

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
CARROLL COUNTY QUORUM COURT
JUNE 15, 2020**

The Quorum Court held their regular monthly meeting at the Road Department located at 93 Homestyle Drive, Berryville next to the Kings River Bridge on Hwy 62. COVID-19 precautions were in place. Press was duly notified and arrangements for the recording of the meeting was made to those members of the press that made requests. The agenda was (as it usually is) published to the County website with instructions for the public to attend via the Quorum Court's YouTube channel. The meeting was live streamed as well as audio recorded. JP Don McNeely led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Judge Sam Barr was absent due to a prior appointment. JP Jack Deaton chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at about 5:05pm and roll call was taken. JP Marty Johnson was absent. JP Jack Deaton had tried to contact him via phone to participate in the meeting. JP Larry Swofford is under quarantine, but did attend the meeting via Facebook live. The metal building that was being utilized did limited WiFi accessibility again. The Journal Proceedings were approved with a motion, second, and voice vote. JP Matt Phillips asked to have a resolution added to the agenda for the Mercy Hospital Board. The motion was seconded by JP John Howerton with all members in agreement to add the Resolution as item "f".

Mrs. Suellen Frye with CERT spoke briefly under Public Comments about a couple of emergencies that had been worked by emergency services and she commended the level of training that these workers exhibited. She also said that she hoped the county would not defund its police and that "Police are better than that and should be respected."

There was no old business.

In New Business, Mrs. Pamela Grudek was approved by the Quorum Court by voice vote to be the Quorum Court's selection to the Equalization Board for a two (2) year term. As per AR Code 26-27-304, a resolution is not required. The motion was made by JP Matt Phillips and seconded by JP Chuck Olson.

A motion by JP Olson and seconded by JP Roger Hall to approve the appointments of Linda Heisser and Sandra Nash to the Inspiration Point Rural Fire Protection District was made with all members voting in favor.

JPs Phillips and Olson both commented that the Mennonite Disaster Service Search and Rescue are a vital part of the county's emergency services after the gentlemen made the motion and seconded to approve an ordinance adding them to the department of Grants and Aid. JP Jack Deaton also commented that he had been working with the group since the 1990's and now they have added 1st responders. The ordinance passed to grant the group \$1,000 each year out of Grants and Aid.

An ordinance adding a position to Courthouse Maintenance West for a part-time custodian was approved. The motion was made by JP Phillips and seconded by JP Olson. JP Deaton commented that he had been called a couple of weeks ago about the retirement of Mr. Don Matt and that the city of Eureka Springs had decided not to rehire the position. Because there were enough funds remaining in the line items that the county reimbursed its share of Mr. Matt's salary, additional funds would not be needed and there was enough money to move around.

Holiday Island received grant funds from the NWAEDD for the purchase and construction of two 4,400 gallon storage tanks. The \$15,000 needed to be appropriated to the budget. JP Phillips and JP Hall made the motion and second with all approving the measure.

JP Matt Phillips and JP John Howerton made the motion and second to approve the added resolution to confirm the appointments of Keith Rivera and Troy Johnson to the Mercy Hospital Board. JP Phillips said that the Hospital had requested to add the resolution this month because their board meeting would be held before the Quorum Court's July meeting and they would like to have their new board members participate in their July meeting. The measure was approved.

Under JP Comments JP Phillips gave those assembled an update of COVID 19 numbers from the Health Department. The County was currently at 80 positive cases – 55 active with 1,685 negative tests. No other JP Comments were made.

Under the Judge's Comments JP Jack Deaton thought that July's meeting should be held in a cooler location. One suggestion was the Sheriff's Dept training room. JP Craig Hicks thought perhaps he would contact Southern Heights Church to host a meeting as they had a large meeting area. JP Deaton thought the Sheriff's training room could also be used for budget meetings that would be coming up soon. JP Deaton also commented on the hours used by county employees through the Ordinance 2020-12 and the Judge's Executive Order 2020-03 saying that there might be some adjustments that will need to be made for certain departments that had rotated employees, but that the numbers were still good. He asked if County Clerk Connie Doss had anything to add and she did not. He asked County Treasurer Makita Williams how the sales tax numbers were looking and she said that sales tax revenue for the county was actually up from last year possible as a result of COVID supply buying. JP Howerton asked if the year to date was looking okay and Ms. Williams said that there were no drastic changes.

The County's IT/Emergency Radio person asked whether the county would be going to video conferencing and reiterated the importance of testing before doing. With that, JP Jack Deaton entertained a motion to adjourn which JP John Howerton offered. A second by JP Matt Phillips followed and the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30pm.