

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
CARROLL COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
October 21, 2019

The Carroll County Quorum Court held their regular meeting on Monday, October 21, 2019, in the Eastern District Courthouse in Berryville. Roll Call was taken with all members being present. Members of Grandview 4-H and the 4H Leadership club were in attendance and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation. The meeting was called to order by Judge Sam Barr. The Journal of Proceedings from the previous month were approved with a motion made by JP Larry Swofford and second by JP Chuck Olson. The Journal was approved with no revisions or corrections. JP Jack Deaton requested that item "D" be added to Miscellaneous in order for the Sheriff to address the Justices of the Peace. All were in favor and the item was added. There were no public comments.

Ms. Tammy Allen and Mrs. Lisa Patterson sponsored by JP Kellie Matt introduced a short program that included an opportunity for several local 4H'ers to speak to the Justices about what they have been doing with their 4H experiences. October is National 4H month and the Extension Service had cupcakes for everyone. 4H is America's largest youth development organization with 420 members in Carroll County for 2019 and additionally another 381 in enhancement programs through the local schools. It also has gone from 10 clubs to 13 clubs in 2019

Ms. Vonda Moore of Mercy Hospital handed out information and presented an update for Mercy Hospital Berryville. It is a critical access hospital consisting of 25 beds and 133 coworkers and 21 clinics. The Auxiliary has 237 members and 6 Chaplains. Its current Board of Directors include (which includes those approved later in the meeting) Jason Tennant, Lacey Powell, Bobby Thurman, Richard Harp, Deretha Walker, Sandy Martin, and Dr. Charles Horton. The Auxiliary has a thrift store in Green Forest which will be soon reopening after the previous location was found to be unsafe/unsuitable for staff and patrons. The Auxiliary aids in the purchase of capital equipment and offers an annual scholarship to local high school seniors going into the healthcare industry.

Mr. Bruce McMath sponsored by Harrie Farrow is with the AR Natural Sky Association and spoke to the group about light pollution and the use of artificial lights. He says that the night skies have become popular and folks are moving out of cities in order to enjoy the night skies. He gave the JPs a handout with about the harmful effects of light pollution and being sensible about lighting. It was recommended that JPs lead by example, the county should lead by example and thanked Carroll Electric for their efforts in zero upright fixtures that were being put in place versus the older sodium lights.

JP Jack Deaton asked the JPs to add Sheriff Jim Ross to the agenda under Miscellaneous to speak about Southern Health which would be a proposal to replace the existing 2 part-time nurses and volunteer doctor for the detention center. Sheriff Ross said that this would enhance the medical situation at the jail to have 3<sup>rd</sup> party medical coverage. One of the Justices thought that Lamont Richie had done a cost analysis on this in the recent past and found that there was no cost advantage to the program. Questions arose concerning the plan for the company hiring the current part-time nurses, what the cost pooling requirements would be in the contract, and what the bottom line cost of the program would be and what affects the base price. The matter was tabled because time was called by Judge Barr.

There was no old business, but under new business, a resolution to confirm the Appointments of Sandy Martin and Dr. Charles Horton to the Mercy Hospital Board of Directors was taken up by the Quorum Court. JP Matt Phillips made a motion to accept the appointments and JP Don McNeely seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all JPs approving the appointments.

An Ordinance transferring funds from one line item to another to make purchases in the Road Department and the County Clerk's office was sponsored by JP Chuck Olson. The Road Department needed to rent a piece of heavy equipment to finish a project because the piece of equipment being used had broken down. The County Clerk wanted to replace the filing cabinets in the office in order to repurpose the very old cabinets as storage for Western District Probate files that needed to be moved to Eastern District because of storage issues at the Eureka Springs Courthouse (lack of storage space). JP Chuck Olson made a motion to accept the transfer of funds for the two departments as there was no need to appropriate new monies and JP Matt Phillips seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, the ordinance was approved by all members of the Quorum Court.

JP Comments: Ms. Lisa Holt with the Carroll County Health Department had handed out a flyer before the meeting reminding JPs about the County health Rankings meeting to be held on November 6<sup>th</sup>. A request was made that JPs should try to attend. JP Chuck Olson gave the JPs an update on the work being done on the exterior of the Eastern District Courthouse, that bids for the downspouts were being worked on as well as bids to repair/replace the roof over the Circuit Judge's courtroom area. JP Olson was also working on bids for tinting the front windows of the Courthouse as the heat coming in through those windows is not energy efficient in the summer.

JP Don McNeely congratulated JP Craig Hicks for being named Police Officer of the Year. JP Jack Deaton told the JPs that the 2020 Budget was being worked on by the committee and hopefully an ordinance would be available for the Justices in November. JP Marty Johnson thanked County Clerk Connie Doss for the schedule that she set up for the budget meetings so the Justices would know which departments were being covered on which nights.

Judge Sam Barr did not have any comments other than to entertain a motion to adjourn. JP Matt Phillips made that motion with JP Chuck Olson's second. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:04pm.