

**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 Tohye 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 McGulrt (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Judge Nelson said that the goal was to have items that were less subjective, so history and current pictures as well as historical documents would work well.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, its 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