

FILED
JAN 13 2022
LESLI PENNY
COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

QUORUM COURT MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 2021

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December 13, 2021 Quorum Court Minutes

13 Justices of the Peace were present. Also present were Lesli Penny, Terry McNatt, Wes Eddington and Sheriff Marty Boyd.

Judge Day called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Invocation by Matthew Lloyd, Pastor Fisher Street COGIC

Assembly and Pledge of Allegiance.

First order of business was the approval of Quorum Court minutes from December 13, 2021. A motion to accept was made by Justice Weinstock and seconded by Justice Pasmore. Judge Day took a vote and it passed unanimously.

Special Public Service Committee minutes were read by Justice Rogers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Not any.

NEW BUSINESS:

An Ordinance was read to revise the Craighead County Employment/Personnel Policy Handbook-Comp, Vacation, Holiday, and Personal Time. A motion to accept made by Justice Weinstock and seconded by Justice Tennison. Judge Day asked for any questions or comments. Justice Cook asked if an employee has been at the County for years and has 3 weeks' vacation and they take it, do they lose earning time for taking it? Judge Day stated that employees will no longer accrue time when they are not physically at work. Justice Cook wanted to know why? Judge Day stated that it is inconsistent with other employers in our area. We are trying to get it to where we are all the same. Justice Cook asked if it is saving the County any money or is it penalizing the employee? Judge Day stated it penalizes the County if time is accrued during vacation time because there is less time worked, more time taken off. The County is getting less productive work. Judge Day stated that he wants to be a great employer for the County, but he doesn't want to be the most generous for the taxpayer's money. He wants to be fair with both the employees and taxpayers' money. Roll was called and passed 12 to 1 with Justice Cook voting no.

An Ordinance to set forth a temporary moratorium on acceptance of any nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works within the County of Craighead was read. A motion was made by Justice Cline and seconded by Justice Longmire. Roll was called and passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Judge Day stated that proceeds were received from Iron Planet internet auction of \$241,945 from the Road Department sale of motor graders, backhoe loader, and truck tractors.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Justice Couch asked how the efforts were going with the cleanup after the tornado that happened on December 10th? Judge Day stated that it was going well for Craighead County. Nucor and Southern

Baptist were providing meals for people during the clean up effort. Leachville and Trumann still have quite a bit of clean up to do.

Judge Day asked for Eugene Neff to stand up, he stated that Eugene has been with the County for 43 years and is retiring. Judge Day asked for everyone to give him a warm round of applause. Judge Day said that Eugene has done wonderful things and will be greatly missed.

Andrew Stricklin stated that he is against the Ordinance to change the policy from the way it has been for years. He feels that it is a slap in the face to good, hard-working employees. He stated that he thinks it is penny pinching and it seems like every time we turn around there is something else to be taken away from our employees. He said that he has heard of several places that are doing it the way that has been done. He stated that it was his understanding that the city does it that way as well. He wanted to thank Justice Cook for asking the questions.

A motion was made to adjourn by Justice Weinstock and seconded by Justice Williams.

Meeting ended at 5:57 pm.

Special Transportation and Finance Committees met after the full court.

Road Committee Minutes 12/13/2021

Chairman Steve Cline called the special meeting together at 5:00 pm. Justices present were Terry Couch and Carolyn Lewis. Judge Marvin Day was also present. The committee reviewed an ordinance to put a moratorium on private sewer treatment works in the county for 6 months. Justice Couch made a motion to send it to the full court, 2nd by Justice Lewis, and all were in favor. Justice Couch made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Justice Lewis and the committee adjourned at 5:03 pm.

After the full court met, Chairman Steve Cline called the Road Committee meeting together at 5:58 pm. Present were Justice Couch, Justice Tennison and Justice Lewis. Eugene Neff, Road Superintendent, was also present. The committee reviewed a plat for Oak Ridge Cemetery. Justice Couch made a motion to approve, 2nd by Justice Lewis and all were in favor. Eugene gave an update on the past weekend's storm clean up and road work being done. The Road Committee congratulated Eugene on his retirement from the Road Department on December 30th and wished him good luck. With no other business, Justice Tennison made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Justice Lewis and the committee adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Finance Committee Minutes December 13, 2021

Chairman Josh Longmire called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Those present were Justices Pasmore, Percy, Cook and Weinstock.

Tax Collector Wes Eddington shared that the year-to-date collections were up almost \$3 million over last year's collections. With November's collections, the total tax collected to date was over \$88 million.

Treasurer McNatt reported on November's financial reports. The General Fund ended the month with \$7.6 million. The Capital Fund had \$2.3 million, and the Road Fund ended November with \$6.5 million. Sales tax collections increased 10.5% in November 2021, compared to last year. Craighead County's share was \$378,828.64. The State of Arkansas ½ cent sales tax collected \$107,239.13 in November 2021, compared to \$87,691.77 in November 2020.

Treasurer McNatt presented the YTD comparison through November 2021. The overall review showed Craighead County \$7.3 million stronger than the prior year. The 2021 budget will remain open until the last day of February 2022.

The Appropriation Ordinance to establish a new mid-point and to classify the position as exempt for the PA Case Coordinator position in the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney's office was read. After some discussion, the motion to accept was made by Justice Percy and seconded by Justice Cook. The motion passed and the Ordinance will be heard by the full court at the first meeting in January.

The Resolution confirming mutual aid agreements concerning distribution of fire monies was discussed. Justice Cook asked if we were receiving audits from the fire districts, and Judge Day said yes. Justice Cook made the motion to approve, and Justice Pasmore seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the item will be heard by the full court in January.

With no other business, Justice Cook made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Justice Percy. All were in favor and the Finance Committee adjourned at 6:20 pm.