

Journal of Proceedings of the
Carroll County Quorum Court
October 17, 2022

The regular meeting of the Quorum Court met on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 5:00 pm. The meeting took place at Southern Heights Baptist Church in Berryville. Notification of the meeting was made with two members of the Press present as well as several elected officials of the County and Deputy Prosecutor Steven Simmons. The meeting opened with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by JP Chuck Olson. The meeting was called to order by Judge Ronda Griffin and roll call was completed by County Clerk Connie Doss. All members of the Quorum Court were present. A motion was made by JP Larry Swofford and seconded by JP Craig Hicks to accept the Journal of Proceedings of September 19, 2022. The Journal of Proceedings from the special October 3, 2022 meeting were approved with a motion from JP Chuck Olson and seconded by JP Matt Phillips.

There were no Committee Reports, Changes to the Agenda, or Old Business. In Public Comments, Mr. Robert Anderson with R&R Towing once again came to discuss the situation with Sheriff Ross not keeping R&R Towing in the rotation. It was stressed by the Justices that Mr. Anderson needed to seek remedy through the state boards associated with towing services and that Sheriff Ross, as the elected official, has the right to make the decision to not include R&R Towing. Mr. Anderson said that his only recourse might be a civil suit.

VonDa Moore with Mercy Hospital was sponsored by JP Matt Phillips to speak with the Quorum Court and update them on status of the hospital. She confirmed that Mercy-Berryville, was still a critical access hospital with 25 beds. She reviewed the Board membership and services that the hospital provides. She offered a net operating income of \$1,547,658 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. She also said that the hospital gave charity care to 814 patients totaling \$2,072,636. The Justices asked several questions including whether they were treating more drug overdoses and VonDa replied that they are seeing more mental health cases over the last couple of years. JP Larry Swofford also expressed his appreciation to the hospital for the charity care they give to the County.

In new business, the Quorum Court was asked to approve the establishment of Fund 1007 to accommodate the funds for the Local Assistance Tribal Consistency Fund (LATC). The Justices asked Clerk Doss to explain a bit more about the money which she did saying that she also has not had the opportunity to completely read what would be allowed as expenditures under the fund, and that the County would receive \$50,000 this year and \$50,000 next year. JP Matt Phillips made the motion and seconded by JP John Howerton with all members approving the new fund.

The Quorum Court also approved a Treasurer's transfer of \$150,000 from County General to Fund 1800 Courthouse Fund. The motion was made by JP Howerton and seconded by JP Phillips with JP Howerton remarking that this was done annually for an eventual courthouse and "to keep up what we have".

In JP Comments, JP Jack Deaton said that the Budget Committee was "on line" to finish with the 2023 Budget. JP John Howerton said that he had requested that Judge Griffin reappoint the Judicial Committee and to continue where it left off to see where it could go.

Judge Griffin reported that under Court order 2022-17, a forensic recovery laptop was removed from inventory as the Sheriff's office acknowledged not having possession of the laptop. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm with a motion by JP Howerton and seconded by JP Roger Hall.