

Grant County Quorum Court

October 19, 2020

FILED  
2020 NOV 18 PM 2:25  
GERAL HARRISON  
COUNTY CLERK  
GRANT COUNTY, AR  
BY BH

The Grant County Quorum Court met on Monday, October 19, 2020 in the Grant County Courthouse at 7:00 p.m. with Judge Randy Pruitt presiding. Judge Randy Pruitt called the meeting to order. Members answering roll call were Mark Allen, Danny Bone, Tony Carder, Brody Channell, Jim Easley, Mike Nevens, Bobby Pierce, Jason Roshto, and Grant Westmoreland.

The **Minutes** from the Quorum Court Meeting held, **September 21, 2020** were presented to the Quorum Court for review. With no further discussion, a motion to accept was made by Justice Jason Roshto and seconded by Justice Brody Channell. Vote 9 for 0 against.

The **Financial Statement** was presented to the Quorum Court. Justice Tony Carder asked about Cox Creek breaking even. Treasurer Tim Stuckey responded that it should or better. Judge Randy Pruitt stated that revenue should be up due to campers for the upcoming hunting seasons. Justice Bobby Pierce stated that our revenue was better than we looked in March. He stated that if General Turnback was \$50,000 above projection, Highway Turnback was \$12,000 above projection, Highway Construction was \$36,000 above projection, and County Sales Tax was \$100,000 above projection that for the year we are \$196,000 above projection. He stated that he thinks since we are in good financial shape, we should look at the purchase of a paving machine for the Road Department. Judge Randy Pruitt said we should discuss during Other Business. With no further discussion, a motion to accept was made by Justice Jason Roshto and seconded by Justice Bobby Pierce. Vote 9 for 0 against.

**Resolution No. 2020 – 05: “A RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CARES ACT FOR THE SUPPORT OF RENT AND UTILITIES IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY”:** (Sponsored by District 7 Justice Mike Nevens). Judge Randy Pruitt explained that Exhibit A & B are guidelines approved by the Governor and strongly recommended for using to assist. Justice Mike Nevens asked what the final poverty line was. Melissa Harrison responded 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. With no further discussion a motion was made by Justice Grant Westmoreland and seconded by Justice Jim Easley to approve. Vote 9 for 0 against.

**Resolution No. 2020 – 06: “A RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CARES ACT FOR THE SUPPORT OF FOOD BANK IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY”:** (Sponsored by District 4 Justice Grant Westmoreland). With no further discussion a motion to approve was made by Justice Mike Nevens and seconded by Justice Mark Allen. Vote 9 for 0 against.

**Ordinance No. 2020 – 07: “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A SUB-FUND OF COUNTY GENERAL TO BE CALED THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY”.** (Sponsored by District 6 Justice Tony Carder). Treasurer Tim Stuckey explained this is to establish a separate fund for any CARES Act monies received by Grant County. A motion was made to suspend the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) reading by Justice Mike Nevens and seconded by Justice Grant Westmoreland. Vote 9 for 0 against. After second (2<sup>nd</sup>) reading “Title Only”, a motion to suspend the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) reading was made by

Justice Mike Nevens and seconded by Justice Jason Roshto. Vote 9 for 0 against. After third (3<sup>rd</sup>) reading "Title Only", a motion to adopt was made by Justice Mike Nevens and seconded by Justice Jason Roshto. Judge Randy Pruitt asked if there was any discussion. With no further discussion, vote 9 for 0 against.

**Ordinance No. 2020 – 08: "AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2019 – 08, THE ANNUAL BUDGET, GRANT COUNTY ARKANSAS":**

**(Sponsored by District 6 Justice Tony Carder).** Judge Randy Pruitt explained that we originally offered \$55,000 and owner countered with \$59,900, still \$10,000 under budget on purchase. He also stated that the architect fees were going to be around \$17,000 under the \$20,000 budget figure. MEMS is very happy with the location. No survey required because property is completely fenced. Justice Bobby Pierce stated that he thought we needed a survey because he owns some property adjoining this location and there were some questions about property lines. Judge Randy Pruitt stated he would contact the County Surveyor. With no further discussion, a motion to accept was made by Justice Mike Nevens and seconded by Justice Grant Westmoreland. Vote 9 for 0 against.

**BRODY CHANNELL:** Judge Randy Pruitt announced that the County has accepted the roads in Brody Channell's subdivision called Eagle Ridge for county maintenance before turning the floor over to Brody. Justice Brody Channell informed the Court that he had met with all Fire Chief's, Mutual Aid, and Robert Shepherd to assess the hazards and needs of the county firefighters and first (1<sup>st</sup>) responders. He would like to see the county allocate funds from the **Emergency Medical 2009 Tax Fund** to purchase a set of **Extrication Equipment** for each Fire Station. There were between 12 and 5 extrications last year and if we had this equipment, we would reduce the time to within the "Golden Hour" to get people to the hospital. In Little Rock, each ladder truck has a set of extrication equipment. He stated that they would prefer to have hydraulic sets rather than battery because hydraulic is less expensive and more stable than battery. He stated that if we could use the old money, he would recommend purchasing 10 sets. If we had to use funding from the **Emergency Medical 2017 Tax Fund**, he would ask that we look at purchasing two (2) to three (3) sets each year. Basic set costs with no bid is around \$19,000 per set. If we purchased ten (10) sets it would drop to \$17,800 per set. There are currently some sets in the county that are old, and he recommends using them as spare sets. After some discussion, Judge Randy Pruitt asked Justice Channell to get some hard figures and report back to the Budget Committee for further discussion.

**Sales Tax:** Sales Tax Report was presented to the Quorum Court with no discussion.

**Other Business:** Justice Bobby Pierce stated that he thought we should use \$25 - \$45,000 for county to purchase a paving machine. He has witnessed contractors running rollers in opposite directions and taking gravel from a freshly chip sealed road and moving into the ditches by going in opposite directions. He asked if we have any kind of ordinance about people cutting our roads. He explained that Grant 758 is going to sink because contractors do not know how to patch a road after someone has cut it and a paver would solve that problem. Justice Brody Channell stated that until we make Utilities put up a bond our roads are going to continue to be cut. Judge Randy Pruitt stated that several Counties have an ordinance on Utilities cutting road and we may need to investigate that for the future.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

*Randy Pruitt*

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Randy Pruitt, County Judge

*Geral D. Harrison Jr.*

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Geral D. Harrison Jr., County and Circuit Clerk