

DESHA COUNTY QUORUM COURT
August 19, 2021

Desha County Quorum Court met August 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at the Desha County Courthouse.

OPENING PRAYER: JP4, Gene Weser

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: JP 4, Gene Weser

Roll Call: County Clerk, Valerie Donaldson.

| JP | MEMBER | PRESENT | ABSENT | | |
|----|------------------|---------|--------|--|--|
| 1 | Joe James | x | | | |
| 2 | Lynn Weatherford | x | | | |
| 3 | Patricia Watkins | x | | | |
| 4 | Gene Weser | x | | | |
| 5 | Hollis Mankin | x | | | |
| 6 | Richard Smith | x | | | |
| 7 | | | | | |
| 8 | Dollie Wilson | x | | | |
| 9 | Norris Sims | X | | | |

I. MINUTES

The July minutes were approved as mailed with a motion to accept by Mr. Weser and seconded by Ms. Wilson. All were in favor, Motion passed.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Mr. Weatherford and seconded by Mr. Sims. All were in favor, Motion passed.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Wilson asked was there any updates on the America Recovery Act Grant Money the County received. Judge Tindall stated that he had a report due by the end of the month, and that he hopes to have the Committee together on how to spend the money by the then as well.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

County Judge Tindall stated that he wanted to discuss how Quorum Court meetings were supposed to be conducted per the State Law. Judge Tindall said by law everyone was to supposed to receive their agenda and other paperwork five days before a meeting. He read from a manual that the County Judge shall preside over the meetings of the Quorum Court and go strictly by the agenda. He said if you are not on the agenda and aren't talking about something that is on the agenda you will not be recognized. Ms. Norman asked how many days in advance does a person need to give to be place on the agenda and who would the citizens contact. Judge Tindall stated the citizens would need to contact the County Clerk at least eight days before the meeting. He also stated that he would send Road Department and Landfill reports to the Quorum Court because the meetings were taking too long.

Ms. Patricia Watkins stated the meetings always started at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoon and there is nothing that says the meetings had to be over at a certain time. A concerned citizen said that the meetings should be at night when everybody in the public could attend instead of during the day when most of the citizens were at work for more transparency. He also stated that all the other counties have their meetings at night. (Several people were speaking at the same time.)

Resolution 2021-3 A Resolution declaring a vacancy in the office of Justice of the Peace, District 7, held by Ronnie Norris of McGehee.

County Clerk Valerie Donaldson read Resolution 2021-3. A motion to accept was made Mr. Weatherford and seconded by Mr. Weser. All were in favor. Resolution 2021-3 passed.

Resolution 2021-4 A Resolution to increase the wages of the Landfill and Road Department Employees.

Untrained employees from 11.26 an hour to 15.00 an hour.

CDL License and experienced on equipment employees from 15.90 an hour to 18.00 an hour and new positions as Team Leaders at 21.00 an hour. The Road Foreman will remain at 24.02 an hour.

Before reading the Resolution the Judge asked if there was any discussion. Ms. Patricia Watkins asked how many people have been hired already and the Judge stated two. She also asked how they were


chosen since the advertisement stated no experienced required. The Judge stated the others had legal issues such as suspended license or other problems so that eliminated them. County Clerk Valerie Donaldson read **Resolution 2021-4**. A motion to accept was made Mr. Weser and seconded by Mr. Sims. All were in favor. Resolution 2021-4 passed.

V. **ANNONCEMENTS – NONE**

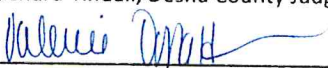
VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Gene Weser and seconded by Mr. Smith. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Date: 9-19-21

Approved: 
Richard Tindall, Desha County Judge

Date: 9-16-21

Attest: 
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk