

MINUTES
SEVIER COUNTY SPECIAL QUORUM COURT MEETING
12:00 NOON, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

The Sevier County Quorum Court met at 12:00 Noon, Friday, September 11, 2020, in the Cossatot U of A Weyerhaeuser Room 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, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, David Wright, and Greg Wright. Absent: Angie Walker. Upon a motion by Roxy Stephens and second by David 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, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. Absent – Angie Walker. No- None. The motion passed.

Committee and Other Reports

The Sevier County Historical Museum Financial Reports were sent out with the Agenda. No action is required.

Update from Hospital Board of Governors – Chairman, Steve Cole was present to give 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. He expects the ground breaking to take place around November 1. Mr. Cole stated that a Hospital Administrator will be the first person to be hired for the hospital. There is the need for someone to be active in making day to day decisions as the actual construction begins. He anticipates this becoming effective January 1, 2021. The Board is working on a Mission Statement. Mr. Cole stated how important it is for this person to want to be here and devoted to our community. He informed the court that a sign will be going up. The placement is important and there will be a need to cut some trees.

David Boone was present representing David Boone Ministries, the administration for the Sevier County Senior Citizen Center. He explained that due to revocation of certification with the previous administration, his organization had been asked to take over the Centers that Columbia Senior Meals Service was handling. He explained that they are taking care of about 900 meals per month for Sevier County. They are not breaking even on cost of running the Centers. He stated that all help will be appreciated. He is supervised by The Area Agency on Aging. He stated that under their direction he was no longer running the Center in Lockesburg. Mike Archer asked if the money stays in Sevier County that we give them. Mr. Boone said that it is used specifically for the County Centers. Mike also asked if the Quorum Court could get financial reports at least quarterly. Ms. Boone said that they could provide that. Someone made a motion to pay Boone Ministries the \$6000 that was budgeted. Judge Ray stated that it did not have to be voted on since it was already appropriated in the budget. Judge Ray asked if we might invite Mrs. Langston to come to see what we might do to get the Lockesburg Center back in business. Mr. Boone said he was sure she would come. Marci McCullough of the Health Department asked where the Centers' money comes from. Ms. Boone informed her that they submit invoicing to AAA. She stated that they can get money from Medicaid but they only have two people in the county that have been assigned to that reimbursement.

Old Business

There is no Old Business

New Business

The First agenda item is a Proposed Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Sales and Use Tax Bonds for the Purpose of Financing All or Part or a Portion of the Cost of Capital Improvements; Pledging a 1% Sales and Use Tax to Pay the Principal Interest on the Bonds; Prescribing Other Matters Relating Thereto; And Declaring an Emergency. Ryan explained the Ordinance and the process to passage of it. Jason Holsclaw with Stephens Inc. explained the marketing of the Bonds. He also stated that they were able to receive a 3.07% interest rate for 30-year money. Mr. Bowman explained how the County will be reimbursed for the money that has been spent prior to the sale of bonds. Mike Archer mad a motion to suspend the rule and place the proposed ordinance on the first

reading by title only. David Wright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

A motion was made by David Wright and seconded by Greg Wright to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the second reading by Title only. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mike Archer and seconded by Greg Wright 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, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

A motion was made by David Wright and seconded by Greg Wright to approve the Ordinance Authorizing Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of financing all or a portion of the cost for the Sevier County Hospital. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

Mr. Bowman stated that they court also needed to approve the emergency clause to the bond. A motion was made by David Wright and seconded by Greg Wright to approve the Emergency Clause to the Bond Ordinance. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

Next on the agenda is a proposed resolution by Sevier County supporting Issue 1, proposing an amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to continue a levy of a one-half present sales and use tax for state highways and bridges; county roads, bridges, and other surface transportation; and city streets, bridges, and other surface transportation after the retirement of the bonds authorized in Arkansas Constitution Amendment 91, as special revenue to be distributed under the Arkansas Highway Revenue Distribution Law. Judge Ray read the Resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Roxy Stephens and seconded by Greg Wright to approve the Resolution. A roll call vote was taken. Yes- Michael Archer, Earl Battiest, Kenneth Currence, Charles Keels, Roxy Stephens, Roger Whitmore, David Wright, and Greg Wright. No- None. Absent – Angie Walker. The motion passed.

Announcements Judge Ray announced that there would be no Quorum Court meeting on September 14. David Wright asked if he could speak. He addressed the Hospital Board. He wanted to emphasize that if the Board or the persons they hired were not doing an adequate job that the Quorum Court would step in and have them replaced. He stated that we as a group had promised this to the citizens and we need to keep our promises. Chairman Steve Cole said he was in agreement.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Debbie Akin
County Clerk