

MINUTES
SEVIER COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
2:00 P.M., MONDAY AUGUST 10, 2020

The Sevier County Quorum Court met at 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 10, 2020, in the De Queen High School Cafeteria with County Judge Greg Ray presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by Stephen Copley the Minister from the De Queen Methodist Church. Judge Ray followed by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called with the following Justices present: Michael Archer, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, and Greg Wright. Absent: Earl Battiest and 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, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. Absent – Earl Battiest and David Wright. No- None. The motion passed.

Committee and Other Reports

Update from Hospital Board of Governors – Judge Greg Ray gave the hospital update this month. He informed the Court that the Hospital Foundation Board has been established with 7 members. There is however no limit on the number of members that can be on this Board. Jim Smith attended the last meeting to present a request that the Hospital allow installation of a “Baby Box” on the outside wall of the hospital. He stated that the Board was favorable toward the idea. The judge informed the court that this past week a meeting had been held regarding the County’s rating for the bonds that are to be sold. He said we should know that rating soon. Judge Ray also talked about the need to get easements from 40 landowners for the sewer project for the new hospital. He also stated that there is a grant that can be applied for that will pay for 70% of the cost of the sewer project. The meeting that was scheduled for August 19 regarding passage of an Ordinance about the bonds has been cancelled. A Special Meeting will be called when that has been prepared for passage.

Judge Ray presented a report of items deleted from county inventory. No action is required.

Old Business

New Business

The First agenda item is approval of the appointment of Joan Moore to the Sevier County Library Board. She will vacancy created by the resignation of Florence Metcalf. A motion was made by Roxy Stephens and seconded by Michael Archer to approve the appointment. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. Absent – Earl Battiest and David Wright. No- None. The motion passed.

Next on the agenda is a proposed amendment to action taken in the July Quorum Court meeting. The transfer of Hospital Sales Tax received should be to Fund 4001 Hospital Construction Fund and not County General Fund. This change is requested after Legislative Audit informed that this would make the audit process less complicated. An increase in the amount to be transferred is also requested. The amount to transfer will be \$286,781 and will be used to cover billing received by the County Clerk’s Office. Roxy Stephens made a motion to approve the amendment. Greg Wright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. Absent – Earl Battiest and David Wright. No- None. The motion passed.

The third agenda item is a request for an additional appropriation to County Road Fund for \$25,000. To pay Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District for preparation of a Hazard Mitigation Plan. According to Judge Ray the County will get back \$18,750 of this through a grant. This would be added to line 2000.0200.3009 Other Professional Services. A motion was made by Michael Archer and seconded by Charles Keels to approve the appropriation. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. Absent – Earl Battiest and David Wright. No- None. The motion passed.

Agenda item four is a request to appropriate funds already in the 2020 Budget for a Dell laptop computer in the amount of \$4127.60. This laptop would be used for Circuit Court needs as well as for Circuit Clerk or her deputies to work off site if necessary. The cost is to be split 50/50 between the Court Automation Fund and the Recorder’s Cost Fund. This would be charged to Capital Outlay line 3002.0401.4004 and 3006.0102.4004. Angie

Walker made a motion to approve this appropriation and Roger Whitmore made a second. Circuit Clerk Kathy Smith explained the need for the laptop. Mike Archer said it seemed expensive to him. Angie Walker said she had paid \$8000 for one for her office. Kathy explained that this included maintenance as well as programming. A roll call vote was taken. Yes – Michael Archer, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Angie Walker, Roger Whitmore, and Greg Wright. Absent – Earl Battiest and David Wright. No- None. The motion passed.

Announcements

Economic Development Coordinator Tiffany Maurer gave an update on Census percentages. Mayor Jeff Brown stated that the Census Bureau would in fact be making home visits to get Census information.

Judge Ray announced that the August 19 meeting is cancelled. This meeting will be a Special Meeting to be scheduled as soon as the Bond Ordinance is prepared.

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