

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Tobbye McClanahan; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Reggie Cullom; Assessor Harley Bradley; Sheriff Dale Cook; Major Robb Rounsavall; Collector Susan McCormick; Finance Kelli Jones; Judge John Alan Nelson; Public Affairs Tom Henry; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Wayne Reynolds vehicle was ordered and had come in. 2021 Dodge Ram 1500. \$26,373.00. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to appropriate \$26,373.00 from the 911 fund for Wayne Reynolds new vehicle. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.

2. Auditors had come to Financial Management and the Judge's office and asked for a procedural change to the way the County handled the budgets for the County Library and County Hospital. Would be pass thru money like the past. Budget needed amending and add revenue and expenditures for both funds. Motion was made by Justice Harbans Mangat to have an Appropriation Ordinance to add the line item budget for expenditures and revenues for the County Library and Hospital. Second was made by Justice Molly Jackson. Motion passed.

3. Construction fund and Economic Development funds budget. 2022 budget that was passed in November there were expenses that were paid out. Money amount needed to be updated to reflect those payments. Construction in Blytheville \$471,238.00. Osceola \$22,401.91. Mental health grant final payments to Kelli Jones and Bo McCullom. Workforce training \$36,144,58, environmental cultural soil studies \$1,582.08. Motion was made by Justice Molly Jackson to update the budget for 2022 in the construction fund, economic development fund. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed.

4. Extension Service approached Judge Nelson about some line items that were missed in their budget. Judge Nelson would like those line items added back. Office supplies \$300.00, operating supplies \$100.00, service contracts \$530. Total \$930.00. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to appropriate \$930.00 to the cooperative extension budget. Second was made by Justice Molly Jackson. Motion passed.

5. Circuit Clerk office rent. Money was needed to pay rent until moved back to the new courthouse. \$1,125.00 per month. Motion was made by Justice Molly Jackson to appropriate \$4,500.00 to extend rent for the Circuit Clerk's office space. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.

6. Unpaid insurance claims. \$660,000.00 was appropriated in 2021 to pay the unpaid claims and didn't carry over. Judge Nelson said Performance Health had asked for an additional contract. Balance the County owed \$33,000.00 in addition to the \$91,000.00 that had been paid. Attorney Holmes was reviewing the contract and should be signed later this week.

Judge Nelson thought it was a reasonable request. Performance Health had done their negotiations and identified various pots of money and negotiation figures. There were concerns some employee bills wouldn't be paid. Dave Nichols had paid two providers and the County two. Last update from Dave Nichols was six weeks ago. Justice Ash thought the County was on target with what was going to be paid. \$150,000.00. Motion was made by Justice Neil Burge to appropriate \$35,000.00 to execute contract with Performance Health. Second was made by Justice Molly Jackson. Motion passed.

7. Sheriff Cook asked for ten additional cars. \$385,000.00. 18 total for the year. Money to be taken from the revenue replacement fund. Justice Jackson asked to be taken to the ARP Committee. Restrictions were not as bad but reporting was still there and reported thru the Treasurer's Office. Rotation plan was being worked on to reduce the number of cars. The department would have a total of 55 cars. Eight cars would be rotated out a year. Sheriff Cook would provide a list of the vehicles with mileage and purpose. Motion was made by Justice Molly Jackson to table the request until list of cars that would be removed and position of persons who had the cars was received.

8. E-mail addresses. New web site was being worked on. Money could be saved by going to Brooks Jeffrey. E-mail accounts needed to be changed. Asked for first year investment of \$4,000.00. Departments had access to the 365 business package. Sheriff's department stayed with their own domains. Motion of agreement was made by Justice Neil Burge to move ahead with the change and appropriate the money when final figures were known. Second was made by Justice Harbans Mangat. Motion passed.

9. Judge Nelson met with the Mullenix Firm. They were a State lobbying group. Contract was received. Fee arrangement. \$6,250.00 per month. \$75,000.00 per year. Money taken from the revenue replacement funds. Motion was made by Justice Molly Jackson to appropriate \$75,000.00 out of the revenue replacement fund to hire the Mullinix Firm to assist the County in State lobbying revenue projects. Second was made by Justice Neil Burge. Motion passed.

10. Medicare payments. Attorney Jacob Holmes was to check with AAC. Justice Jackson asked if an amendment could be made to the Ordinance passed in January. Ordinance would be presented in February Quorum Court meeting.

11. Susan Short stated something needed to be done about the bird problem in Osceola. The birds were a health problem. Justice Nelson stated there was a plan but were waiting until the Blytheville project was completed. Money left in undesignated money may be available.

12. Justice Burge asked if the internet bill was divided between all departments. Landfill internet had to be connected to the server to transfer information everyday.

13. Quorum Court meetings would be held at 6:00 p.m.

14. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George