

**BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

April 7, 2020

The Baxter County Quorum Court met in a regular session at 6:00 PM in the Baxter County Courtroom with County Judge Mickey Pendergrass presiding. Members present were: Rhonda “Tink” Albright, Ty Chapman, Cameron Davis, Maryanne Edge, Edna Fusco, Kevin Litty, Robert Lowery, Charles Osgood, Gary Smith, and Dirk Waldrop (who arrived late and was not there for consideration of the ordinances). Justice Soltysik was not in attendance. Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, the meeting was closed to the public, but was broadcast live online on the County’s website, as well as the local cable TV station. The meeting began with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge Pendergrass asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the March meeting. Justice Albright moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Justice Fusco seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

There were no committee meetings to report.

New Business:

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2020-15, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY TO THE SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT 2020 BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Fusco, and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Albright moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Edge. After brief comments from Sheriff John Montgomery, and being no further discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Albright, Chapman, Davis, Edge, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, and Smith. The motion passed and Appropriation Ordinance #2020-15 was adopted with a vote of 9 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2020-16, **AN ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS LEAVE POLICIES IN TIMES OF A PUBLIC-HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY**, was sponsored by Justice Albright, and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Smith moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Davis. After brief discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Chapman, Davis, Edge, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, and Albright. The motion passed and Ordinance #2020-16 was adopted with a vote of 9 YEA, 0 NAY.

Other Announcements:

Sheriff Montgomery provided the Court with a progress report regarding the completion of the jail expansion project, and thanked the Court for their work in making that project happen.

Judge Pendergrass announced that Baxter County Safety Coordinator/Deputy OEM Director David Stults has recently been promoted to OEM Director. The position that he is vacating will remain vacant for the time being.

Judge Pendergrass provided the Court with a report regarding the expected decline in county revenues, and the impact on the county budget, especially for the Road & Bridge Department, related to the current COVID-19 crisis. He said that at this time, all capital purchases have been put on hold, and all departments have been encouraged to control costs to the greatest extent possible.

Justice Albright reminded everyone of the importance of completing their census forms.

After other brief announcements, and being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Canda J. Reese, Baxter County & Circuit Clerk
Secretary to the Quorum Court