

## MINUTES

### SEVIER COUNTY SPECIAL QUORUM COURT MEETING

2:00 P.M., MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2020

The Sevier County Quorum Court met at 2:00 P.M., Monday, November 9, 2020, in the Cossatot U of A Weyerhaeuser Room with County Judge Greg Ray presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by Judge Ray followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called with the following Justices present: Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, and Greg Wright. Absent: David Wright. Upon a motion by Roxy Stephens and second by Greg Wright, the Quorum Court voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and to approve the minutes as emailed. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed.

#### Committee and Other Reports

Update from Hospital Board of Governors – Chairman, Steve Cole was present to give the hospital update this month. Mr. Cole thanked everyone for coming to the Ground Breaking Ceremony. He said there were approximately 100 people in attendance. Now when you go by the site you will see equipment and work going on. Mr. Cole informed the court that at the last meeting they had talked with Group Purchasing Organizations that would be necessary in the purchasing of the equipment for the hospital. The equipment will need to be decided on in order for the construction to be accurate. For example; you have to know the measurements on a bed to know what the room measurements will need to be. According to Mr. Cole there will be widespread advertising for an Administrator for the hospital. The projected open date for the new hospital is February 24, 2022.

#### Old Business

There is no Old Business

#### New Business

The First agenda item is a request for an additional appropriation to County General Fund Circuit Court Budget for 2020. This is for \$8400.58 to reimburse Little River County for Judge Cooper's expenses for 2016 – 2019. These were not billed to the county in the appropriate years due to a change in administration. This amount would go to line 1000.0401.3100 Other Miscellaneous Services. A motion was made by Michael Archer and seconded by Roxy Stephens to approve the appropriation. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed.

Next on the agenda is a request to combine expenditures in Funds 1005 Coronavirus Relief Fund and Fund 3405 Disaster Fund – Covid 19 Pandemic. Having all Covid expenditures in one fund will assist in audits to be performed later. A motion was made by Greg Wright and seconded by Earl Battiest to approve this request. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed. There is also a request to transfer all expenditures related to the new hospital construction to Fund 4001 Hospital Construction Fund. Currently there have been expenditures out of the County Judge, Quorum Court and Hospital Construction. Combining them will assist in tracking and requisitions for payment. A motion was made by Roger Whitmore and seconded by Angie Walker to approve this request. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed.

The fourth agenda item is a proposed ordinance to levy 2020 taxes to be collected in 2021. Clerk Akin read the ordinance in its entirety. A motion was made by Greg Wright and seconded by Angie Walker to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading by title only. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed. Clerk Akin read the ordinance for the second time by title only. A motion was made by Greg Wright and seconded by Angie Walker to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the third reading by title only. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed. Clerk Akin read the ordinance for the third time by title only. A motion was made by Kenneth Currence to

approve the ordinance. Greg Wright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed.

Item 5 on the agenda is a request for an additional appropriation of \$5000.00 to Fund 3031 Juvenile Probation Fee Fund line 0414.3094 Meals and Lodging. This is needed to cover housing costs for juveniles. This will be done by court order from Fund 3404 Jail Operation and Maintenance Reserve for Depreciation. The Fund is currently not taking in enough revenue to cover the costs incurred. A motion was made by Michael Archer and seconded by Earl Battiest to approve this appropriation. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed.

The last agenda item is a proposed ordinance to amend the county operating budget for 2020, all amendments being previously approved by the Quorum Court. Clerk Akin read the proposed ordinance. A motion was made by Roxy Stephens to approve. The motion was seconded by Roger Whitmore. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. No – None. Absent – David Wright. The motion passed by a two-thirds vote.

Mike Archer asked if there is a need to pass a resolution regarding the RSAT Grant. Sheriff Gentry said that there is not because it is a continuation of the same grant. Mike stated that this is a new grant each time. You have to apply every year. The Sheriff said that he does have to apply each time but it is considered a continuation grant. The Judge said if necessary, we could pass a resolution in December. Mike asked what time period is covered by the grant. Sheriff Gentry said it starts October 1 and goes through September 30. Earl Battiest asked about the RSAT Fund being negative in the Overtime Line item. There has not been money budgeted for overtime. The Sheriff stated that they use the RSAT employees to fill in as jailers. He stated that they had been approved to be reimbursed for the overtime by grant money. He stated that the grant had been reimbursing everything that the Coordinator submitted. Clerk Akin stated that the RSAT employees could be set up to get paid from the jail budget when they fill in as jailers if that is needed. Mike Archer asked about the grant money that was supposed to be received for iPad for RSAT in the amount of \$4776. The sheriff said that this had just been signed off by DF&A..

#### **Announcements**

Muriel Wiley was scheduled to be here today but had to cancel due to Covid exposure. She will be here next month. She is the new Director for the Chamber of Commerce.

Sandra Jackson spoke on behalf of the Hospital Foundation Board. She said they would be meeting at the Farm Bureau building. She stated that Pilgrim had announced that they would be donating the funds for a lighted concrete walking trail around the hospital grounds. She indicated that the Foundation is a non-profit so donations are tax deductible.

Judge Ray told the Quorum Court that the county had submitted for reimbursement for all the money that had been expended for the new hospital. Treasurer Barnes said we lacked receiving one check to reach 100% reimbursement.

#### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Roxy Stephens made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Greg Wright. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debbie Akin  
County Clerk