

February 24, 2009

**LONG RANGE-PLANNING/MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT
COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Long Range Planning Machinery/Equipment Committee met Tuesday February 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court Meeting Room, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 215 Ease Central, Bentonville, Arkansas

Committee Members Present: Moore Blaty, Harrison, Stephenson

Others Present: County Attorney George Spence, Chris Glass,
Comptroller Richard McComas

Media: Tabatha Hunter-Daily Record

I. Call to Order

JP Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Old Business

Rural Ambulance Service follow-up

JP Stephenson asked if there was any statute in the State laws providing ambulance service. County Attorney George Spence stated that if an area desires ambulance service there would be a process to go through. Petition would have to be presented and would need 25% requirement of signatures. JP remarked it would take 25% of property owners, and 25% real owners of area. JP Stephenson stated he thought it was no requirement. JP Blaty stated, Bella Vista Ambulance Service, collects \$40.00 dollars for membership dues, and they then bill your insurance company. JP Blaty asked if anyone of the members knew how the ambulance service was operated in Springdale. JP Moore stated that Springdale was very similar and that they are a branch of the fire department, and would be interesting to know how they do operate. JP Blaty stated that she would look into Springdale's ambulance service and report back to the committee her findings. JP Stephenson stated that the committee needed to keep in mind the letter and that we have not heard any follow up, and that it is very important that we keep in mind when an ambulance is dispatched into an unincorporated area, how do call what the charge would be. Attorney George Spence stated we need to know how services go out into the county and instructions on how they do answer call, and it would be good to contact Rogers, Bentonville, and Bella Vista to see how they handle the ambulance service. JP Blaty stated that she would be willing to do the research or the ambulance services for the other cities. JP motioned to move and accept JP Blaty's offer seconded by JP Moore. Motion passed with unanimous show of hands. Committee members discussed how it would be helpful if Marshall Watson attended meetings and also to get a hold of VAS and how their system works. Further discussion made regarding other counties and how they are set up with ambulance service JP Stephenson questioned if for some reason the county

opts to do a countywide ambulance service what would be the requirements. Attorney George Spence stated that need would be to factor in what is going on the cities around us. JP Moore stated further expansion on ambulance service if area defined on map and could contract with Siloam Springs. Attorney George Spence stated he would find out how Carroll County contracts with Eureka Springs. JP Harrison asked how to do a survey and what the county would want. Attorney George Spence stated that a petition prepared clear enough so people would understand, and would need a verification process, and that he can get a chart on how to verify how people signed.

III. New Business

Chris Glass presented to the committee members a report on the road department ESTIMATED NEEDS AND EQUIPMENT COST FOR 2010 and 2011. The report showed when the road department equipment was purchased with date of purchase, mileage of each vehicle, and estimated cost of each vehicle. Chris Glass reported on replacement costs and stated it would cost approximately \$505,000 for replacement of these vehicles. Chris Glass stated the county is missing out on good opportunities when the Government has equipment auctions, and the need for some type of escrow account set up to take advantage of the auctions. Discussion made among members with how the county could take advantage of the Government equipment auctions, and the setting up an account to be able to purchase equipment when available. JP Stephenson stated he could agree that having an account available, but the committee needs list of needed items. Chris Glass stated he would have the Fleet Manager prepare a list to present to the members. JP Stephenson stated he felt that a certain amount should be made available. JP Moore asked if once the money is allocated for equipment, are we able to access the money to take advantage of the auctions. Richard McComas stated that you can only buy the capitol purchases listed. If a purchase is not in the original budget, it has to go to the Quorum Court to be approved. JP Stephenson asked what would need to be done to make funds available for a purchase if an opportunity came up. Richard McComas stated we would need to process a change to the original ordinance to set up an account for the money, JP Stephenson made motion to request for such an ordinance to be drafted for an appropriation of \$50,000. in funds to establish a line item for miscellaneous equipment funds. Chris Glass noted to include miscellaneous purchase in ordinance, and appropriation of funds set in a separate fund. Motion seconded by JP Moore. Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote. Chris Glass reported the majority of construction being done in Siloam Springs, plumbing and tile floor left to do, and seeking bids to complete work, will bring an update to the Quorum Court.

IV. Public Comments

None

V. Adjourn

JP Moore made motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by JP Stephenson.

Adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

