

CLEBURNE COUNTY QUORUM COURT JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

August 8, 2019

The Cleburne County Quorum Court met in regular session in the County Court Building, 922 South 9th Street, Heber Springs, Arkansas. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. County Judge Jerry Holmes presided. PRESENT: Pearson, Henegar, Caldwell, Blackburn, Malone, Evans, Gracey, Foust, Grace, Roberts, Owens. ABSENT: None

READING, CORRECTION, AND DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by JP Malone to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2019 regular meeting, seconded by JP Caldwell. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF TREASURER:

Motion was made by JP Caldwell to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by JP Henegar. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

JP Evans, Jail Committee, mentioned that if anyone has any reports to please bring them before the Court. JP Evans also stated he spoke with the Sheriff and everything seems to be going well. The committee will be meeting next Tuesday (August 13, 2019) at 9:00 a.m. in the Judge's Office.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Kendrick Ketchum addressed the Court concerning the upgrades needed to the Transfer Station. Mr. Ketchum asked the Court for formal permission to complete the upgrades at Waste Connection's expense. Mr. Ketchum ask for a seven (7) year extension now before they begin the upgrades. Mr. Drew Smith, County Attorney, recommended that the contract be updated a Resolution passed for the benefit of the County and Waste Connection. The Court asked that the contract be updated, and Resolution be added to the 2019 September Agenda. JP Evans added that if rates need to be changed this would be the time. JP Foust added that the rates are now based on yards and with the addition of the scales the rates may need to be changed to be based on weight.

The Legal Representative for county employee was not present when item came up on Agenda, so Judge Holmes moved to the next item of New Business.

JP Blackburn began discussion concerning ambulance service. JP Blackburn added that the county is very affected by the City Council's decision and feels that the County should have been involved in the decision made concerning ambulance service. JP Pearson also expressed his concerns. Lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Blackburn asked about the term "Home Rule" and does this allow the county to override the city's agreement— Mr. Drew Smith advised he would research this term. JP Blackburn went on to ask if there has been any decision as to what is going to happen with fire and EMS dispatch. Judge Holmes answered that there is no decision at this time, but there has been discussion about the issue.

The Legal Representative did arrive later in the meeting and was given the opportunity to address the court. The Representative, Lucien Gillham, began to address the Court on a county employee matter. The Court had concerns that this was a matter that should not be heard at this time. Mr. Drew Smith, County Attorney, stated that the Quorum Court would not have jurisdiction on this matter unless through a grievance. Mr. Smith added that he did not know of a grievance that had been filed at this point. Mr. Gillham did go on to make a statement to the court that a county employee has been the victim of unfair treatment. Mr. Smith recommended since this is an on-going issue the members of the Court should not ask or answer any more questions.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

David, Director of Greers Ferry Ambulance Service, gave a statement regarding ambulance service outside the City of Heber Springs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Regular Quorum Court meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT:

JP Caldwell made motion to adjourn, seconded by JP Evans. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

ATTESTED:



Rachelle Evans, Cleburne County Clerk

This 12th day of September, 2019

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RACHELLE EVANS
CLEBURNE COUNTY CLERK