

MINUTES
SEVIER COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
2:00 P.M., MONDAY MARCH 8, 2021

The Sevier County Quorum Court met at 2:00 P.M., Monday, March 8, 2021, in the Sevier County Courthouse Courtroom 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 Roger Whitmore. Absent: David Wright and Greg Wright. Upon a motion by Roxy Stephens and second by Roger Whitmore, 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, and Roger Whitmore. No – None. Absent – David Wright and Greg Wright. The motion passed.

Committee and Other Reports - Steve Cole was present to report on the progress of the new hospital construction. Mr. Cole said that the progress on the hospital is going well. We anticipate opening for emergency services in about a year. The construction crew was able to be working last Friday after all the snow, so the drainage on the land is very good which means there should be minimal weather delays. The list of applicants for CEO for the hospital have been narrowed down to 10 that the Hospital Board wants to interview. The interviews will be conducted the week of April 19-23. After those interviews the list will be further narrowed down and at that time the remaining applicants will be identified and brought here to Sevier County to tour the area. The applicants will be reimbursed up to \$1000.00 for travel to come here during the selection process. There will be a need to locate some office space for the CEO as well as other hospital employees who will be hired before the hospital is ready for occupancy. The start date for the CEO is expected to be June 1, 2021.

AirEvac is definitely going to be signing a long-term lease and will be building an office and heli-pad on the hospital grounds. It has come to the attention of the Board that there needs to be change in how the electric lines are run to the hospital because of the helicopter flights. The new plan will be a little more costly but the lines will be run under the highway rather than overhead.

Mr. Cole told the Court that the employees of the hospital will also be considered County Employees and will therefore be offered the same benefits that the county employees have. Clerk Akin said she plans to contact Linda Johnson of Friday Firm to discuss how this will be handled by the County. There is 1.38 million dollars in the hospital account. County sales tax revenues continue to be good.

Old Business – There is no old business

New Business - There was no new business.

Announcements - Tiffany Maurer gave an update about Economic Development. She informed the court that she, a person from the Workforce Development Dept. at the college, and a representative of the Chamber of Commerce would be attending virtual training for ACT Work Ready Communities. These three would then be able to come back and train others in the community. This will open our communities up for more grant opportunities.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Debbie Akin
County Clerk