

Special Budget Meeting


The Desha County Quorum Court met Monday, November 28, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the 2023 budget figures.

It was determined at the meeting that a 3% raise would be given to all employees for the year 2023 and a 3% bonus would be issued for 2022 to the employees as well.


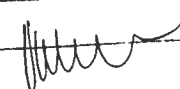
The regularly scheduled Quorum Court Meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on November 29, 2022.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.



Approved:   
Richard Tindall  
County Judge

Attest:   
Valerie Donaldson  
Desha County Clerk

**RECORD**  
12-2-22  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
By:  Deputy

**FILED**  
12-2-22  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
By:  Deputy

# DESHA COUNTY QUORUM COURT

OCTOBER 20, 2022

## QUORUM COURT MEETING

Desha County Quorum Court met October 20, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at the Desha County Courthouse.

**OPENING PRAYER: Mr. G. Lynn Weatherford, JP2**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Gene Weser, JP4**

**ROLL CALL: Mrs. Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk**

**ALL JP'S WERE PRESENT. Except Mrs. Amanda French who called over the phone**

**I. MINUTES**

A motion to approve Minutes as mailed was made by Mr. Gene Weser and seconded by Mr. Hollis Mankin. All members accepted

**II. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as mailed was made by Mr. G. Lynn Weatherford and seconded by Mr. Gene Weser. All members accepted

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Mankin questioned about the rules for the Quorum Court Meetings that were tabled from the last meeting. Judge Tindall said "no I haven't done anything at all". Ms. Watkins said "we discussed it extensively regarding residents coming to a public Quorum Court Meeting." Ms. Watkins said she thought that the attorney was going to review all of that. Just as we had to resend an ordinance on submitting the information to the reporters we must be careful of hindering the residents of Desha County from speaking. We need to know that we are in our legal rights by the state. I believe Ms. Onie Norman has brought that to the Quorum Court before that resident of Desha County have a right to attend the Quorum Court Meeting. There should be a place on the agenda allowing citizens to

speaking freely. Before we hinder the public about purses and handbags or whatever was on the list that was passed around, we have to be really careful before we pass anything. The attorney should look into this. Gene Weser said "Ordinance 2018-4 was passed in January 2019." Attorney Brooks Gill said the Judge remind me of the rules you are looking at. I forgot about them. Judge we have a list that was presented by several people. Attorney Gill said "when I say rules, I mean the amount of time to speak, etc. or if you would like for me to come up with something I can." Weser said that the ordinance was only passed for JP'S for handguns not elected officials. Ms. Wilson said I would like to address the purse thing we have metal detectors that are not on and not in use. If on and being used then the machine would detect then the Sheriff could look at the situation. Don't take things for granted. I'm not against rules but we do not know what anyone will do. Everything should be monitored before any decisions are made. The metal detectors need to be on for the safety of us and the people. Weser said there should be a Sheriff Deputy here if possible. Judge said that the deputy would have to be there the entire time. Ms. Wilson said that's what they're here for it is to protect and Mr. Weser said officers are in courtrooms during court Ms. Wilson that's part of the law. Ms. Watkins said he's going to be on duty anyway; he is just going to sit. Judge Tindall turned around and asked Deputy Bradberry what's your opinion on this and he said I will be here as much as possible, but we only have on deputy on duty from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and we only have 6 fulltime deputies and 1 part-time, Ms. Watkins said really. Judge Tindall said any more discussion and Ms. Watkins said let the attorney do the research and table it again until the next meeting.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Judge Tindall- Ordinance 2022-17 to purchase the other John Deer Grader in the budget and not to finance but to purchase in the amount of \$192,000.00. Ms. Watkins said Judge you said purchase another does that mean we already purchased one and Judge Tindall said yes this will be the second one, Ms. Watkins asked did we finance the first? Judge Tindall said no. Ms. Watkins asked what year are the graders. Judge Tindall said both are 2018 and he said next year there telling me the same graders will be

about \$78,000.00 more than these same grader. I want to go ahead and purchase now. Ms. Watkins so we need it right now and Judge Tindall said yes we need it right now because we are running them every day. Ordinance 2022-17 read by Desha County Clerk Valerie Donaldson. Mr. Weser made a motion to read by title only for the second time and Mr. Sims second it. Mr. Weser mad a motion to read by title only for a third time and second by Mr. Sims. Mr. Weser made a motion to accept the ordinance and it was second by Mr. Mankin. All were in favor. The ordinance passed. Announcement Valerie ask the dates for the budget meeting and Ms. Watkin and Mr. Weser said set a date and let us know. Ms. Norman said I feel like if you're a Democrat then you should act like one but what I don't understand is if you claim to be a democrat then how can you endorse a Republican and I see it right here on fb and I have the right to say something because you represent me as a democrat I voted for you with trust. Watkins said I believe that a person should support whomever they feel no matter their party but I would never use my title as Justice Of The Peace to endorse a candidate of another party because Desha County residents put faith and trust in me and elected me on my bases I do not believe in endorsing someone just because you want them out of office or just because you don't like someone. Ms. Watkins said don't use your title to endorse anybody. Hunter Selvey told Ms. Norman that he is the one that set up the camera and that he believes all the meetings should have been recorded in advance and instead of coming to the Quorum Court Meeting with this it should have been brought to his office. Ms. Watkins said that we need to be careful and as a Quorum Court need to be partial with each individual that was my statement because someone told me who you were.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Weser and second by Mr. Mankin. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

11-29-22  
Valerie Donaldson

**RECORD**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

Valerie Donaldson  
By: \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

*Handwritten signature*

**FILED**  
11-29-22  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

Valerie Donaldson  
By: \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

ORDINANCE 2022-11  
APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF THE COUNTY OF DESHA, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE 2023 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL, HIGHWAY, AND SOLID WASTE FUNDS".**

**ARTICLE 1. ANNUAL BUDGET ADOPTED BY REFERENCE.** THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR YEAR 2023 SHALL BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND COPYING BY ANY PERSON DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS.

**ARTICLE 2. NON-RESTRICTED EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES.** EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THIS ORDINANCE SHALL NOT BE RESTRICTED TO THE CATEGORIES OF EXPENDITURES OF AN INDIVIDUAL BUDGET.

**ARTICLE 3. WAGE AND SALARY LIMITATIONS FOR PERSONNEL EMPLOYED LESS THAN FULL-TIME.** EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL OF THIS ORDINANCE, ALL PERSONNEL EMPLOYED LESS THAN FULL TIME SHALL BE COMPENSATED AT AN HOURLY RATE NOT LESS THAN \$12.00 AN HOUR.

**ARTICLE 4. REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES, LODGING, AND MEALS.** ANY COUNTY OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE USING A PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLE CONDUCTING COUNTY BUSINESS MAY BE REIMBURSED AT THE FEDERAL MILEAGE RATE AND AT ANY TIME BEFORE, AFTER, AND DURING WORKING HOURS TO AND FROM THE COURTHOUSE AND HOME. THE COUNTY ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY MAINTENANCE, OPERATION COST, ACCIDENTS, FINES, TOLLS, AND PARKING FEES INCURRED BY THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE.

**ARTICLE 5. MAXIMUM APPROPRIATED AMOUNTS.** THE MAXIMUM APPROPRIATED DOLLAR AMOUNTS BY FUNDS ARE CONTAINED IN THE REFERENCED ANNUAL BUDGET AS FOLLOWS:

## DESHA COUNTY 2023 BUDGET

| OFFICE                                | DEPARTMENTS                       | EXPENDITURES | 90% PROJECTIONS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 100                                   | COUNTY JUDGE                      | 107,930.00   |                 |
| 101                                   | COUNTY CLERK                      | 280,185.00   |                 |
| 102                                   | CIRCUIT CLERK                     | 240,161.00   |                 |
| 103                                   | COUNTY TREASURER                  | 152,271.00   |                 |
| 104                                   | COUNTY COLLECTOR                  | 218,131.00   |                 |
| 105                                   | COUNTY ASSESSOR                   | 304,558.00   |                 |
| 106                                   | EQUALIZATION BOARD                | 2,600.00     |                 |
| 107                                   | QUORUM COURT                      | 58,174.00    |                 |
| 108                                   | COUNTY BUILDING MAINTENANCE       | 171,431.00   |                 |
| 109                                   | ELECTION DEPARTMENT               | 21,200.00    |                 |
| 111                                   | COUNTY BUILDING-ALL OTHER         | 107,130.00   |                 |
| 113                                   | OTHER COUNTY EXPENSES             | 58,780.00    |                 |
| 116                                   | COUNTY IN AID GRANTS              | 51,750.00    |                 |
| 117                                   | COURTHOUSE ANNEX                  | 176,710.00   |                 |
| 300                                   | COUNTY HEALTH                     | 61,728.00    |                 |
| 301                                   | AMBULANCE SERVICE                 | 29,500.00    |                 |
| 400                                   | COUNTY SHERIFF                    | 995,910.00   |                 |
| 401                                   | CIRCUIT COURT                     | 52,315.00    |                 |
| 409                                   | MUNICIPAL COURT                   | 102,070.00   |                 |
| 414                                   | JUVENILE COURT PROBATION OFFICERS | 311,538.00   |                 |
| 416                                   | PROSECUTING ATTORNEY              | 68,708.00    |                 |
| 417                                   | PUBLIC DEFENDER                   | 5,112.00     |                 |
| 419                                   | COUNTY CORONER                    | 16,189.00    |                 |
| 500                                   | OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT    | 49,546.00    |                 |
| 800                                   | VETERAN'S SERVICES                | 21,902.00    |                 |
| 801                                   | EXTENSION SERVICES                | 45,500.00    |                 |
| 802                                   | PAUPERS AND WELFARE               | 1,250.00     |                 |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATED FOR COUNTY GENERAL |                                   | 3,712,279.00 | 4,554,066.00    |

| FUND | DEPARTMENTS                        | 2023 TOTALS          | 90 % PROJECTIONS     |
|------|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1005 | CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND            | 358,073.00           | 358,073.00           |
| 2000 | ROAD DEPT                          | 2,257,250.00         | 3,860,783.00         |
| 2003 | MOTOR FUEL TAX                     | 64,800.00            | 320,116.00           |
| 3009 | LANDFILL                           | 1,191,963.00         | 1,339,723.00         |
| 3020 | EMERGENCY 911                      | 209,922.00           | 790,841.00           |
| 3000 | TREASURER AUTOMATION               | 25,040.00            | 77,575.00            |
| 3001 | COLLECTOR AUTOMATION               | 46,723.00            | 176,975.00           |
| 3002 | CIRCUIT COURT AUTOMATION           | 1,440.00             | 1,473.00             |
| 3004 | ASSESSORS AMENDMENT 79             | 8,305.00             | 21,231.00            |
| 3005 | COUNTY CLERKS COST FUND            | 5,000.00             | 7,077.00             |
| 3006 | RECORDERS COST FUND                | 57,708.00            | 78,517.00            |
| 3008 | REGIONAL LIBRARY                   | 222,000.00           | 298,222.00           |
| 3011 | REAPPRAISAL COST FUND              | 84,000.00            | 94,063.00            |
| 3012 | CHILD SUPPORT COST FUND            | 978.00               | 1,006.00             |
| 3014 | COMMUNICATION FACILITY & E         | 11,272.00            | 11,272.00            |
| 3015 | DRUG CONTROL FUND                  | 9,424.00             | 9,424.00             |
| 3019 | BOATING SAFETY FUND                | 28,906.00            | 28,906.00            |
| 3031 | CIRCUIT COURT JV DIVISION FEE      | 7,844.00             | 11,931.00            |
| 3039 | CIRCUIT CLERK COMMISSIONER         | 14,200.00            | 14,793.00            |
| 3046 | AMERICAN RESCUE FUND               | 1,710,151.00         | 1,710,151.00         |
| 3403 | HOSPITAL MAINTENANCE               | 140,000.00           | 140,000.00           |
| 3404 | ARKANSAS RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT     | 0.00                 | 0.00                 |
| 3501 | COURTHOUSE SECURITY                | 140.00               | 140.00               |
| 3510 | DESHA COUNTY OEM GRANT             | 2,933.00             | 2,933.00             |
| 3511 | DESHA CO HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRA | 0.00                 | 0.00                 |
| 3512 | FEMA                               | 1,500.00             | 1,500.00             |
| 3517 | HAZARD MITIGATION ASSESSMENT       | 28,000.00            | 28,000.00            |
| 6900 | LAW LIBRARY                        | 27,000.00            | 63,593.00            |
|      | <b>TOTAL ALL OTHER FUNDS</b>       | <b>6,514,572.00</b>  | <b>9,448,318.00</b>  |
|      | <b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>             | <b>10,226,851.00</b> | <b>14,002,384.00</b> |
|      |                                    |                      |                      |
|      |                                    |                      |                      |

**ARTICLE 6. SEVERABILITY.** IF ANY PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE ARE HELD INVALID SUCH SHALL NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE.

**ARTICLE 7. REPEAL.** ALL ORDINANCES, PARTS OF ORDINANCES, AND COURT ORDERS IN CONFLICT ARE REPEALED.

**ARTICLE 8. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.** THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023.

DATED THIS 29<sup>th</sup>, DAY OF NOVEMBER 2022.


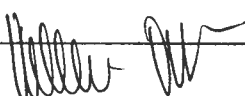
APPROVED: 

RICHARD TINDALL, DESHA COUNTY JUDGE


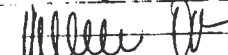
ATTEST: 

VALERIE DONALDSON, DESHA COUNTY CLERK

*12-2-22*  
**RECORD**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
By:  Deputy

*12-2-22*  
**FILED**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
 Deputy