

Journal of Proceedings  
Quorum Court  
August 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Quorum Court took place at Southern Heights Baptist Church, Berryville on August 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. The meeting began with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance before Judge Griffin gavelled the meeting to order. Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Connie Doss with two members, JP Roger Hall and JP John Howerton both being absent. According to ACA §14-14-1205 JP Hall will be paid for the meeting and JP Howerton had been paid for a missed meeting in May so will not receive payment for this meeting. Notice of the meeting had been sent to the press with two members of the Press present. Other elected officials in attendance were Treasurer Makita Williams, Assessor Jeannie Davidson, and Collector Vicky Hopper. The gallery included several guests. The meeting was audio recorded in three parts with one member of the Press asking for a copy. The Journal of Proceedings from the July 18, 2022 meeting was approved after a motion by JP Larry Swofford and seconded by JP Harrie Farrow. It was reported during Committee Reports that JP Jack Deaton had been working with OEM Director Mike McKelvey, Mr. Hostettler with MDS, and the Judge's office to locate an alternate location for one of the 911 towers. It was reported that a location had been found on 23S near Quigley's Castle and that contract negotiations were underway. There were no other Committee reports.

JP Harrie Farrow asked to have Mr. Bill Nichols removed from the agenda as he was unable to attend but would reschedule. That request was approved after a motion by JP Farrow and seconded by JP Kellie Matt. JP Jack Deaton asked to have an ordinance added as Item "c". Justices had received a copy of the ordinance before the meeting. JP Deaton made the motion and JP Chuck Olson seconded the motion. The addition of the ordinance was passed.

Public Comments brought Corey Spain, Maintenance Supervisor at the Detention Center back to let the Quorum Court know that the roof was about 98% done which was 5 ½ weeks ahead of schedule. He gave the Justices photos to review and reported that the contractor, Harness Roofing, was needed at a local school district to finish a project there and wouldn't be at the Detention Center in the coming week, but would return to finish things up after that. JP Olson asked if there had been any surprises on the roof with Mr. Spain responding that nothing major had been detected and that an additional soft spot had been repaired. JP Matt Phillips asked what the current timeline was and was told that the project should be done by the end of September.

Also speaking was Robert Anderson with R&R Towing. He contends that Sheriff Ross is 'attacking' his business by having taken him off of the towing rotation. He told the Court that he was taken off again on March 24, 2022 and that his business as a result is down 50-60% and that he is only getting state calls. JP Craig Hicks said that he wasn't sure what could be done as all calls go through Dispatch and Sheriff Ross is responsible for the day to day operations. After additional questions and comments from the Court, Mr. Anderson was told that the matter would be looked into through the Judge's office.

The second and third reading of an ordinance that would update Ordinance 87-39A was under Old Business. The measure has passed its first reading at the July meeting updating the Lake Forest Acres Commissioners to the correct number and term periods. JP Jack Deaton made the motion to accept with JP Duane Coatney chiming in with a second. The roll call vote was unanimously accepted. JP Chuck Olson made a motion to suspend the rules for the third reading

with JP Deaton seconding. The voice vote was taken with acceptance for a third reading. JP Jack Deaton made a motion to accept the ordinance and JP Duane Coatney seconded. The roll call vote passed the Ordinance.

Under New Business, a resolution was read by JP Chuck Olson to confirm the appointment of Terry Tromberg to the Lake Forest Acres SSD which is the result of the passage of the previous Old Business ordinance. JP Chuck Olson made the motion which was seconded by JP Matt Phillips. The roll call vote passed the measure. Also, in new business, was a resolution authorizing the County Judge and County Treasurer to enter into and administer, respectively, grant funds received on behalf of the Carroll County Historical Society. This is grant # 23-CH-04. JP Kelly Matt made the motion to accept the resolution and JP Matt Phillips seconded. The roll call vote passed the resolution unanimously.

With that, JP Jack Deaton made a motion to enter into Executive Session. JP Larry Swofford seconded the motion and by voice vote, the Quorum Court got up to go to another room for Executive Session. JP Harrie Farrow asked for clarification about the rules of Executive Session. JP Kellie Matt said that she was going to listen to the County Attorney versus what the press member was saying. At about this point, the recording was shut off until County Clerk Connie Doss saw that both members of the Press, Scott Loftis with Carroll County News and Mike Ellis with the Independent protested and Deputy Prosecutor Steven Simmons was addressing their concerns.

The Quorum Court resumed when everyone was seated. The recording had been turned on as they entered the larger meeting space. Judge Griffin resumed the meeting by asking that the ordinance be read as customary by title only of which County Clerk Doss did so. There was not any discussion and the roll call vote was taken. All members present voted in favor of the ordinance that would rescind the position of "Chief Deputy: Rank: Major" within the department of the Sheriff.

The meeting continued with JP Comments. JP Don McNeely commented that he would be running for Green Forest Mayor and that he had worked with Ms. Doss on technicalities of him being on the ballot twice if he ran, so he announced that he had pulled his name from the ballot as a candidate for Justice of the Peace so he could run for Mayor. JP Jack Deaton said that there would need to be a budget meeting at the end of next week.

County Judge Ronda Griffin in her comments said that the buyer of the 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe had backed out and the vehicles was scheduled again for auction on August 30<sup>th</sup>. She also said that the Road department had removed two items from inventory, a 12" hydraulic and a 2005 Dodge pickup that had been wrecked – Court Order 2022-12. The Berryville Library also had removed a disabled computer under Court Order 2022-13 and the Office of Emergency Management took a Zodiac boat from its inventory as it had been damaged and disposed of – Court Order 2022-15. After the adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan in February, the Judge had applied for and had been awarded \$400,000 to replace the low water slab on CR 818. The Road dept. is also preparing a bid packet for Clearwater Creek Bridge on CR 704 that is not eligible for FEMA grants.

The Judge entertained a motion to adjourn. JP Jack Deaton made the motion and JP Duane Coatney seconded. The meeting was adjourned.