

**BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

**January 08, 2019**

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, Lucille Soltysik, and Dirk Waldrop. The meeting began with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a welcome to the new members of the Court.

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

Judge Pendergrass presented to the Court the findings of the 2017 Legislative Audit Report for Baxter County, a copy of which is on file and available for public inspection in the County & Circuit Clerk’s Office.

There were no committee reports.

New Business:

Ordinance #2019-1, **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE BAXTER COUNTY QUORUM COURT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019 AND 2020**, was sponsored by Justice Smith and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Soltysik moved to adopt the proposed ordinance. Justice Edge seconded that motion. The floor was opened for discussion, at which time Justice Lowery expressed opposition regarding raising the pay for the Quorum Court members. He subsequently made a motion to amend the proposed ordinance to keep the monthly compensation for JPs at \$300 instead of the proposed \$325. Justice Davis seconded that motion to amend, and expressed that he is opposed to any increase in pay for the Justices. Justice Smith said the Justices’ per diems had not been raised since some time prior to 2005, and that the current per diem is on the low end of the state’s minimum/maximum salary amounts for Justices of the Peace in Class 4 counties. Justice Lowery then said he believed the amount needed to be raised, but that he had an issue with the current court voting to raise their own salaries. Justice Litty said he believed that the JPs were well compensated for what they do. Justices Fusco and Soltysik both spoke in favor of the raise. The roll was called on the motion to amend the proposed ordinance, with a “yes” vote being to amend the per diem to \$300, and a “no” vote being to keep it at the proposed \$325. Voting YES: Justices Albright, Chapman, Davis, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, and

Waldrop. Voting NO: Justices Edge and Soltysik. The motion carried to amend the monthly per diem back to \$300 in the proposed ordinance.

Being no further discussion, the roll was called for adoption of Ordinance #2019-1, as amended.

Voting YEA: Justices Chapman, Davis, Edge, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Waldrop, and Albright. Voting NAY: Justice Soltysik. The motion passed and Ordinance #2019-1 was adopted with a vote of 10 YEA, 1 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2019-2, **AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE BAXTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AS THE COLLECTOR OF ALL FINES ASSESSED IN CIRCUIT COURT AND ALL COUNTY FINES ASSESSED IN DISTRICT COURT**, was sponsored by Justice Edge and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Albright moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Fusco. Being no discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Davis, Edge, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, and Chapman. The motion passed and Ordinance #2019-2 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Ordinance #2019- , Second reading, **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE BAXTER COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL DATED APRIL 2007**, was sponsored by the Personnel Committee and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. The motion was then tabled for third reading at the February meeting of the Court.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2019-3, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FEES AND REIMBURSEMENTS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 2018 BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Albright and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Soltysik moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Edge. Being no discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Edge, Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, and Davis. The motion passed and Appropriation Ordinance #2019-3 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2019-4, **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE JUVENILE SERVICES DEPARTMENT BUDGET**, was sponsored by Justice Fusco and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Smith moved to adopt. Justice Soltysik seconded that motion. Being no discussion, the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Fusco, Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, and Edge. The motion carried and Appropriation Ordinance #2019-4 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Appropriation Ordinance #2019-5, **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR FUNDING OF MISSING ITEMS IN THE BUDGET FOR BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2019, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019, AND OTHER BUDGETARY CHANGES**, was sponsored by Justice Soltysik and read by title only by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Edge moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Davis. After brief discussion and explanation by Judge Pendergrass, the roll was called for adoption of the proposed ordinance. Voting YEA: Justices Litty, Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, Edge, and Fusco. The motion passed and Appropriation Ordinance #2019-5 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Resolution #2019-1, **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF LEON ALEXANDER BY THE COUNTY JUDGE TO THE RODNEY-JORDAN VOLUNTEER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, was sponsored by Justice Chapman and read in its entirety by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Fusco moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Chapman. Being no discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Lowery, Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, Edge, Fusco, and Litty. The motion carried and Resolution #2019-1 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Proposed Resolution #2019-2, **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BILL BLACK BY THE COUNTY JUDGE TO THE HENDERSON AREA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, was sponsored by Justice Lowery and read in its entirety by County Clerk Canda Reese. Justice Lowery moved to adopt, seconded by Justice Soltysik. After brief discussion the roll was called. Voting YEA: Justices Osgood, Smith, Soltysik, Waldrop, Albright, Chapman, Davis, Edge, Fusco, Litty, and Lowery. The motion carried and Resolution #2019-2 was adopted with a vote of 11 YEA, 0 NAY.

Judge Pendergrass opened the floor for the Justices to nominate one of their members to be the delegate to the Arkansas Association of Quorum Courts. Justice Waldrop nominated Justice Lowery. Justice Smith then moved that the nominations cease and that he be elected by acclamation. Justice Edge seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

Judge Pendergrass brought to the attention of the Court the Committee assignments for the current term of the Court, a copy of which will be attached to this Journal of Proceedings.

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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