

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
November 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

The Faulkner County Quorum Court met in its regular session at 6:00 PM on November 21, 2023, in Courtroom "A" located in the Faulkner County Courthouse with Judge Allen Dodson presiding.

The Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were led by Justice Shock.

Attendance: County Judge Allen Dodson, County Administrator Randy Higgins, Administrator Tom Anderson, County Attorney Philip Murphy, County Clerk Margaret Darter, Treasurer Scott Sanson and the following Court members were present: Justices Allison, Coats, Graddy, Knight, Lachowsky, Lyon, Moss, Pearson, Shock, Strain and Tyler.

Approval of the Journal: Justice Lachowsky made a motion that the Journal of Proceedings be approved as is and such motion was seconded by Justice Allison and unanimously approved.

County Officer's Report: Treasurer Scott Sanson reported to the Court on the financial standing of the County and a copy of the report was provided to all members and one is on file.

Standing Committees Reports

Budget & Finance: Met last week and has three (3) appropriation Ordinances and two (2) Resolutions under New Business.

Courts & Public Safety: No report.

Personnel: Met last week to discuss and consider the confirmation to the appointment to the library board.

Infrastructure & Roads: Met last week to discuss Proposed Ordinance 23-38 changing the boundary lines of the Holland and Enola Fire Districts which will be presented Under New Business.

Public Comments: None

Special Reports: None

Old Business:

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-27. This is an Ordinance providing for the election, at the next election, for those voting within the geographical boundaries (more specifically described as area ESN 318 within Faulkner County, Arkansas; and prescribing other matters pertaining thereto. Justice Strain made a motion to bring Proposed Ordinance 23-27 to the table and such motion was seconded by Justice Coats. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-27 for the third reading by title only. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a

vote by roll call for Proposed Ordinance 23-27. The roll was called and Proposed Ordinance 23-27 passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

The Court discussed Proposed Resolution 23-07. This is a Resolution calling for an election and placing a ballot referendum to the people during the general election in Faulkner County, Arkansas, on the question of increasing fire dues for the Pine Village Volunteer Fire Department; and prescribing other matters pertaining thereto. Justice Strain made a motion to bring Proposed Resolution 23-07 to the table and such motion was seconded by Justice Coats. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Resolution 23-07 for the third reading by title only. Justice Lyon made a motion to correct the date and such motion was unanimously approved. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Resolution 23-07. The roll was called and Proposed Resolution 23-07 passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-31. This is an Ordinance to amend and supplement the Faulkner County Personnel Manual. Justice Allison made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-31 and such motion was seconded by Justice Lyon. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-31 for the second reading by title only.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-32. This is an Ordinance to repeal and replace Faulkner County Ordinance 12-05 and 07-16 to establish reimbursements for travel expenses and/or meetings or training sponsored by Faulkner County entities and for other lawful purposes. Justice Allison made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-32 and such motion was seconded by Justice Knight. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-32 for the second reading by title only.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-33. This is an Ordinance to amend and supplement the Faulkner County Personnel manual. Justice Allison made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-33 and such motion was seconded by Justice Lyon. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-33 for the second reading by title only.

New Business:

The Court discussed Proposed Resolution 23-10. This is a Resolution of Faulkner County certifying local government endorsement of Farmakeio to participate in the tax back program (as authorized by Section 15-4-2706(d) of the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003). Justice Lachowsky made a motion to accept Proposed Resolution 23-10 and such motion was seconded by Justice Moss. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Resolution 23-10 by title only. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Resolution 23-10. The roll was called and Proposed Resolution 23-10 passed with a voice vote of 11-0.

The Court discussed Proposed Resolution 23-11. This is a Resolution of Faulkner County certifying local government endorsement of Westrock Beverage Company, LLC to participate in the tax back program (as authorized by Section 15-4-2706(d) of the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003). Justice Lachowsky made a motion to accept Proposed Resolution 23-11 and such motion was seconded by Justice Kendrick. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Resolution 23-11 by title only. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Resolution 23-11. The roll was called and Proposed Resolution 23-11 passed with a voice vote of 11-0.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-35. This is an appropriation Ordinance to amend and supplement Faulkner County Ordinance 22-63 (December 20, 2022), and to declare an emergency. Justice Lachowsky made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-35 and such motion was seconded by Justice Lyon. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-35 by title only. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Ordinance 23-35. The roll was called and Proposed Ordinance 23-35 passed with a voice vote of 11-0.

Justice Lyon made a motion to suspend the rules and change the order of the agenda and such motion was seconded by Justice Knight and unanimously approved.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-37. This is an Ordinance appropriating and levying millage taxes on all property, real and personal, in Faulkner County, and for other purposes. Justice Lachowsky made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-37 and such motion was seconded by Justice Lyon. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-37 by title only. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Ordinance 23-37. The roll was called and Proposed Ordinance 23-37 passed with a voice vote of 10-1, with Justice Allision voting no.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-38. This is an Ordinance designating the geographical areas of the Holland Volunteer Fire Department and the Enola Volunteer Fire Department. Justice Knight made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-38 and such motion was seconded by Justice Shock. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-38 by title only. Justice Lyon made a motion to suspend the rules and waive the three (3) readings and such motion was seconded by Justice Strain. Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for such motion. The roll was called, and such motion passed with a voice vote of 11-0. After further discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote by roll call for Proposed Ordinance 23-38. The roll was called and Proposed Ordinance 23-38 passed with a voice vote of 11-0.

The Court discussed Proposed Ordinance 23-36. This is an appropriation Ordinance to establish the annual operating budget for calendar year 2024, and to declare an emergency. Justice Lachowsky made a motion to accept Proposed Ordinance 23-36, and such motion was seconded by Justice Moss. Counsel Murphy read Proposed Ordinance 23-36 by title only. Justice Allision made a motion to change the COLA percentage from 6% to 3.2%. After discussion, Judge Dodson asked for a vote on such motion by roll call. The roll was called, and such motion failed with a voice vote of 3-8, with Justices Allision, Lyon and Strain voting yes. Justice Coats called for the vote on Proposed Ordinance 23-36. The roll was called and Proposed Ordinance 23-36 passed with a voice vote of 9-2, with Justices Allision and Strain voting no.

Appointment: Justice Allison made a motion to confirm the appointment of Cindy Stage to the Library Board and such motion was seconded by Justice Knight and unanimously approved.

Adjournment: Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

*******An audio tape of this meeting is kept on file*******