

BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT AGENDA

December 7, 2021

THE BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT WILL MEET FOR REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, December 7, 2021 AT 6:00 PM IN THE 2ND FLOOR COURTROOM OF THE COURTHOUSE, WITH JUDGE MICKEY PENDERGRASS PRESIDING.

- CALL TO ORDER
- DISPOSITION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
- COMMITTEE REPORTS: Budget
- TREASURERS REPORT
- PRESENTATION: BAXTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (TINA HAUN)

- NEW BUSINESS

- 1. AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 2021 BUDGET.
- 2. (1st Reading) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR BAXTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES.
- 3. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.
- 4. A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS, SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR FULL-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

- ANNOUNCEMENT

- ADJOURNMENT

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF BAXTER COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 2021 BUDGET.

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department has collected the following fees, reimbursements and donations in excess of the anticipated budgeted revenue amount in the month of October, 2021:

\$ 134.00 received from DWI Fines from District Court
\$ 304.00 received from Drug Enforcement Fines from District Court
\$ 1,245.00 received from Act 770 Fees
\$ 3,218.47 received for Installment Fees
\$ 1,100.00 received for Reimbursement Cotter Part Time SRO
\$ 195.00 received Court Ordered Restitution (Drug Buy Fund)
\$ 125.00 received for VIN checks
\$ 200.00 received for Reimbursement Retired Law Enforcement Qualification
\$ 149.50 received for Donation (Check)
\$56,965.46 received for Reimbursement seized/unclaimed property (per Judge)
\$ 310.89 reimbursement Inmates' Medical
\$ 409.57 reimbursement for Inmates' Prescriptions
\$ 25.00 reimbursement Court Ordered Restitution (Extradition -- Prisoner Transport)
\$ 25.00 reimbursement Court Ordered Restitution/Refund
\$ 115.00 reimbursement (money order)
\$ 180.00 reimbursement Court Ordered Restitution (Extradition -- Reserve Per Diem)
\$ 56.53 reimbursements ADC Invoices
\$ 1,400.00 reimbursement Inmate Social Security

WHEREAS, it is necessary to appropriate said monies totaling **\$66,158.42** to the appropriate line items in the Sheriff's Department 2021 budget.

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from the 2021 County General Fund (#1000) **\$3,024.00** for the following designated expenditures:

\$ 1,370.00 to GL# 1000-0400-2001 (Sheriff: General Supplies)
\$ 159.00 to GL# 1000-0400-2007 (Sheriff: Fuel, Oil, Lubricants)
\$ 195.00 to GL# 1000-0400-3093 (Sheriff: Misc. Law Enforcement)
\$ 1,100.00 to GL# 1000-0400-1003 (Sheriff: Extra Help)
\$ 200.00 to GL# 1000-0400-3101 (Sheriff: Training & Education)

Section 2. There is hereby appropriated from the 2021 County Jail Fund (#3400) \$60,637.43 for the following designated expenditures:

- \$ 304.00 to GL# 3400-0400-2065 (Drug Enforcement-Sheriff's Projects)
- \$ 3,218.47 to GL# 3400-0400-3003 (Computer Services-Sheriff's Projects)
- \$57,114.96 to GL# 3400-0400-2001 (General Supplies-Sheriff's Projects)

Section 3. There is hereby appropriated from the 2021 Sheriff's Special Projects Fund (#3401) \$2,496.99 the following designated expenditures:

- \$ 466.10 to GL# 3401-0418-2004 (Jail: Medicine & Drugs)
- \$ 25.00 to GL# 3401-0418-2023 (Jail: Parts & Repairs)
- \$ 1,710.89 to GL# 3401-0418-3006 (Jail: Medical, Dental & Hospital)
- \$ 180.00 to GL# 3401-0418-1099 (Jail: Transport for Prisoners)
- \$ 115.00 to GL# 3401-0418-2006 (Jail: Clothing & Uniforms)

APPROVED:

 MICKEY D. PENDERGRASS, COUNTY JUDGE
 Date Signed:_____

ATTEST:

 CANDIA J. REESE, COUNTY CLERK
 SPONSOR: _____
 Date Adopted: _____
 Votes: For:_____ Against:_____
 Abstain:_____ Present:_____ Absent:_____

(1st Reading)

ORDINANCE NO. 2021 –

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF BAXTER COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS,
AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR BAXTER
COUNTY EMPLOYEES.**

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Baxter County Courts Personnel Committee that changes, additions and new upgrades in the Baxter County Personnel Policy manual are necessary to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Baxter County Government; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Baxter County Personnel Committee that proper evidence has been provided by the Human Resources Department of Baxter County, and input from all elected officials and department heads to upgrade said policy; and

WHEREAS, Baxter County has been provided evidence authorized by the Court, to update and revise the Social Media Policy #200.08, FOIA #200.09, Background Investigations #300.03, Rehire Eligibility and Service Recognition #300.04, Donation of Paid Leave #500.06, FMLA Leave #500.07, Military Leave #500.09, County Grievance Committee #700.02, Timely Grievance Hearing Request Required #700.03, and Back Pay Provisions when an Employment Decision is Reversed #700.04 within the Personnel Policy for Baxter County employees; so

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF BAXTER
COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT:**

Section 1. The Baxter County Quorum Court hereby approves the updates and revisions to the Social Media Policy, FOIA, Background Investigations, Rehire Eligibility and Service Recognition, Donation of Paid Leave, FMLA Leave, Military Leave, County Grievance Committee, Timely Grievance Hearing Request Required, and Back Pay Provisions when an Employment Decision is Reversed within the Baxter County Personnel Policy and are hereby approved and implemented.

Section 2. If any provision or section of this Ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions and sections on the Ordinance and shall be severable.

Section 3. This Ordinance is to be codified in the Baxter County Code of Ordinances, §240.00, paragraphs (1) and (2) and supersedes all previous Personnel Policies coded therein.

Section 4. This Ordinance being necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, and safety, an emergency is hereby declared. This Ordinance shall be in full force and in effect from and after the date of its approval and passage.

APPROVED:

MICKEY D. PENDERGRASS, COUNTY JUDGE
Date Signed: _____

ATTEST:

CANDA J. REESE, COUNTY CLERK
SPONSOR: Baxter County Quorum Courts Personnel Committee
Date Adopted: _____
Votes: For: _____ Against: _____
Abstain: _____ Present: _____ Absent: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE QUORUM COURT OF BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS, SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR FULL-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Whereas, the Governor's Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement in Arkansas recommended legislation that eases the state income tax burden on our active full-time law enforcement officers and recommended ensuring that entry level salaries for law enforcement officers be equivalent to or above the average annual wage in Arkansas;

Whereas, the average annual wage for full-time law enforcement officers in Arkansas ranks 49th in the nation and averages \$40,750 annually, below the average statewide wage in Arkansas of \$42,690; and the average entry level wage for law enforcement officers in Arkansas is \$28,610, barely above the yearly earnings of a minimum wage worker.

Whereas, law enforcement officers in the State of Arkansas risk their lives every day, working long hours for subpar wages, while Arkansas has one of the highest violent crime rates in the US and ranks as the 4th most dangerous states in the nation;

Whereas, the Governor's Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement in Arkansas identified the incredibly low salaries and limited agency funding to be the biggest barriers to law enforcement retention, recruitment, and hiring;

Whereas, the Governor's Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement recommended a state income tax credit for full-time law enforcement officers in order to substantially promote retention, recruitment, hiring, a boost in morale, and greater economic security for full-time law enforcement officers and their families;

Whereas, the 93rd General Assembly of the State of Arkansas was duly presented legislation, SB 304 of 2021, during the 2021 regular session of the General Assembly which sought to establish a \$3,000 non-refundable state income tax to full-time law enforcement officers, however SB 304 was not voted upon, passed or adopted into law;

Whereas, the State of Arkansas now has unprecedented record surpluses, and the Governor of the State of Arkansas intends to call a special session of the General Assembly to consider and adopt numerous state income tax credits and rate reduction measures which in the aggregate in will total hundreds of millions of dollars;

Whereas, the sponsors of SB304 have expressed an intent to file legislation seeking to establish a refundable state income tax credit for all full-time law enforcement officers in the sum of \$3,000 to be duly considered by the members of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas for their deliberation and to be adopted during the anticipated special session of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas;

Now Therefore, the Quorum Court of Baxter County, Arkansas, hereby resolves to fully and robustly support full-time law enforcement officers in Arkansas, to “Back the Blue”, and to advocate our members of the General Assembly, the Governor and the members of the General Assembly as a whole, for the due consideration and adoption by the General Assembly and signing by the Governor of Arkansas, of legislation creating: a state income tax credit for full-time law enforcement officers; that the full-time law enforcement income tax credit legislation include signed verification requirements before a full-time law enforcement officer may qualify for the state income tax credit; and respectfully encourage the full-time law enforcement state income tax credit legislation to be a legislative priority of the General Assembly and the Governor of the State of Arkansas.

APPROVAL:

MICKEY D. PENDERGRASS, COUNTY JUDGE
Date Signed: _____

ATTEST:

CANDA J. REESE, COUNTY CLERK
Sponsor: M. Edge – JP #5, D. Frank – JP #1
Date Adopted: _____
Votes: For: _____ Against: _____
Abstain: _____ Present: _____ Absent: _____