cars. The Sheriff estimated the cost of each new car, when outfitted, to be mid-to-high \$30,000s. Justice Jackson asked for an inventory of the cars, their mileage and their condition. Justice McDonald asked about estimated repair costs. Justice Ash told the committee that vehicle maintenance was annually between \$50-\$60,000 when he first came on the court, so they began to buy five new cars a year. Justice White suggested this year might be a good year to up the number because of other additional funds available this year. Sheriff Cook also requested the expenditure line item for transporting/housing juvenile inmates elsewhere be removed from his budget and given to the Juvenile Office's budget so that the Juvenile Director could better manage the money.

5. The committee, despite the current "hiring freeze", was asked to permit the Senior Citizens Center to replace a kitchen helper that had left and that the Sheriff's Department be able to fill two new vacancies in the department and a vacant slot in the jail. Justice Harbans Mangat made the motion and Justice Neil Burge seconded it. The motion passed.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Henry



**EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2021, 2:30 P.M.  
ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Cecil McDonald, Justice Harbans Mangat, Justice Michael White, Justice Aaron Fleeman, Justice Neil Burge, Justice Molly Jackson, Justice Tobbye McClanahan, Judge John Alan Nelson, County Clerk Janice Currie, Treasurer Peggy Meatte, Finance Director Kelli Jones, Mark Brasfield (NEA Town Courier), Public Affairs Director Tom Henry and Jeremy Bennett

1. Justice Cecil McDonald called the meeting to order and added that it was the committee's first meeting in quite a while and announced that some issues had arisen over county drainage taxes. Judge John Alan Nelson began by providing the size, scope and history of the county's drainage districts and by introducing Mr. Jeremy Bennett, from Drainage District #9 and their two sub-districts #3 and #4.

2. Nelson explained that the original survey of Mississippi County began in 1823 and took twenty-six years to complete. In 1902, Judge Rozelle organized the first drainage committee, but received death threats and so he dropped the idea of draining Mississippi County. In 1910, Judge Gladish finally granted permission to establish the first drainage district and in 1912, construction began for the county's first drainage district (Carson Lake District #8). Nelson then described the various Drainage Districts, beginning with Carson Lake Drainage District #8 and their 128 miles of ditches that drained 56,942 acres in Wilson, Marie and Bassett. Grassy Lake/Tyronza is Drainage District #9, 368 miles of ditches, with 168,000 acres of land. Golden Lake is Number #11, 63 miles and 30,000 acres. Osceola is Drainage District #12, 23 miles of ditches and 10,000 acres drained. The Dead Timbers Drainage District is Number #13, 58 miles of ditches and 26,000 acres. Drainage District No. #16 has 1,697 miles of ditches and 57,000 acres. Drainage District No. #17 in the north end is the largest district and has 262 miles of ditches and 162,000 acres. So, we're draining about 510,000 acres of land with 1,037 miles of ditches.

3. Nelson summarized the two issues before the committee: the question of equitable drainage tax assessment and the practice of drainage districts having to pay the County Assessor personally for information needed in order to make changes when properties sell or get divided. Mr. Bennett described an example of possible inequity, saying he was approached by someone from Blytheville that had two parcels, one 0.6 acres and the other 1.41 acres roughly. The man told Bennett that he was paying ten times as much on his half acre as he was on the 1.41 acre parcel. Bennett added that the assessed value of those two parcels, the big one was a higher assessed value and more land, but he was paying less than on the smaller one. When Mr. Bennett began doing research on how these assessments were set up, he found that it was based at least in theory, upon some form of benefit estimation -- with those benefiting more, paying more. He also added that it has become standard practice for drainage districts to pay the County Assessor personally for the information they need in order for changes to be made on parcels that sell or get divided, and he also admitted that perhaps there isn't anything wrong with it, but that it just didn't feel right to him, so he stopped paying. "Once I started, we were paying the Assessor a fee and it equated in our district to \$3,000 a year. And when I started my assumption was that it was just to access the parcel database that's available on the website for anybody and I thought, I'm not keen on paying for that if that's the case, so I stopped paying the assessor. And when I say, the assessor, I'm talking about the assessor personally. I'm not talking about paying the county. So that kind of seemed a little odd to me. However, doing more research, that seems the norm. So, we've been paying the assessor until I started since 2014, personally giving him a 1099 [form]. When parcels were split up, he would divide the assessment on those parcels and put that in the system and update the system. So I wasn't fully aware of what I was paying for, but I couldn't pay him. And then when I reached back out about making a change, he said, "Well, you know, you're not paying me and nobody else is going use my system but me and my staff," Bennett said. Bennett also informed the committee that Drainage District #17 changed the assessment to a \$2 per acre and a 2.15 mill across the board, which made the fee equitable and nearly doubled their revenue and suggested that perhaps the answer was to look at implementing something equitable across the county, without doubling taxes.

4. Justice Tobbye McClanahan asked if anyone knew exactly how it was calculated. Bennett said yes, based upon a big binder each of the districts have that includes a numerical value on parcel basis from 1932. He also explained how originally the assessed "tax" was based upon a benefit value assigned many years ago and that using that as the value, we now have a calculated amount (similar to mills).

5. Justice McClanahan asked, "But how is that not like an elected official selling something that belongs to the county?" Bennett answered, "So we've done that, except this year, since 2014. St. Francis Levee District has been doing that since 2004. District #17 has been doing it, I don't know how long... basically, this is what we are paying for... it says, 'I'll evaluate the assessment and calculate drainage district taxes, give you an update of monthly changes, complete yearly report for each district, I'll work with the Collector to give you a complete list of all delinquent drainage taxes paid or not paid and I'll do it for \$3,000 a year. That's what our districts pay him directly. I don't know what the arrangement is, but there's payment by #17 and #16.'"

6. The committee discussed how the Treasurer and Collector portions are handled currently in other matters, to compare to what Mr. Bennett was saying is currently happening with the Assessor's Office. Justice McClanahan, "It sounds like the business probably got started from some sort of antiquated method years ago and the good old boy system and no one's ever questioned it. It's just always what happens, it sounds like." Justice Ash said, "It looks like what we are needing to in some way bring it in house, so that you would pay a certain administrative fee that would cover the Assessor, the Collector and Treasurer."

6. It was recommended by some that other commissioners discuss the possibility of implementing a flat rate for the entire county. Justice McDonald said that it had been a very good Efficiency Committee meeting, with a lot of good information, but that they would definitely have to come back for another meeting. Justice McClanahan made a motion that another meeting be scheduled that includes Assessor Harley Bradley, Mr. Jeremy Bennett and anyone else that Bennett can get to come from the districts." Justice Neil Burge seconded the motion and the motion passed.

3. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Henry



**ENERGY & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 18, 2021, 1:15 P.M.  
ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Molly Jackson, Justice Michael White, Justice Neil Burge, Justice Harbans Mangat, Justice Cecil McDonald, Justice Tobye McClanahan, Justice Betty Hepler, Justice Reggie Cullom, Justice Rick Ash, County Judge John Alan Nelson, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte, County Clerk Janice Currie, County Collector Susan McCormick, Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason, Ashley McGuirt (Circuit Clerk's Office), Public Affairs Director Tom Henry, Amanda Adams (Sr. Citizens Center), Barbara Mitchell (Sr. Citizens Center), Chip Barnes (Crittenden County Juvenile Office Supervisor), Lewis Davis (Craighead County Juvenile Office Supervisor and Darryl Turner (Juvenile Office)

1. Chairman Justice Molly Jackson called the meeting to order and began describing new art for the Blytheville Courthouse. She informed the committee that there had been a decision to bring in some sort of public art, but that as the building neared completion, it became apparent that there were a lot of areas of opportunities that needed art. She added that Architect Aaron Ruby and Judge John Alan Nelson had decided that photos of the county would be ideal, both old and new. Judge Nelson said that the goal was to have items that were less subjective, so history and current pictures as well as historical documents would work well. Justice Jackson agreed and said that she was excited about it and that there was enough money left to do that and that the art would last for years and is not subjective. She said the budget is still looking great and that the county still has \$30,000 in contingency and \$221,382.28 left undesignated.

2. She then began to give the committee a short update on the progress made at the Blytheville Courthouse. She said the elevators are still not complete, but they are supposed to be finished by the end of the week. Public bathrooms are almost finished, with the toilet partitions in. They are setting the posts for the new fence. Some of the tile work is moving pretty slow. There is an issue with the storm windows -- they have come in and they're just not the correct size. They were not only a couple of inches off, but rather they are eight inches off. They are still working on cleaning the marble. There is still an HVAC unit that they are unable to get. Subcontractors are having trouble getting labor and even the landscaper is having issues finding some of the plants. She also added that Casey with CNI is aware that furniture is going to be delivered the week after Thanksgiving.

3. Justice White asked what the status was for the courtroom windows in the Osceola Courthouse. Both Justice Jackson and Judge Nelson said they'd find out. Judge Nelson also said he had not stopped working on the bird problem in Osceola, but that the cost of scaffolding was so expensive, that he thinks he has found another way. Nelson added that the pigeons are roosting, not on the landings, but on the top of the Corinthian columns and that he believes he may have found a means to attached spiked bird deterrents on the columns and landings without being too intrusive to the building itself.

4. Justice Ash said that he believed the Blytheville courthouse would be done on time, except perhaps the old courtroom. However Justice Jackson expressed doubt and Judge Nelson said he believed it was a long way from being done. Justice Jackson told the committee it was made very clear that if we do have to store that furniture, it would not be at the expense of the county or of the architect, because CNI has had plenty of time to reschedule the furniture delivery and they were the ones that picked the date for furniture delivery in the first place.

5. Nelson added that overall we have maintained schedule while staying under budget with really good work, it's coming along. Molly said that once they all see it, it's amazing, it's beautiful, it's modern, mixed with old...once it's finished, she doesn't think we could be more pleased.

6. Nelson also announced the Preserve Arkansas had awarded an honorable mention to Renaissance Roofing for outstanding work by a craftsman on the Osceola Roof while maintaining the historic integrity of that building.

7. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Henry



**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 18, 2021, 1:30 P.M.  
ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Justice Michael White, Justice Molly Jackson, Justice Neil Burge, Justice Harbans Mangat, Justice Cecil McDonald, Justice Tobye McClanahan, Justice Betty Hepler, Justice Reggie Cullom, Justice Rick Ash, County Judge John Alan Nelson, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte, County Clerk Janice Currie, County Collector Susan McCormick, Circuit Clerk Leslie Mason, Ashley McGuirt (Circuit Clerk's Office), Public Affairs Director Tom Henry, Amanda Adams (Sr. Citizens Center), Barbara Mitchell (Sr. Citizens Center), Chip Barnes (Crittenden County Juvenile Office Supervisor), Lewis Davis (Craighead County Juvenile Office Supervisor, Darryl Turner (Juvenile Office), Finance Director Kelli Jones (via Zoom) and Rena Adams of Brooks Jeffrey (via Zoom)

1. Justice White called the meeting to order. Judge Nelson introduced Renea Adams from Brooks Jeffrey Marketing, who was attending the meeting via Zoom and announced that her company has built and hosts the majority of county website in Arkansas, as well as our current one. He also said that he was asking for the appropriation of a one time setup fee of \$22,425 and an annual hosting fee of \$2,995 for a newly designed county website. Justice White said that with the county's economic development advancing and with all the projects currently underway, the website is extremely important. Nelson concurred, saying that online service and information has proven very efficient and well received by the public, especially since the temporary move to Burdette by the Blytheville Courthouse -- he specifically cited the successful increase in online tax collections. Justice Burge also agreed that the world we live in today requires a good website. Justice Burge made the motion, it was seconded and passed. Justice Mangat asked if this would change the emails addresses as well and Mr. Henry said that we will have to move email servers later this year, but that email was not a part of this.
2. Justice White told the committee that the county's regular monthly expenditures were tracking pretty well and that nothing really stood out to him. He then explained that the county is scheduled to receive a little over \$7.8 million from the American Rescue Plan. He explained that there are over 150 pages of restrictions on the use of those funds, but that the federal government also provided a revenue loss calculator so that the county could determined how much revenue was lost in 2020, as compared to 2019, due to COVID. He said that the county had a loss of \$1,434,917 and that he proposed to transfer that amount to a new fund named, "ARPA Revenue Replacement Fund". The purpose of doing so, he said, was that it eased restrictions on how it could be used, but it would also allow for tracking of those funds as required by federal law. Justice Jackson made a motion that \$1,434,917 be transferred into the new fund. Mr. Henry said that Eddie Jones, with the Arkansas Association of Counties, sent out a memo stating that setting up the new fund was the standard thing that Arkansas Counties were doing now. The motion passed.
3. In other business, Justice Jackson said, pertaining to ARP funds, that Architect Aaron Ruby had discussed the county health units, and that he feels that if there is any way to do renovations, that may be the way to go. She added that the Blytheville unit is about 10,000 square feet and that building costs would run somewhere around \$200 per square foot.
4. Next the committee moved into continuing the budgeting process, discussing budgets from the Circuit Clerk, County Clerk, County Collector, County Treasurer, Financial Management, Landfill, Senior Citizens, County Assessor and the Juvenile Office.
5. Lastly, Justice White handed out a one-page handout and held a short discussion about possible raises for county employees. He said the handout was just to let them know what kind of numbers they were looking at so they could be thinking about the topic.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Henry



**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2021 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chairman, Justice Michael White; Justice, Molly Jackson; Justice, Neil Burge; Justice, Aaron Fleeman; Justice, Cecil McDonald; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Tobye McClanahan; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte, OEM, Wayne Reynolds; County Clerk, Janice Currie; Attorney, Jacob Holmes; Juvenile, Daryl Turner; Public Affairs, Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier, Mark Brasfield.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Michael White. Budgets today OEM, 911, Quorum Court, Prosecuting Attorney, County Health, Public Defender, Boating Safety, Circuit Court County General. Discuss possible raises for County employees. Request from County Attorney. Justice White reported County General \$1 million  $\frac{3}{4}$ , \$4.7 million in CD, County Roads \$1.869 million, 911 over \$1 million 3.9 million in American Rescue Plan, \$7,792 million in Economic Development, Additional \$4 million Economic Development general fund balance. \$3.5 million in Blytheville construction fund, Osceola Courthouse \$181,000.00. Windows in Osceola Courthouse were to be installed November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. OEM budget. 2019 \$39,862.99. 2020 \$46,961.46. 2021 revised budget \$51,008.00. 2022 projected \$31,497.92. Kelli Jones stated the largest change was moving Mr. Reynold's salary to 911 budget. Salary shows 2 months. Mr. Reynolds stated most would be carried forward.
3. 911 budget. Revenues. 2019 \$353,897.47. 2020 \$938,645.04. 2021 YTD \$641,364.56. 2022 projected. \$511,560.00. Expenditures. 2019 \$407,718.11. 2020 \$373,995.70. Revised 2021 \$500,260.00. 2022 projected \$589,338.30. 2022 projected revenues \$460,404.00. 9-30-21 fund balance @ 90% \$939,410.16. Total revenues \$1,399,814.16. Kelli Jones stated the salary was different from last year because of the closing of a slot, overtime increased, transfer to jail increased to \$243,819.00 for another dispatcher in the Sheriff's Department. 911 system would be updated in 2022. Equipment and training upgrades. Text to 911 was not offered now but may be one of the upgrades.
4. Quorum Court budget. Restricted by State laws. Based on size of County and JP's. Cost adjustment added. Carried across. 2022 projected \$213,859.63. Kelli Jones asked if there was going to be an appointment for the vacant spot. Governor's office had the Resolution declaring the vacancy. Appointment should be made before the Quorum Court meeting in November. Insurance was not budgeted for the position and would be changed.
5. Prosecuting Attorney budget. Letter was received from Sarah Ramsey. Requesting a new slot for another case coordinator for Mississippi County drug task force cases. Salary \$32,000.00. Social security \$2,488.00. Retirement \$ 4,902.40. Insurance \$10,570.00. Total \$49,920.40. Referred to Personnel Committee. Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 28 at 1:30. Annex building. 2019 \$128,467.84. 2020 \$129,040.00 Revised budget \$165,951.00. 2020 projected budget \$165,951.00. Carried across.
6. County Health Department budget. Energy & Property Committee was asked to do a survey of the properties to spend some rescue plan money. Blytheville Health Dept. 2019



**\$53,209.63. 2020 \$50,227.56. Revised budget \$71,552.00. 2022 projected. \$53,332.00. Osceola Health Department. 2019. \$41,873.37. 2020 \$40,036.99. Revised budget \$45,848.93. 2022 projected. \$47,990.00. Requests from the health department. Blytheville building. Pressure washing. \$975.00. Install lights on driveway. 2 LED lights. \$42.88 per month from Entergy. Osceola Health Department. Sheet rock and insulation was not replaced. Finish and paint interior \$3,100.00. Replace sheetrock & insulation \$980.00. Requests built into the 2022 budget. May be eligible for the rescue plan. Peggy Meatte stated the requirements for the rescue plan may change.**

**7. Public Defender budget. Carried over from 2021. \$2019. \$116,547.14. 2020 \$108,852.66. Revised budget. \$133,060.00. 2022 projected. \$133,060.00.**

**8. Boating Safety Budget. 2019 \$1,860.45. 2020 \$2,549.77. 2022 projected. \$2,225.99 less 10% \$2,028.60. Marine fuel tax. Pass thru. Returned to the Emergency Squad.**

**9. Circuit Court County General budget. 2019 \$50,865.14. 2020 \$31,973.69. Revised budget \$51,900.00. 2022 projected. \$51,900.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial 12 Circuit Judges, 6 counties, 9 courthouses, expenses run thru main office in Jonesboro. Shared on case load. Carried across. \$21,000.00 spend in September. Jury trials started again.**

**10. Employee raises. Sheriff's department closed Juvenile jail. Mr. Bradley closed a slot in his office. Money was utilized to give those offices raises. Current salaries FT \$7,487,138.10. Salaries PT \$45,436.00. Holiday pay. \$123,000.00. OT \$241,500.00. Social Security \$604,891.17. Retirement. \$1,272,352.24. Cost to county. 3% \$227,749.32. 4% \$364,398.70. 5% \$455,769.27. Insurance not figured in. Justices recommended 5% raise. Justice Hepler suggested across the board. Justice Ash liked the 5% raise. Justices recommended a 5% raise for the County employees. Quorum Court was not included. Justice Ash asked when raises were done the total compensation package should be included with pay stubs.**

**11. Request from County Attorney, Jacob Holmes. Salary \$16,000.00. Requesting \$24,000.00 to \$30,000.00. Mr. Holmes stated he was spending around 15 hours a month as county attorney. Justice McClanahan suggested \$27,000.00. Collections would be billed separately. Justice Jackson made a motion to increase the county attorney salary to \$27,000.00. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed. Increase for 2022.**

**12. Quorum Court. October 26. 7:00 p.m. Burdette Courthouse. District Courts budgets for Osceola and Blytheville would be carried across. AAC revenues would not have any major changes. Small cuts in the road department. Insurance rates had not been received. Information not received on Medicare. Insurance built in as is. Dental, vision and life not changing.**

**13. November Quorum Court meeting would be discussed in the October meeting to change the date to November 30.**

**14. County Clerk Janice Currie has asked for changes in her office. Mrs. Currie wanted to meet with Judge Nelson and the Personnel Committee.**

**15. Sanitation & Sanitation Meeting November 1 at 1:00 p.m. Annex building. Discussion to increase tipping fees at the landfill.**

**16. Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes submitted by: Cindy George**



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**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT**  
**RESOLUTION NO. R-2021-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT A FUND TITLED  
"ARPA REVENUE REPLACEMENT FUND" SHALL BE  
CREATED TO REPLACE REVENUE LOST DUE TO THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

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**WHEREAS**, the Mississippi County Government has been awarded funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (hereinafter "ARPA") with the instruction that they should calculate their lost revenue, as it relates to COVID-19, and use these funds to replace the losses;

**WHEREAS**, fund number 1802 shall be titled ARPA Revenue Replacement Fund and shall serve this instructed purpose;

**WHEREAS**, the calculated figure of loss revenue shall be transferred out from fund 3046 (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND) and be placed into fund 1802 (ARPA REVENUE REPLACEMENT FUND);

**WHEREAS**, the calculated loss amount for Mississippi County totals \$1,434,817.00;

**WHEREAS**, expense lines shall be added into fund 1802 contingent upon the Quorum Court determining how said fund will be spent;

**WHEREAS**, a binding ordinance and necessary appropriations shall be made in alignment with this resolution once this determination is made and the expense lines added; and

**WHEREAS**, this measure was reviewed and recommended by the Finance Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that fund 1802 shall be created, titled ARPA REVENUE REPLACEMENT FUND, and that an ordinance and appropriations shall follow once expenditures are decided upon.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK  
& SECRETARY

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. O-2021-\_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE  
OPERATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE  
UPGRADE OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEBSITE.

**WHEREAS**, Brooks-Jeffrey Marketing has agreed to assist the County with said upgrade for a one-time fee of \$22,425.00; and

***NOW, THEREFORE***, be it enacted by the Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, that:

I.

The following appropriations are hereby made for the 2021 budget:

SLOT/ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1000.0111.3003	Computer Services/Software	\$22,425.00

## II.

All appropriations previously authorized, approved, and made as to all other offices, departments, and agencies of county government, and all other funds not hereinabove changed, are to remain as previously appropriated. Detailed provisions of said appropriations are reflected in the schedule of specific items listed by account numbers within the category for each office and filed in the Office of the County Court Clerk.



1 Mississippi County Quorum Court  
2 Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2021-\_\_\_\_\_  
3 Page Two

4  
5 III.

6  
7 This Ordinance, being an appropriation ordinance, shall be in full force and effect  
8 immediately from and after its passage and approval by the County Judge.  
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12  
13 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED:

14  
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16 \_\_\_\_\_  
17 JOHN NELSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
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20  
21 ATTEST:

22  
23  
24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25  
26 JANICE CURRIE, COUNTY CLERK  
27 & SECRETARY