

**BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

December 7, 2021

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, Angela DeGroote, Maryanne Edge, Dennis Frank, Kevin Litty, Robert Lowery, Charles Osgood, Roger Steele, and Dirk Waldrop. 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 November meeting. Justice Lowery moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Justice Waldrop seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

Justice Davis reported on the December 1 meeting of the Budget Committee. Minutes of that meeting, as well as the minutes of the November 18 Budget Committee meeting will be attached to this Journal.

Tina Haun gave a presentation to the Court regarding the activities and services provided by the Baxter County Conservation District.

New Business:

Proposed Ordinance #2021-48, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO THE SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT 2021 BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Albright and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Edge moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Lowery. Being no discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Albright, Chapman, Davis, DeGroote, Edge, Frank, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Steele, and Waldrop. The motion carried, and Ordinance #2021-48 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

1st Reading-Proposed Ordinance #2021- , **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL FOR BAXTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES**, was sponsored by the Personnel Committee, and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. The proposed ordinance was then tabled for second reading at next month’s meeting.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2021-49, **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022**, was sponsored by the Budget Committee and read by title only by the Clerk. Justice Davis moved to adopt the

budget ordinance, seconded by Justice Lowery. After much discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Chapman, Davis, DeGroote, Edge, Frank, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Steele, Waldrop, and Albright. The motion passed and the 2022 budget ordinance #2021-49 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY, thereby appropriating a \$20,322,197.00 budget for Baxter County for 2022.

Proposed Resolution #2021-35, **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**, was sponsored by Justices Edge, Frank, Litty, and Albright, and read in its entirety by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Albright moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Edge. After brief discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Davis, DeGroote, Edge, Frank, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Steele, Waldrop, Albright, and Chapman. The motion passed and Resolution #2021-35 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Other Announcements:

Judge Pendergrass announced that the Building Committee meeting that was scheduled for December 9 will be rescheduled after the first of the year.

After other brief announcements and comments, Sheriff John Montgomery addressed the Court. He stated that in the spirit of transparency he needed to make the Court aware that his wife does contract consulting work (as she has for many years) and has recently been contracted to do some work for Brooks Jeffrey Marketing, the same company that provides the Sheriff's website. He assured the Court that no conflict of interest exists in that business arrangement.

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