

## MINUTES OF BENTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

**September 28, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Benton County Quorum Court was held on Thursday, September 28, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. at the Benton County Administration Building, 215 East Central Avenue, Bentonville, Arkansas, pursuant to proper call and notice.

County Judge Gary Black called the meeting to order.

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton called roll as follows:

11 JP's Present: Adams, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan,  
Stephenson, Summers, Tharp, Wolf  
2 Absent: Allen, Wozniak

The presiding officer led the pledge of allegiance to the flag, and Liz Jones of the Christian Center led the prayer.

### **MINUTES:**

JP Adams made motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 24, 2006 as mailed, seconded by JP Sampier. Motion to approve the minutes carried by voice vote.

### **COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT:**

County Judge Gary Black recognized JP Tharp, who read a Proclamation declaring October 4-H Month in Benton County. JP Summers introduced the 4-H Club members who were in attendance.

County Judge Gary Black presented a certificate to John Knabenschuh thanking him for 11 years of public service with the NEBCO Volunteer Fire Department. JP Sheridan stated that no one on the Fire Department was more dedicated than John Knabenschuh, and that he could always be counted on to be there no matter what the call was.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT:**

Sheriff Keith Ferguson reported that Dr. Neil Mullins, the Jail Physician, has resigned and his two weeks notice is almost up. He said that Dr. John Huskins, a Rogers physician, has agreed to fill in until the end of the year, but they need to find a permanent replacement soon because the person makes a lot of decisions which can impact the entire county.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Margo Hill stated that she thought the recognition of John Knabenschuh was nice, and that there are other people who do a lot of work for the county that should be recognized.

Bill Millager spoke about the Heritage Trail Marker Program, and stated that he will be encouraging area leaders to expand the program throughout Northwest Arkansas and into Missouri.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (A) Proposed Resolution Authorizing the County Judge of Benton County to Apply for a Grant From the ESRI and Stratus Technologies ArcGIS Server Project Grant Program; Sponsor; JP Jerry Sheridan

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed Resolution in full. JP Sheridan made motion for approval, seconded by JP Hill. JP Sheridan stated that the proposed Resolution had been thoroughly discussed at the Finance Committee and the Committee of Thirteen, and that its purpose was to provide GIS data to smaller towns in the county.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

- 11 yeas: Adams, Allen, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan, Summers, Tharp, Wolf
- 2 absent: Stephenson, Wozniak

Resolution duly adopted and assigned No. **R-2006-17**.

- (B) Proposed Resolution of the Quorum Court of the County of Benton, State of Arkansas, Accepting the Audit Report for Benton County for the Period Ending December 31, 2004; Sponsor: JP Tim Summers

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed Resolution in full. JP Summers made motion for approval, seconded by JP Sheridan. JP Summers stated that the exceptions in the report had been discussed in the Finance Committee meeting, and most of them dealt with the segregation of duties and were not issues of major consequence.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

11 yeas: Adams, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan,  
Stephenson, Summers, Tharp, Wolf  
2 absent: Allen, Wozniak

Resolution duly adopted and assigned No. **R-2006-18**.

(C) Appropriation Ordinance Amending appropriation Ordinance No. O-2006-36 (2006 Benton County Budget) Creating a New Line Item and Appropriating Additional Monies and Authorizing Additional Expenditures in SSI Incentive, Department 67, Jail, Fund 970; Sponsor: JP Tim Summers

JP Summers made motion to read by title only, seconded by JP Sampier. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed Appropriation Ordinance by title only. JP Summers made motion for approval, seconded by JP Tharp. JP Summers stated that Article 3 explained the ordinance and commended Sheriff Ferguson for finding the funding to pay for equipment needed by the Jail.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

11 yeas: Adams, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan,  
Stephenson, Summers, Tharp, Wolf  
2 absent: Allen, Wozniak

Appropriation Ordinance duly adopted and assigned No. **O-2006-17**.

(D) Proposed Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2005-36 (2006 Benton County Budget) to Amend Schedule 4 Personnel and Compensation Authorization as Amended by Adding One Position in Department 02, County Clerk, Fund 010; Sponsor: JP Robert Stephenson

JP Hill made motion to read by title only, seconded by JP Tharp. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed Appropriation Ordinance by title only. JP Summers made motion for approval, seconded by JP Sheridan. JP Summers stated that he did not want anyone to think that they have loosened the purse strings on new personnel, but that this position is needed to staff the new County offices in Rogers. He added that the Human Resources Department is looking into ways to provide a pool of employees to cover absences due to vacations and illness in offices that have only one staff member.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

11 yeas: Adams, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan,  
Stephenson, Summers, Tharp, Wolf  
2 absent: Allen, Wozniak

Appropriation Ordinance duly adopted and assigned No. **O-2006-18**.

(E) Proposed Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2005-36 (2006 Benton County Budget) to Transfer Monies From County General Fund to County Road Fund; To Appropriate Additional Monies and Authorize Additional Expenditures in Department 44, County Road, Fund 020; and to Amend *Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund* in the 2006 Benton County Budget to Reflect the Transfer; Sponsor: JP Tim Summers

JP Wolf made motion to read by title only, seconded by JP Hill. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed Appropriation Ordinance by title only. JP Summers made motion for approval, seconded by JP Sampier. JP Summers stated that they were able to purchase 11 new road graders for a total cost of \$417,000, and new graders normally cost approximately \$180,000 each. He commended the Road Department personnel and all others involved in the decision, and added that there are currently funds available to pay for them, although it may be necessary to finance them at a later date.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

11 yeas: Adams, Harrison, Hill, Moore, Sampier, Schindler, Sheridan,  
Stephenson, Summers, Tharp, Wolf  
2 absent: Allen, Wozniak

Appropriation Ordinance duly adopted and assigned No. **O-2006-19**.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

JP Summers announced that the Finance Committee will be meeting Tuesday, October 3, 2006 at 2:30 p.m.

JP Tharp stated that he wanted to acknowledge Liz Jones, who has spent 7 or 8 years serving as a missionary to Costa Rica.

JP Stephenson called attention to a handout distributed by Sheriff Keith Ferguson, and stated that it would be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

JP Summers stated that Tim Reilly of KURM Radio has a new position as Grants Coordinator for Congressman John Boozman, and that Ross Mulligan will be taking his place.

JP Schindler called attention to a report that was distributed by Richard Marshall of the Benton County Historical Commission on the conference they attended in Boston, which was paid for through a grant obtained by Benton County. He said that the Commission has asked Wal-Mart to donate some property on "J" Street which may contain some pre-civil war artifacts, and it looks as though that is going to take place.

JP Adams asked the press to remind everyone to drive cautiously through school crossing areas, and reported that he had a call from his brother, who is serving in Baghdad.

County Judge Gary Black reported that Assistant County Administrator Travis Harp is recovering from surgery, and will return to work in 2 to 3 weeks.

County Judge Gary Black announced that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show-N-Shine Car and Motorcycle Show will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2006 from 5p.m. to 9p.m., and encouraged all JPs to make an appearance. He said that proceeds from this year's event will be donated to longtime Road Department employee Dale Russow, to help offset expenses associated with his heart condition. He said they will be taking a group of employees to visit him in the hospital in Kansas City where he is currently awaiting a heart transplant.

County Judge Gary Black announced that there will be a work day on Saturday, October 7, 2006 at the Benton County Solid Waste District, and they will serve lunch around noon.

JP Stephenson asked for an update on the progress of the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. He said it seems they expend a lot of time and energy enacting ordinances which are beneficial to the County, but sometimes fail to see it through as a body. He expressed frustration at the County Health Department's inability to do anything about the illegal mobile home park in Siloam Springs, and said he realized that it is actually a state agency.

There being no further business to come before the court, upon motion and second the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Slinkard,  
County Clerk

Prepared by: Betsy Deaton