

DESHA COUNTY QUORUM COURT

September 21, 2023

Desha County Quorum Court met September 21, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at the Desha County Courthouse.

OPENING PRAYER: JP2, G. Lynn Weatherford.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All

JP	MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
1	Troy Jackson Jr	X	
2	G. Lynn Weather	X	
3	Patricia Watkins	X	
4	Ricky Helton	X	
5	Hollis Mankin	X	
6	Kenneth Holt Jr	X	
7	Rita Kolb	X	
8	Dollie Wilson	X	
9	Norris Sims	X	

I. MINUTES

The September minutes were approved as mailed with a motion to accept by JP 2, G. Lynn Weatherford and seconded by JP 8, Dollie Wilson. All were in favor, Motion passed.

II. TREASURER’S REPORT

A motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made by JP 2, G. Lynn Weatherford and seconded by JP 5, Hollis Mankin. All were in favor, Motion passed.

Sheriff, Mitch Grant gave a report for the month of August.

III. OLD BUSINESS

**ORDINANCE 2023-12 was not read. The County Judge stated we would not be presenting the Ordinance and it would be voided.**

**RESOLUTION 2023-14 was not read. It was voided.**

**SEALIC BUILDING-** The SEALIC building is the old State Police Headquarters located North of Dumas. Mitch Grant reported that the Judge had given him the task of overseeing the project. He stated the deed to the building had not been received yet. He hopes to stay within the \$525,000.00 to run the 911 Center once it’s in use.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

**2023-13. An Ordinance to allow funds from the county budget to purchase a compactor truck for the Desha County Landfill.** The Ordinance was read in its entirety by County Clerk, Valerie Donaldson. A motion to suspend the rules and read by title only for a second and third reading was made by JP 4 Rick Helton, and seconded by JP 6 Ken Holt. The roll was called, and all were in favor. The title was read a second and third time by County Clerk, Valerie Donaldson. A motion to accept the ordinance was made by JP 2, G. Lynn Weatherford, and seconded by JP 1, Troy Jackson. The roll was called, and all were in favor.

**ORDINANCE 2023-13, PASSED. 9 FOR AND 0 AGAINST**

**ORDINANCE 2023-14. The Ordinance was voided and not read.**

**ORDINANCE 2023-15.** An Ordinance to allow the funds labeled “1/3 cost of NEW FRONT LOAD TRUCK” (from a previous ordinance) to be used for fire fighters turn out suits.

The Ordinance was read in its entirety by County Clerk, Valerie Donaldson. A motion to suspend the rules and read by title only for a second and third reading was given by JP 4, Rick Helton and seconded by JP 8, Dollie Wilson. The roll was called. All were in favor. The ordinance was read by title only for a second and third reading. A motion to accept the Ordinance was given by JP 4, Rick Helton and seconded by JP 7, Rita Kolb. The roll was called, and all were in favor.

**ORDINANCE 2023-15, PASSED. 9 FOR AND 0 AGAINST.**

**Letter concerning the Masonville ditches from Janice Powell -Jordan.**

Several citizens from Masonville spoke concerning the ditches, and the Judge addressed the letter. The Judge stated that he had reached out to Grant Barnes from Natural Resources, and there is a plan to install three to four culverts in about two weeks.

**Letter from the Friends of the John H. Johnson Museum located in Arkansas City.**

The letter was addressed to the American Recovery Committee and Judge Tindall.

They requested \$147,000.00 for the museum located in Arkansas City.

Attorney Brooke’s Gill stated the county couldn’t give a donation because that would be against the law. He did say the organization could come back with a contract stating what services they would be providing to the county.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS- Quorum Court will hold a budget meeting at 10:00 a.m. on October 18, 2023, and its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on October 19, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

The Judge announced Bradly Holt from McGehee was appointed to the Desha County Equalization Board. He will serve beginning in August 2024.

The County Judge stated that the State of Arkansas will be repairing bridges across Arkansas. Two bridges in Desha County will be receiving repairs and construction. He stated more than likely they will include the Pickens bridge located in front of the Walnut Lake Country Club, and the bridge located on Mclendon Road on Hwy 4.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – A motion to adjourn was made by JP 6, Ken Holt, and it was seconded by JP 5, Hollis Mankin. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Date: 10-19-23

Approve: *Richard Tindall*  
Richard Tindall, Desha County Judge

Date: 10-19-23

Attest: *Valerie Donaldson*  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

10-23-23

**FILED**

Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

*Valerie Donaldson*

Deputy

*Hollis Mankin*

STATE OF ARKANSAS  
COUNTY OF DESHA

Book D.C.M 2  
Pg. 357-358  
10-23-23

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of the original

filed on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of book \_\_\_\_\_ in this county.

*Valerie Donaldson*  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

*Valerie Donaldson*

Quorum Court Budget Meeting  
October 18, 2023

The Desha County Quorum Court met on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 to discuss, and look over budgets submitted by the elected officials.

The Roll was called, and all were present.

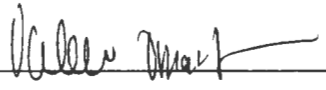
Prayer was given by JP 2, G. Lynn Weatherford and the Pledge was recited by all.

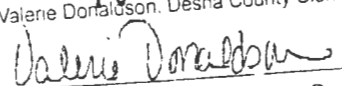
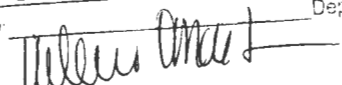
A motion to give a 7% raise to elected officials and 5% to the employees was made by JP 2, G. Lynn Weatherford and it was seconded by JP 4, Rick Helton. The roll was called. 4 Against and 5 For.

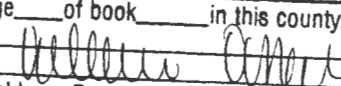

The Next meeting will be held Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Date 10-19-2023

Approve:   
Desha County Judge

Attest:   
Desha County Clerk

**FILED**  
10-23-23  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
By  Deputy  


Book QCM 2 pg 354  
STATE OF ARKANSAS  
COUNTY OF DESHA 10-23-23  
I hereby certify this to be a true copy of the original  
filed on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of book \_\_\_\_\_ in this county.  
  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  


RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 16

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT 2021 TO FOR APPROVED COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to allocate American Rescue Plan Act 2021 funds for the approved applicants; and

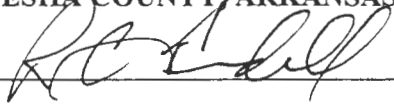
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED**, that the Desha Quorum Court has approved an allocation of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act 2021 in the amount of \$225,690.63 which includes past payments funding the following programs which were affected by COVID 19;

Project #1- Pay invoices submitted by Arkansas City up to the allocated amount of \$200,000.00.


Project # 16- City of Reed invoices to Consolidated Electric in the amount of \$24,305.63, and \$1,385.00 to Dermott Plumbing and Maintenance. The City of Reed will provide proof of an active SAMs registration for any future invoices.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County of Desha Quorum Court and signed by me, and the County Clerk, in authentication of its passage this 12th day of October 2023.

**DESHA COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Richard Tindall, County Judge

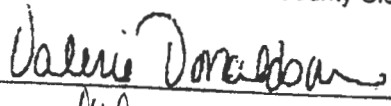
Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_

Valeria Donaldson, County Clerk

Book 2 pg 209  
10-23-23

**RECORD**

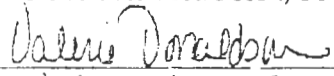
Valeria Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

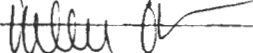
  
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By:  Deputy

**FILED**

10-23-23  
Valeria Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_

By:  Deputy

RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 17

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESHA COUNTY SHERIFF TO APPLY FOR AN EQUIPMENT GRANT THROUGH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.**

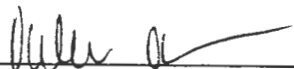
**WHEREAS** the Arkansas Department of Public Safety has made available an equipment grant up to fifty thousand dollars, to all Arkansas Law Enforcement Agencies.


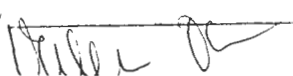
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Desha County Quorum Court has approved the Desha County Sheriff to apply for the 2023 Arkansas Department of Public Safety equipment grant of a possible fifty thousand dollars, to be used to purchase or replace equipment that is necessary to equip the personnel and vehicles of the Sheriff's Office.


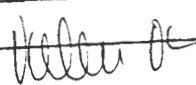
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County of Desha Quorum Court and signed by me, and the County Clerk, in authentication of its passage, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

DATED THIS 19 DAY OF Oct, 2023

APPROVED:   
RICHARD TINDALL DESHA COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:   
VALERIE DONALDSON DESHA COUNTY CLERK

10-23-23  
**FILED**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
Deputy  


Book 2 pg 210  
**RECORD**  
10-23-23  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
By:  Deputy

# RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 18

## A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESHA COUNTY SHERIFF TO APPLY FOR AN EQUIPMENT S.T.E.P. OVERTIME GRANT THROUGH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE

**WHEREAS** the Arkansas Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Office has made available an FY 2024 equipment and S.T.E.P. Overtime grant to all Arkansas Law Enforcement Agencies who participate in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Selected Traffic Enforcement Program, or S.T.E.P. The Desha County Sheriff's Office needs equipment to further its participation in the S.T.E.P. program, and to help make the roadways in Desha County safe for the motoring public. Specially, The Desha County Sheriff's Office will apply for patrol radars, and portable breath tests machines.

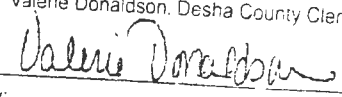
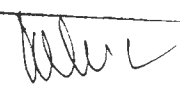
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Desha County Quorum Court has approved the Desha County Sheriff to apply for the FY 2024 Arkansas Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Office equipment and S.T.E.P. Overtime grant in the amount of \$127,000, to be used to purchase new patrol radars and portable breath test machines, that is necessary to equip the personnel and vehicles of the Desha County Sheriff's Office, and overtime reimbursement, to assist in protecting the motoring public.

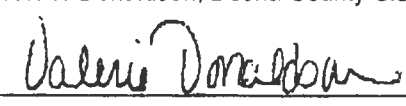
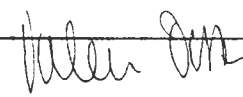
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County of Desha Quorum Court and signed by me, and the County Clerk, in authentication of its passage, this 19 day of October 2023.

DATED THIS 19 DAY OF Oct, 2023

APPROVED:   
RICHARD TINDALL DESHA COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:   
VALERIE DONALDSON DESHA COUNTY CLERK

10-23-22  
**FILED**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
By:  Deputy

Book 2 pg 211  
**RECORD**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
By:  Deputy

ORDINANCE # 2023- 16

AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2023-6 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,550 INTO THE SHERIFF'S CONTRIBUTION FUND 3400.

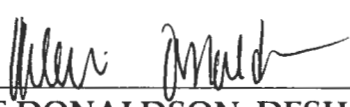
WHEREAS; On Marh 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 The Desha County Quorum Court passed Ordinance 2023-6 to establish the Desha County Sheriff's Contribution Fund and,

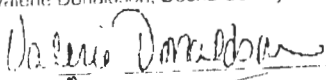
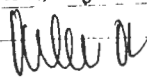
WHEREAS; An amount of \$9,550 in contributions have been given to the Desha County Sheriff and deposited by the Desha County Treasurer into the Sheriff's Contribution Fund 3400.

NOW, THEREFORE; be it ordained that the Desha County Quorum Court, authorizes the Desha County Treasurer and Desha County Clerk to allocate said contributions in the amount of \$9,550 into the Desha County Sheriff's Contribution Fund, Numbered 3400 and Office Number 400.

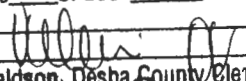
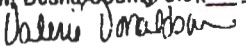
DATED THIS 19 DAY OF 10<sup>th</sup> MO. ,2023.

APPROVED   
RICHARD TINDALL DESHA COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:   
VALERIE DONALDSON, DESHA COUNTY CLERK

**FILED**  
10-23-23  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
 Deputy

379

STATE OF ARKANSAS  
COUNTY OF DESHA Book 2 pg 279  
I hereby certify this to be a true copy of the original  
filed on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of book \_\_\_\_\_ in this county.  
  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
  
10-23-23



ORDINANCE 2023-17\_\_\_  
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 2024 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL, HIGHWAY, AND SOLID WASTE FUNDS".

**ARTICLE 1. ANNUAL BUDGET ADOPTED BY REFERENCE.** THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR YEAR 2024 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. THIS IS 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 2024 BUDGET

OFFICE	DEPARTMENTS	2024 BUDGET	90% Projections
100	COUNTY JUDGE	113,560.00	
101	COUNTY CLERK	290,834.00	
102	CIRCUIT CLERK	265,112.00	
103	COUNTY TREASURER	165,281.00	
104	COUNTY COLLECTOR	233,445.00	
105	COUNTY ASSESSOR	313,418.00	
106	EQUALIZATION BOARD	2,600.00	
107	QUORUM COURT	67,868.00	
108	COUNTY BUILDING MAINTENANCE	190,400.00	
109	ELECTION DEPARTMENT	200,000.00	
111	COUNTY BUILDING-ALL OTHER	101,380.00	
113	OTHER COUNTY EXPENSES	116,000.00	
116	COUNTY IN AID GRANTS	50,750.00	
117	COURTHOUSE ANNEX	174,800.00	
300	COUNTY HEALTH	61,728.00	
301	AMBULANCE SERVICE	59,500.00	
400	COUNTY SHERIFF	1,403,228.00	
401	CIRCUIT COURT	52,315.00	
409	MUNICIPAL COURT	102,070.00	
414	JUVENILE COURT PROBATION	311,538.00	
416	PROSECUTING ATTORNEY	71,626.00	
417	PUBLIC DEFENDER	5,112.00	
419	COUNTY CORONER	16,189.00	
500	OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	58,886.00	
800	VETERAN'S SERVICES	22,402.00	
801	EXTENSION SERVICES	45,500.00	
802	PAUPERS AND WELFARE	1,250.00	
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED FOR COUNTY GENERAL</b>		<b>4,496,792.00</b>	<b>4,923,614.00</b>

FUND	DEPARTMENTS	2024 TOTALS	90% PROJECTIONS
1005	CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND	355,318.00	355,318.00
1007	LATC FUND	238,367.00	
2000	ROAD DEPT	2,235,700.00	2,911,304.00
2003	MOTOR FUEL TAX	423,870.00	423,870.00
3009	LANDFILL	1,346,700.00	1,615,095.00
3020	EMERGENCY 911	691,874.00	1,002,928.00
3000	TREASURER AUTOMATION	25,545.00	93,059.00
3001	COLLECTOR AUTOMATION	49,875.00	214,074.00
3002	CIRCUIT COURT AUTOMATION	1,440.00	1,482.00
3004	ASSESSORS AMENDMENT 79	8,305.00	21,371.00
3005	COUNTY CLERKS COST FUND	7,000.00	7,455.00
3006	RECORDERS COST FUND	60,253.00	76,551.00
3008	REGIONAL LIBRARY	218,000.00	337,261.00
3011	REAPPRAISAL COST FUND	84,000.00	92,024.00
3012	CHILD SUPPORT COST FUND	247.00	247.00
3014	COMMUNICATION FACILITY & E	6,616.00	6,666.00
3015	DRUG CONTROL FUND	6,783.00	6,783.00
3019	BOATING SAFETY FUND	22,447.00	22,447.00
3031	CIRCUIT COURT JV DIVISION FEE	13,374.00	14,085.00
3039	CIRCUIT CLERK COMMISSIONER	14,200.00	15,327.00
3042	ASSESSORS LATE ASSESSMENT FEE	3,593.00	3,593.00
3046	AMERICAN RESCUE FUND	909,100.00	909,100.00
3400	SHERIFF'S CONTRIBUTION FUND	2,287.00	2,287.00
3403	HOSPITAL MAINTENANCE	132,000.00	132,000.00
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	0.00	0.00
3513	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT	0.00	0.00
3517	HAZARD MITIGATION ASSESSMENT	7,000.00	7,000.00
6009	LAW LIBRARY	27,000.00	65,192.00
	<b>TOTAL ALL OTHER FUNDS</b>	<b>6,893,967.00</b>	<b>8,339,592.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>		

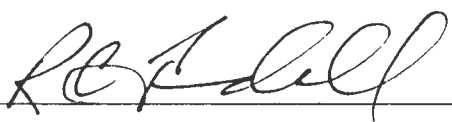
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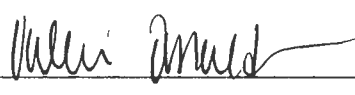
**ARTICLE 6. SEVERABILITY.** IF ANY PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE ARE HELD INVALID SUCH SHALL NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE.

**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, 2024.

DATED THIS 19<sup>th</sup>, DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

APPROVED:   
RICHARD TINDALL, DESHA COUNTY JUDGE

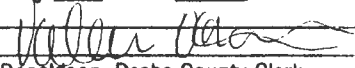
ATTEST:   
VALERIE DONALDSON, DESHA COUNTY CLERK

*Book 2 pg 280-283*

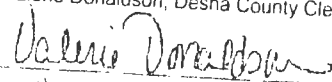
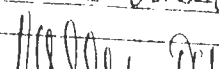
STATE OF ARKANSAS  
COUNTY OF DESHA *10-23-23*

I hereby certify this to be a true copy of the original

filed on Page \_\_\_\_\_ of book \_\_\_\_\_ in this county.

  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk  
*Valerie Donaldson*

*10-23-23*  
**FILED**  
Valerie Donaldson, Desha County Clerk

  
By:  Deputy