

**BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

May 3, 2022

The Baxter County Quorum Court met in regular session at 6:00 PM in the Baxter County Courtroom with County Judge Mickey Pendergrass presiding. Members present were: Rhonda “Tink” Albright, Ty Chapman, Cameron Davis, Angela DeGroote, Maryanne Edge, Dennis Frank, Kevin Litty, Charles Osgood, Wayne Roth, Roger Steele, and Dirk Waldrop. The meeting began with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge Pendergrass asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the April meeting. Justice Albright moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Justice DeGroote seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

Justice Waldrop reported on the April 25 meeting of the Personnel Committee. Justice Davis reported on the April 25 meeting of the Budget Committee. Minutes of both meetings will be attached to this Journal.

Justice Frank reported on the Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Quorum Court Association, which was held in Little Rock in April.

Baxter County Extension Agent Brad Runsick provided the Court with a report on the services provided by the County Extension Office.

County Treasurer Jenay Mize gave a brief Treasurer’s report.

Old Business:

2nd Reading, Proposed Ordinance #2022- , **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR BAXTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES**, was sponsored by the Personnel Committee and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. The proposed ordinance was then tabled for 3rd reading at next month’s meeting.

New Business:

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2022-22, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF MARCH TO THE SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT 2022 BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Albright and read by

title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Edge moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Albright. Being no discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Roth, Steele, and Waldrop. The motion carried, and Ordinance #2022-22 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2022-23, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$64,000.00 FROM THE JAIL MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS FUND (#3401) INTO THE COUNTY JAIL 2022 BUDGET (#3401)**, was sponsored by the Budget Committee and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Steele moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Justice Davis. Sheriff Montgomery made a brief comment regarding a correction to the ordinance. It noted appropriation to a line item for “fuels and lubricants,” and he said it should have said “natural gas” in the jail. The line item number was correct, but the title needed to be corrected. Being no further discussion, the roll was called for adoption of the ordinance as corrected. Voting YEA: Justices Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Roth, Steele, Waldrop, and Albright. The motion passed, and Ordinance #2022-23 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2022-24, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING CORONAVIRUS RELIEF GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 INTO THE COUNTY GENERAL BUDGET**, was sponsored by the Budget Committee, and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Davis moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Justice Steele. Justice Davis spoke in favor of the ordinance, but also said he believed the Saddle Club should be given more than \$100,000.00. He introduced Tommy Rand, the President of the Mountain Home Saddle Club. Mr. Rand spoke regarding the need for the additional funding, as did some of the other Saddle Club board members. They are requesting funds for building new, handicap accessible restroom facilities, and new bleachers. Justice Waldrop spoke at length against the proposed ordinance. After lengthy discussion, Justice Davis made a motion to amend the proposed ordinance to appropriate \$275,000.00 for the Saddle Club. Justice Chapman seconded that motion. The roll was called on the motion to amend the ordinance. Voting YEA: Justices Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Steele, and Chapman. Voting NAY: Justices Roth, Waldrop, and Albright. Motion passed. Justice Albright then expressed concern regarding the possibility of giving the Saddle Club more than was given to the fire departments. Some of the justices questioned why they had not borrowed money or done any creative fundraising to raise the money that was needed for these improvements, and cited concerns over the lack of future planning to raise the funds over the last several years. In light of that discussion, Justice Waldrop moved to re-amend the ordinance back to the original amount of \$100,000.00. Justice Roth seconded that motion. Voting YEA: Justices Roth, Waldrop, and Albright. Voting NAY: Justices DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Steele, Chapman, and Davis. Motion failed. After some additional discussion, the roll was called for passage of the ordinance as amended. Voting YEA: Justices Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Steele, Chapman, Davis, and DeGroot. Voting NAY: Justices Roth, Waldrop, and Albright. The motion passed, and Ordinance #2022-24 was adopted with a vote of 8 YEA, 3 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2022-25, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS TO THE BAXTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Litty and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Waldrop

motioned to adopt, seconded by Justice Edge. After some discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Frank, Litty, Osgood, Roth, Steele, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, and Edge. The motion passed, and Ordinance #2022-25 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2022-26, **AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE PREMIUM PAY FOR BAXTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES FROM ARPA FUNDING CONVERTED TO REVENUE REPLACEMENT FUNDS; AMENDING THE BAXTER COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET ORDINANCE #2021-49; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**, was sponsored by the Budget Committee and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Davis made a motion to adopt, seconded by Justice DeGroot. Being some discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Litty, Osgood, Roth, Steele, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, and Frank. The motion passed and Ordinance #2022-26 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2022-27, **AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2022 BAXTER COUNTY ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2021-49; TO APPROPRIATE ELECTED OFFICIALS PANDEMIC COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS; AND TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ORDINANCE #2022-19**, was sponsored by the Budget Committee and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Frank moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Litty. After brief discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Osgood, Roth, Steele, Waldrop, Albright, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Chapman, Frank, and Litty. The motion passed and Ordinance #2022-27 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2022-28, **AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A FULL-TIME TRANSPORT DEPUTY IN THE COUNTY JAIL, AND TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR THE POSITION AND PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE**, was sponsored by the Personnel and Budget Committees and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Steele made a motion to adopt, seconded by Justice Albright. Being no discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Roth, Steele, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, and Osgood. The motion passed and Ordinance #2022-28 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2022-29, **AN ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$584.00 WITHIN THE ASSESSOR'S BUDGET (#1000); AND RE-APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,283.00 WITHIN THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS BUDGET (#1000)**, was sponsored by Justice Albright and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Davis moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Osgood. Being no discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Steele, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroot, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, and Roth. The motion passed and Ordinance #2022-28 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Resolution #2022-5, **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RE-APPOINTMENTS OF ROY NELSON, DANA HEWITT, AND MARY FERRON BY THE COUNTY JUDGE TO THE CLARKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, was sponsored by Justices Roth and DeGroot, and read in

its entirety by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice DeGroote moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Frank. After brief discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroote, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Roth, and Steele. The motion passed and Resolution #2022-5 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Resolution #2022-6, **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF STACY JENSEN AND THE RE-APPOINTMENTS OF LEVI WOODS AND CHRIS JENSEN BY THE COUNTY JUDGE TO THE LONE ROCK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, was sponsored by Justice Chapman and read in its entirety by the Clerk. Justice Chapman made a motion to adopt, seconded by Justice Edge. Being no discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroote, Edge, Frank, Litty, Osgood, Roth, Steele, and Waldrop. The motion passed and Resolution #2022-6 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

After other brief comments, and being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Canda J. Reese, Baxter County & Circuit Clerk
Secretary to the Quorum Court