

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Carroll County Quorum Court**  
**July 19, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Carroll County Quorum Court was held at the Southern Heights Baptist Church, Berryville at 5:00pm. Notice to the Press was made and a member of the press was present at the meeting. The meeting was audio recorded and is available on the County website. There were several elected officials and spectators also present at this meeting as well as County Attorney Thomas Allgood. JP Don McNeely led the group in the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. County Judge Sam Barr brought the meeting to order with County Clerk Connie Doss doing Roll Call. Absent were JPs Larry Swofford and John Howerton. The Judge asked for a motion to accept the June 21, 2021 Journal which JP Matt Phillips and JP Harrie Farrow seconded. The motion carried.

JP Chuck Olson updated the Quorum Court concerning where the Building/Facilities Committee stood with the remodeling project for the front lobby of the Eastern District Courthouse. He said the Committee was ready to submit an ad in the local newspaper that would put the project out to bid. He also said that the Personnel Committee would need to meet in the next couple of weeks to discuss possible ideas for helping employees with wages out due to Covid 19.

A change to the Agenda was requested by JP Duane Coatney to add a Grandview resident who had an issue. The change was approved and added to the Agenda. There were no Public Comments.

Under Miscellaneous, JP Duane Coatney sponsored Mr. Rudy Behrens of 45 CR 454, Grandview to discuss the possibility of County cleaning up a property next to him that had been burned out and had even done damage to his own property. JP Olson asked if Mr. Behrens had spoken with the property owners and Mr. Behrens responded that the owner was "not in a condition of coherency" and the phone had now been disconnected. JP Coatney asked if a lien could be files against the taxes and County could hire it cleaned up. Attorney Thomas Allgood said he would look into that option. JP Harrie Farrow asked if the situation posed a health hazard and that Mr. Behrens might contact the ADEQ. JP Jack Deaton thought this was a private civil situation and that the County did not have any zoning ordinances so County had no authority to do the cleanup. JP Farrow asked if an ordinance could be done while JP Don McNeely wondered if a local fire department might use the situation as a training exercise. JP Farrow also commented about the release of further toxins if a fire department burned it, but also the current release of toxins as it sits. Judge Barr thanked Mr. Behrens for attending and no action was taken.

With no old business, the Court moved to the new business at hand. A resolution confirming the Green Forest Library Board was approved. JP Harrie Farrow made the motion and it was seconded by JP Don McNeely. JP Farrow commented that this resolution was similar to the ones for the Berryville and Eureka Springs Library Boards and the earlier dates were retroactive to cover those Board Members.

JP Craig Hicks made a motion to accept the resolution confirming the County Sheriff's designation of interim successors. By law this resolution is required and JP Farrow asked if it should have been done at the beginning of the term. JP Hicks said that the resolution was self-explanatory. JP Matt Phillips seconded the motion with all Justices voting to approve the resolution.

JP Jack Deaton made a motion to approve the ordinance to do some “cleanup before the end of the year” of which was seconded by JP Matt Phillips. Some claims can be corrected through the Judge’s office, but corrections between funds needed to be corrected through Ordinance. The measure was approved.

Lastly, JP Jack Deaton sponsored an ordinance that would create the full time position of the Office of Emergency Management while rescinding the part time position. JP Deaton moved to adopt and JP Kellie Matt seconded. During discussion JP Deaton said that this had been discussed off and on over the past three years and was necessary. In recent months, he pointed out, some things were not getting done because there were not enough hours in a day. Several Justices commented that they thought that the position was to include responsibilities pertaining to Dispatch as was discussed in the Personnel Committee meeting that had been held with Judge Barr. JP Hicks also made that comment and added that the person in the part-time position now was capable and it would be hard to located someone with the same credentials. JP Deaton also brought up the point that the current Emergency Communications person would be leaving soon so the opportunity for “teachable moments” would be gone. The discussion turned to things being “up in the air” with respect to the responsibilities of the Judge and Sheriff with respect to Dispatch vs. 911. JP Olson said that things were just not getting done and this situation can’t be personal. JP Farrow didn’t believe that there was enough information on the topic and asked if the Judge would please respond as to his opinion of the situation. Judge Barr declined to respond and called for the vote. The vote was: Yea: JPs Deaton, Olson, Farrow, Phillips, and Matt. Nay: JPs Coatney, Hicks, McNeely, and Hall. Not having a majority which would require 6 of the 11 (law counts all Justices vs. those present) Justices, the measure did not pass.

During JP Comments, JP Coatney spoke of a road in Eureka Springs with 24 houses on the street. He said that the County had taken over the road in 1967 and had been chip & sealed in 2012. The property owners are wanting to know when the road was going to be fixed. Judge Barr reminded JP Coatney that there was to be no discussion of non-agenda items and the comments moved forward with JP Harrie Farrow urging the Justices to speak with their constituents about vaccination. She mentioned that St. Vincent’s in Hot Springs is full.

Judge Barr entertained a motion to adjourn which JP Matt Phillips gave and JP Duane Coatney seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm.